

How do I respond to a COVID-19 positive patient?

Practice is notified of a COVID-19 positive case

Practice staff confirm if patient has attended the practice during symptomatic period (including 48 hours prior to symptom onset) or if asymptomatic have they attended up to 48 hours prior to positive test result.

If YES, get the patients details, record & document interaction according to practice policies

If NO, get the patients details, record & document interaction according to practice policies

Reassure patient, provide information based on practice procedure for managing COVID+ patients. Provide Healthy WA website and COVID Care at Home details.

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**Notify Practice Manager / Practice Principal
Refer to COVID-19 guidelines for healthcare practices in the community in a high and very high caseload environment**

For further information and next steps, see COVID Positive Patient Response - supporting document

COVID Positive Patient Response - supporting document

Initial contact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When collecting patients details, ensure staff collect name, DOB, current contact details (including emergency contact), time and duration at the practice, PPE worn and what symptoms they had at the time of being in the practice. • Consider giving the patient 13COVID (26843) contact details for additional support and information • Refer patient to complete a WA Department of Health online registration form if they have not already done so (If Rapid Antigen Test [RAT] was completed) • For management of patient refer to practice specific COVID-19 patient management or COVID-19 Assessment and Management HealthPathway • Immediately notify Practice Manager/Practice Principal of positive result and actions taken so far
Practice Manager / Principal GP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure Management/ Principal GPs are aware of situation • Follow COVID-19 guidelines for health care practice in the community in a high and very high case load environment . Perform risk assessment as per guidelines to identify close contacts. • Refer to Test, Trace, Isolate and Quarantine Plan (TTIQ) for further guidance on quarantine and furloughing of healthcare workers. Notify staff identified as close contacts, required to quarantine. • Detailed information can be found in the Guidance for management of COVID-19 in the workplace • Initiate infection control policy COVID-19 Environmental cleaning and infection principals for health and residential care facilities • For further information on COVID-19 PPE, Infection Control and Exposure Response see HealthPathways • If further information is required contact Public Health Operations Phone: (08) 9222-0221 (switchboard – ask for Public Health Operations)
Useful links/ resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 guidelines for healthcare practices in the community in a high and very high caseload environment (Select Community Healthcare practice guidelines tab) • Healthy WA (COVID-19 Coronavirus) • COVID Care at home • Furloughing of Healthcare workers • COVID-19 Testing and isolation guide • Infectious Period definition: The infectious period for a COVID-19 positive person is taken from 48 hours before the onset of symptoms (or before their positive test result if they do not have any symptoms) until they finish their isolation period.

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