



Clinician alert – public health #80

All clinicians. Effective from 17 February 2022

New information

- The [WA Health TTIQ \(Test, Trace, Isolate and Quarantine\) Plan](#) is now available, noting that guidance relating to a **high** caseload environment is currently in effect.
- Workplaces are encouraged to review [new guidance](#) to plan for commencing their own contact tracing where a COVID-19 positive person has been in the workplace.
- Updated [healthcare worker furloughing guidelines](#) are now available.

WA TTIQ (Test, Trace, Isolate and Quarantine) Plan

- The [WA Health TTIQ \(Test, Trace, Isolate and Quarantine\) Plan](#) provides guidance on TTIQ requirements for cases and contacts in various settings at high and very high caseloads.
- It outlines contact definitions and testing, contact tracing, isolation and quarantine requirements.

Contact tracing to focus on high risk settings

- COVID-19 cases receive confirmation of positive results via SMS and are asked to complete an initial online survey to identify whether they may be an at-risk individual or spent time in a high-risk setting.
- Public Health are triaging calls to cases dependent on survey responses, to provide initial advice and assist with contact identification.
- With increasing local case numbers, Public Health will move to focus contact tracing efforts on high risk settings, with a reduced focus on lower risk workplace settings.
- Workplaces will be encouraged to undertake their own contact tracing and should refer to the [Guidance for the management of COVID-19 in the workplace](#).
- High risk settings (such as remote Aboriginal communities, residential aged care facilities, corrective services, mental health and disability hostels, etc.) will continue to receive assistance with outbreak management from Public Health.
- Only locations deemed to be a high transmission risk, and where all contacts can't be identified, will be listed [online on HealthyWA](#).

Healthcare worker furloughing guidelines

- The updated [Healthcare Worker Furloughing Guidelines](#) apply to hospital, primary care (e.g. GPs, allied health providers, private outpatient clinics) and pharmacies.

Release of COVID-19 cases from isolation

- If a person has no symptoms after 7 days since their first positive test, they may leave isolation.
- If acute respiratory symptoms remain after 7 days have passed since their first positive test, the person should remain in isolation until their acute symptoms have resolved.
- A clearance certificate is not required.
- Clearance testing is not advised for most cases as it is likely to reflect residual shedding. In some high-risk clinical settings, cases who are severely immunocompromised may be requested to have clearance testing.
- Refer to the [Release of cases from isolation](#) factsheet.

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