



# Health service bulletin

## 16 April 2020



Visit [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus)

COVID-19 hotline 1800 675 398

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# Coronavirus COVID-19 daily update and health service utilisation



	Daily Count	Cumulative Count
<b>Emergency Department Presentations*</b>	3,130 (12 April 2020)	189,383 (from 1 March 2020)
<b>Respiratory Assessment Clinic Presentations**</b>	1.061 (14 April 2020)	48.888 (from 1 March 2020)
<b>Telehealth - HealthDirect Video Calls***</b>	2.484 (13 April 2020)	33,248 (from 30 March 2020)
<b>Total tests to date</b>	1,103 (for 14 April 2020)	More than 73,000 (since 1 January 2020)
<b>Confirmed COVID cases</b>	Decrease of 1 in past 24 hours#	1,298 (16 April 2020)
<b>Recovered cases</b>	Increase of 16 in past 24 hours	1,153 (16 April 2020)
<b>Admitted to ICU</b>	No change in the past 24 hours	17 (Total as at 16 April 2020)
<b>Admitted to hospital (not in ICU)</b>	Decrease of 3 in the past 24 hours	19 (Total as at 16 April 2020)
<b>Cases that may have been acquired through community transmission</b>	Increase of 1 in the past 24 hours	133 (Total as at 16 April 2020)
<b>Number of deaths</b>	No change in the past 24 hours	14 (Total as at 16 April 2020)

\*Data is subject to change as health services update data. Data are lagged by 4 days. Includes data for public hospitals only.

\*\*Data is subject to change as health services update data. Data are lagged by 2 days. Includes data for public hospitals only.

\*\*\* Includes only calls made with the HealthDirect Video Call Service platform, greater than 5 minutes. May be 1-2% variance in call data. Reported cumulative total includes weekend activity.

# data are subject to change due to cleaning and reclassification.

# Public Respiratory Assessment Clinics

Updated presentation data



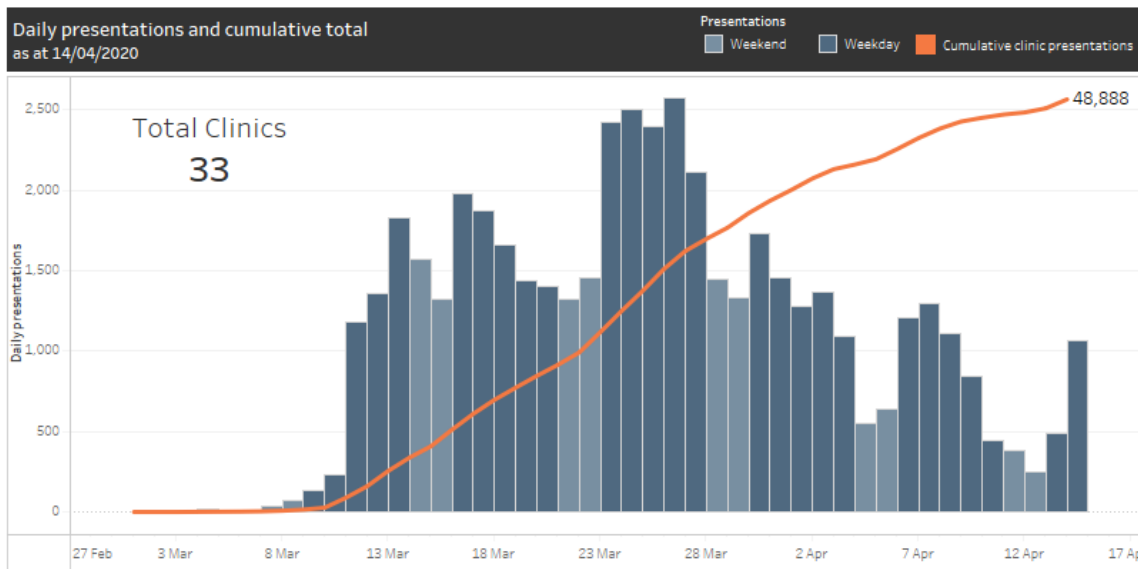
## Metropolitan clinics

- Alfred Hospital
- Austin Hospital
- Box Hill Hospital
- Royal Melbourne Hospital
- Monash Medical Centre (MMC) - Casey
- MMC - Dandenong
- MMC - Clayton
- Northern Hospital
- Peninsula Health – Frankston Hospital
- Royal Children’s Hospital
- St Vincent’s Hospital
- Western Health – Sunshine Hospital

**33 public  
Respiratory  
Assessment  
Clinics are  
operating**

## Rural and regional clinics




























- Albury Wodonga Health - Wodonga Campus
- Ballarat Health
- Barwon Health North, Geelong - Barwon Health
- Barwon Health – University Hospital Geelong
- Bass Coast Health - Wonthaggi
- Bass Coast Health - Phillip Island Health Hub
- Benalla Health
- Bendigo Health
- Djerriwarrh HS – Bacchus Marsh
- Djerriwarrh HS - Melton
- Echuca Regional Hospital
- Goulburn Valley Health- Shepparton
- Kyneton District Health
- Maryborough District Health Service
- Northeast Health Wangaratta
- Portland District Hospital
- South West Health Care – Warrnambool
- Stawell Regional Health
- Swan Hill District Health
- Western District Health Service - Hamilton
- Wimmera Base Hospital - Horsham



# GP Respiratory clinics

Updated activity data



Operational Assessment Completed Contracts in place	  	Week 1 March 23 - 29	Week 2 March 30 - 5	Week 3 April 6-12	Week 4 April 13-19	Total activity reported *			Status update
						Triage	Attendance	No. of tests	
<b>Commonwealth GP Respiratory Clinics</b>						<i>*Working with the Commonwealth to access data on clinic activity. Data that is currently available is reported in this table</i>			
Ringwood 46 Warrandyte Rd, Ringwood (Eastern Health)	  								At 16 April - Operating at capacity, approx. 90 patients per day
Mildura 137 Thirteenth Street, Mildura (Sunraysia Community Health)	  					580	197	142	Activity reported at 16 April
Prahan 255A Chapel St, Prahan (Star Health, Alfred Health)	  					n/a	327	206	Activity reported at 16 April
Altona North 6/230 Blackshaws Road, Altona North	  								Seeing approx. 50 patients per day
Laverton 95-105 Railway Ave, Laverton (Western Health)	  					n/a	33	29	Activity reported at 16 April
Geelong 2-18 Colac Rd, Belmont (Kardinia Health)	  								Activity report unavailable. Clinic operational as of 14 April
Ballarat Merz St, Lucas	  								Activity report unavailable. Clinic operational as of 14 April
Bendigo	 								Expected operational in Week 4
Coolaroo 512 Barry Rd, Coolaroo (Melbourne Health)									Clinic assessment completed 7 April NWPHN progressing contracts with Commonwealth
<b>State funded Community Health/GP led Clinics</b>									
60-80 Miller Street, West Melbourne (Cohealth Community Health)									Partnership with Royal Melbourne. Expected operational late April.
Castlemaine (Castlemaine District Community Health)									Castlemaine District CH partnership with local GPs

# Key messages from the Health Services Pandemic Leadership Team (HSPLT) meeting – 14 April 2020



## Modelling

Planning should continue to be conservatively based on the current modelling, with the understanding that modelling will be refined with better testing data and information regarding policy measures from the Crisis Council of Cabinet on Thursday (16/4).

## Planning for Recovery

HSPLT provided endorsement for the following care restoration principles to underpin planning for recovery:

- **Utility:** maximise social benefits and minimise harms, e.g. by prioritising patients with care needs that will increase significantly in the short term due to deferral and prioritising critical care training that could save many lives over less urgent surgeries.
- **Flexibility:** maintaining capacity to meet COVID-19 demand by where possible prioritising patients that are not ICU dependent, are same day or overnight, and have low risk of complications, repeat visits and readmissions.
- **Equity:** excessive variation in access across the State should be avoided and COVID-19 patients should not automatically take precedence over other patients.

Planning for recovery and restoration will be a focus of HSPLT in the coming weeks.

## Disability

HSPLT noted a paper on 'Disability' including the high priority health, support and information needs, the potential impact of COVID-19 on continuity of disability services, and the departmental program of work underway to address these issues.

# Update: Influenza vaccination, residential aged care



Influenza Vaccination is a requirement for staff, and visitors, as per Care Facilities Directions, effective midnight 7 April 2020.

A factsheet about Influenza vaccination advice for residential aged care staff and visitors is available at <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/aged-care-sector-coronavirus-disease-covid-19>

The Directions state that all staff and visitors must have an up to date influenza vaccination, if such a vaccination is available to them.

We understand aged care services are working towards vaccinating all staff as soon as possible, and that this may be limited by access to vaccination stock, vaccination administrators and staff leave. Services are advised to establish a vaccination program for staff, and we are recommending services to continue to encourage all staff and visitors to have an influenza vaccination as soon as possible.

The Commonwealth has advised residential aged care services should document that evidence of influenza immunisation status was requested and provided from all staff and visitors. This advice was provided by the Commonwealth in their email to the sector Protecting Older Australians: COVID-19 Update on 27 March 2020:

‘Appropriate evidence may be a statement or record from a health practitioner; or an immunisation history statement available from Medicare online or the Express Plus Medicare mobile app. Approved providers may also consider maintaining records to support effective administration and to substantiate their compliance with this requirement.’

**A visitor may also offer to complete a statutory declaration. This may also be acceptable to the facility as it is a legally binding document.**

# What should pregnant healthcare workers do?



The factsheet regarding 'at risk' healthcare workers has been updated to include pregnant women as at risk and will be uploaded to the DHHS website shortly.

The evidence regarding the risks for pregnant women is not yet clear. As such, a precautionary approach is recommended.

**Before 28 weeks' gestation** (in the first and second trimester of pregnancy), adhere to the measures listed above.

**After 28 weeks' gestation** you should not be in roles with direct patient contact and in all situations, avoid contact with suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19.

The updated factsheet is attached to the accompanying email and has been uploaded to the Secure Health Sector Update portal at:

<https://dhhsvicgovau.sharepoint.com/sites/Covid-19-HealthSectorUpdate>



# Updated guidelines and factsheets



Please see attached to the accompanying email the following documents:

- Guidelines for health services and general practitioners
- Coronavirus (COVID-19) Handling the body of a deceased person with suspected or confirmed COVID-19

Both documents can be found on the DHHS website (<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/health-services-and-general-practitioners-coronavirus-disease-covid-19>) and have been uploaded to the Secure Health Sector Update portal (<https://dhhsvicgovau.sharepoint.com/sites/Covid-19-HealthSectorUpdate>)

# Safer Care Victoria (SCV) update



Due to the risk of a rare form of cancer associated with textured breast implants, SCV is working to raise awareness in the sector, including writing to patients who have had a breast implant procedure in a Victorian public health service since 30/06/2004.

As health services are busy responding to COVID-19, SCV will undertake all notification tasks - apart from those which are absolutely necessary for your health service to complete.

SCV will be in contact with you shortly to outline next steps, and how your health service will be asked to contribute.

# Parking for healthcare workers



Following collaborative work with the State Government, earlier this week Victoria's councils announced support for all Victorian healthcare workers to park free of charge in designated on-street parking bays close to major hospitals.

We are currently preparing a fact sheet for health services on how you can best work with your local council to achieve this support for healthcare workers.

# Chief Psychiatrist's Clinical Practice Advisory Notice

## 16 April 2020



Please see attached to the accompanying email and uploaded to the [Health Sector Update portal](https://dhhsvicgovau.sharepoint.com/sites/Covid-19-HealthSectorUpdate) (<https://dhhsvicgovau.sharepoint.com/sites/Covid-19-HealthSectorUpdate>) the *Chief Psychiatrist's Clinical Practice Advisory Notice Bulletin, 16 April 2020*.