



Clinician alert #88 – all clinicians

Effective from 14 October 2022

From 12.01am Friday 14 October, COVID-19 cases and close contacts will no longer be subject to mandatory isolation requirements.

New information

- COVID-19 cases will not need to undertake mandatory isolation however it is recommended they **stay at home for 5 days** and until acute symptoms resolve.
- Workers at public healthcare sites must not attend work for at least **7 days** after testing positive for COVID-19.
- Face masks must continue to be worn by staff and visitors 12 years and over at healthcare settings.

Requirements of healthcare workers at public healthcare sites

Entry restrictions to public health services, including hospitals, mental health services and community health services, will apply under the System Alert and Response (SAR) framework to ensure COVID-19 transmission risks can continue to be safely managed.

The updated SAR will be available on the Department of Health website from tomorrow, Friday 14 October.

Rules for healthcare workers at public healthcare sites under the current SAR have not changed. Healthcare workers must:

- not attend work for at least 7 days after testing positive for COVID-19,
- not attend work if experiencing COVID-like symptoms,
- inform their manager if they become a close contact and seek permission before attending work if asymptomatic.

Requirements of healthcare workers at non-public healthcare sites

Healthcare workers at non-public healthcare sites will no longer be subject to isolation or exclusion mandates. However, facilities may have their own policies in place.

Visitors

Visitors must not enter public health services for 7 days after testing positive for COVID-19 or becoming a close contact.

Visitors are also strongly advised to avoid other high-risk settings, including disability and mental health and aged care residential facilities and other healthcare settings (e.g. private hospitals, ambulance services, GP clinics, physiotherapy) within 7 days of their positive COVID test or from becoming a close contact.

Masks

Hospital staff and visitors 12 years and over must continue to wear a surgical mask, at a minimum, while at a healthcare setting under the COVID Transition (Face Covering) Directions.

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DEPUTY INCIDENT CONTROLLER

STATE HEALTH INCIDENT COORDINATION CENTRE