



Clinician alert #90 – all clinicians

State of Emergency ending

Effective from midnight 3 November 2022

New information

- The current State of Emergency will end at 12.01am Friday 4 November 2022.
- All remaining directions issued under the *Emergency Management Act* and *Public Health Act* will be revoked, including:
 - proof of vaccination
 - mandatory vaccination
 - face mask use in high-risk settings
 - visitors to residential aged care facilities (including requirement for influenza vaccination).
- The System Alert and Response (SAR) Blue framework will be stood down and replaced by the guidelines *COVID-19 Infection prevention and Control in Western Australian Healthcare Facilities* available online at [COVID-19 information for health professionals](#) (under “Infection prevention and control and PPE” tab and “Hospitals and healthcare settings” subheading).
- Private healthcare facilities, including primary care, should determine their own infection prevention and control policies to manage the transmission of COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses.

Vaccination requirements

- Mandatory vaccination requirements for healthcare workers (HCWs), primary healthcare workers, residential aged care facility workers and disability support accommodation workers have been removed.
- Proof of vaccination requirements for visitors to hospital and residential aged care facilities, including requirements for visitors to residential aged care facilities to be vaccinated for influenza, have also been removed.

Requirements for HCW COVID-19 cases and close contacts

- In public healthcare facilities, HCWs who:
 - test positive to COVID-19 are excluded from the workplace for 7 days, and until symptoms have resolved
 - are close contacts without symptoms must:
 - advise their employer that they are a close contact and receive confirmation they can attend work in the 7 days after becoming a close contact
 - return a negative rapid antigen test (RAT) prior to work each day, and
 - wear a surgical mask at minimum.

Mask wearing requirements

- Mask wearing requirements in hospitals, aged care facilities, residential care facilities (including disability and mental health facilities) and health care settings have been removed.
- In future, mask wearing requirements should be managed by individual facilities which may impose mask or other requirements as a condition of entry to their facilities.
- In public healthcare facilities surgical masks are required, at minimum, for health care staff who have direct interaction with patients.

Hospital visitors

- Different rules may apply for entry to hospitals, and for people visiting high-risk areas of a hospital or vulnerable patients. Visitors are advised to check the hospital's requirements before attending.
- Visitors should not visit healthcare facilities if unwell.

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DEPUTY INCIDENT CONTROLLER

STATE HEALTH INCIDENT COORDINATION CENTRE