

COVID-19 Public Health Alert No. 11/ 15 April 2020

Please note that as of 15 April 2020, the Chief Health Officer has announced expansion of testing for COVID-19.

In addition to the current advice, testing should also be undertaken for **Queensland Police Officers** presenting with symptoms suggestive of COVID-19. The current complete list of criteria for testing is detailed below.

Queensland recommendations for testing (in addition to the CDNA National Guidelines):

Individuals with fever ($\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$) or history of fever (e.g. night sweats, chills) **OR** acute respiratory infection (e.g. cough, shortness of breath, sore throat) who:

- are a Queensland Police Officer

OR

- work in a school or formal child care setting

should be tested. The person being tested should be isolated pending test results.

The current case definition in the CDNA National Guidelines for Public Health Units (6 April 2020) is:

Confirmed case - A person who tests positive to a validated specific SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid test or has the virus identified by electron microscopy or viral culture.

Probable case - A person, who has not been tested, with fever ($\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$) or history of fever (e.g. night sweats, chills) **OR** acute respiratory infection (e.g. cough, shortness of breath, sore throat) **AND** who is a household contact (see Contact definition) of a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19

Suspect case - A person who meets the following epidemiological and clinical criteria

People who meet the suspect case definition should be tested. The person being tested should be isolated pending test results

Epidemiological criteria	Clinical criteria	Action
Very high risk <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Close contact in the 14 days prior to illness onset with a confirmed or probable case• International travel in the 14 days prior to illness onset• Cruise ship passengers and crew who have travelled in the 14 days prior to illness onset	Fever ($\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$) or history of fever OR Acute respiratory infection (e.g. cough, shortness of breath, sore throat)	Test
High-risk setting <p>1. Two or more plausibly-linked cases of illness clinically consistent with COVID-19 (see clinical criteria) in the following settings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• aged care and other residential care facilities• military – group residential and other closed settings, such as Navy ships or living in accommodation• boarding schools• correctional facilities• detention centres• Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander rural and remote communities, in consultation with the local PHU• settings where COVID-19 outbreaks have occurred, in consultation with the local PHU. <p>2. People who, in the 14 days prior to illness onset lived in or travelled through a geographically localised area with elevated risk of community transmission, as defined by public health authorities (https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/take-action/testing-and-fever-clinics)</p>	Fever ($\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$) or history of fever (e.g. night sweats, chills) OR Acute respiratory infection (e.g. cough, shortness of breath, sore throat)	Test (onsite for aged care residents, where feasible)

<p>Moderate risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthcare workers, aged or residential care workers 	<p>Fever ($\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$) or history of fever (e.g. night sweats, chills) OR Acute respiratory infection (e.g. cough, shortness of breath, sore throat)</p>	<p>Test</p>
<p>Background risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No epidemiological risk factors 	<p>Hospitalised patients with fever ($\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$) AND acute respiratory symptoms (e.g. cough, shortness of breath, sore throat) of an unknown cause</p>	<p>Test</p>

Clinicians are reminded that if the treating clinician has a strong index of suspicion of COVID-19 and if a positive case would have significant public health implications, then testing outside the case definition should be considered.

CDNA National Guidelines are available at

https://www.health.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0026/951065/covid19-self-isolation-requirements.pdf

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