

Monday 1 November 2021

PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT – COVID-19 UPDATE

Murrumbidgee Local Health District continues to urge the community to get vaccinated against COVID-19 with 26 new cases recorded in our District to 8pm last night.

CASE BREAKDOWN

Of the 26 cases recorded in the MLHD to 8pm last night:

- 14 cases are residents of the Albury LGA
- Eight cases are residents of the Murray River LGA
- One case is a resident of the Wagga Wagga LGA
- One case is a resident of the Berrigan LGA
- One case is a resident of the Greater Hume LGA
- One case is a resident of the Griffith LGA.

Sadly, two people have died, a man in his 70s and a woman aged 101, who acquired their infections at the Mercy Place aged care facility in Albury. They were both fully vaccinated and had underlying health conditions. There have now been five deaths linked to an outbreak at this aged care facility.

Murrumbidgee LHD would like to extend its deepest condolences to the family and friends of those who have died.

There has been a total of **594** cases and six deaths recorded in the MLHD since the start of the current outbreak. These include **459** in Albury LGA, **25** in Hilltops LGA, **27** in the Greater Hume LGA, **15** in Edward River LGA, **27** in Murray River LGA, **10** in Federation LGA, **12** in Berrigan LGA, **12** in Wagga Wagga LGA, **two** in Coolamon LGA, **two** in Murrumbidgee LGA, **one** in Cootamundra-Gundagai and **two** in Griffith LGA.

BOOSTER SHOTS

NSW Health state-run clinics are now offering a booster dose, using the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, to individuals aged 18 and over.

This booster shot will help people maintain a high level of protection against the COVID-19 virus, including the Delta variant.

People aged 18 years and older may receive a booster at least six months after receiving their second dose of any of the COVID-19 vaccines registered for use in Australia.

COVID-19 VACCINATION

We continue to urge everyone who hasn't done so already to come forward for vaccination.

Children aged 12 to 15 years are now eligible for vaccination. Vaccination is the best way to protect our kids, families and the wider community from COVID-19. This is an important step in getting our community back to a 'COVID-normal' environment and importantly, to protect others who may be more vulnerable to illness.

Pfizer vaccination clinics are available at Griffith and Wagga Wagga. Pop up clinics will be available this week in Albury, Blighty, Conargo, Deniliquin, Henty, Junee, Leeton, Tumbarumba, Tumut, Wagga Wagga (Ashmont), Wanganella and Young. For a full list of locations, dates and times, visit: <https://www.mlhd.health.nsw.gov.au/our-services/covid-19-services/covid-19-vaccination>

COVID-19 vaccinations are also available at more than 100 locations across the region including GP's, Pharmacies, Aboriginal Medical Services and MLHD clinics. Head to www.healthdirect.gov.au to find a clinic near you.

SEWAGE DETECTIONS

There have been no further sewage detections in the Murrumbidgee Local Health District in the past 24 hours.

Fragments of the virus that causes COVID-19 have been detected in sewage in **Wagga Wagga, Leeton and Young** over the weekend.

MLHD appeals to residents in Leeton to come forward for testing if they are at all symptomatic. Early detection of the virus will help prevent further transmission.

Testing is available every day this week in Leeton (Monday to Friday) from 9.00 am to 11.00 am. Drop into the MLHD Testing Clinic at the Leeton Hospital in Myall Street, or call the COVID-19 Hotlines on 1800 831 099 to book an appointment.

TESTING

Anyone currently experiencing, or who has recently experienced even mild cold-like symptoms is asked to come forward immediately for testing. If you have any symptoms it is important that you isolate until you can be tested and after your test, until you get a negative result.

MLHD is currently providing additional testing in Albury and Jerilderie follows:

Albury	Albury Entertainment Centre 525 Swift Street	Monday 1 November 10.00am – 4.00pm	Via MLHD Hotline 1800 831 099 or walk ins accepted
Albury	Westside Community Centre	Wednesday 3rd November 10.00 am – 4.00 pm Thursday 4th November 9.00 am – 2.00 pm	Via MLHD Hotline 1800 831 099 or walk ins accepted
Jerilderie	Jerilderie MPS	Monday 1 November 12.00 pm – 3.00 pm	Booking via the MLHD Hotline 1800 831 099.
Leeton	Leeton Hospital, Myall Street	Monday – Friday 9.00 am – 11.00 am	Drop in during these hours or book an appointment

			via the MLHD Hotline 1800 831 099.
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Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, sore throat, cough, headache, runny nose, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle aches or pains, and a change in taste or smell.

For testing locations across the District go to www.mlhd.health.nsw.gov.au, or for help accessing a test call the Murrumbidgee COVID-19 Hotline 1800 831 099.

VENUES OF CONCERN

Venues of concern will be updated via the NSW Health website:
<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/case-locations-and-alerts.aspx>

The community is encouraged to stay up to date with venues of concern and follow the instructions provided under the 'Health Advice' section.

Venues of concern are locations considered to hold a greater risk to the community and may include testing and isolation requirements.

To see all case locations for NSW go to <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/nsw-covid-19-case-locations/case-locations>