

Thursday 21 October 2021

PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT – COVID-19 UPDATE

Murrumbidgee Local Health District is urging more people to come forward for COVID-19 testing and vaccination after a significant increase in case numbers.

51 new cases of COVID-19 were recorded in Murrumbidgee Local Health District to 8pm last night.

A significant amount of current cases are among those aged 12 to 24. It is critical those aged 12 and above come forward for vaccination. Vaccination is proven to prevent serious illness of COVID-19 and lower the risk of transmission.

NSW Health is working closely with the NSW Department of Education, the NSW Early Learning Sector and a private aged care facility to manage the current COVID-19 outbreak in the Albury LGA.

Residents in Albury, Edward River and Greater Hume LGA's are urged to limit their movements in and out of the community at this time and widespread COVID-19 testing is critical.

Anyone currently experiencing, or who has recently experienced even mild cold-like symptoms is asked to come forward immediately for testing. It's important that you isolate after your test until you get a result if you have symptoms.

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

Case Breakdown

Of the 51 cases recorded in the MLHD to 8pm last night:

- 48 cases are residents of the Albury LGA. Of these cases six are residents of a private care facility.

- Two cases are residents of the Edward River LGA.

- One case is a resident of the Greater Hume LGA.

There has been a total of **183** cases and two deaths recorded in the MLHD since the start of the current outbreak. These include **120** in Albury LGA, **25** in Hilltops LGA, **14** in Edward River LGA, **12** in the Greater Hume LGA, **four** in Murray River LGA, **three** in Federation LGA, **two** in Wagga Wagga LGA, **two** in Berrigan LGA and **one** in Griffith LGA.

COVID-19 VACCINATION

As cases continue to grow in the Murrumbidgee LHD it is critical that residents come forward for vaccination. Vaccination is proven to prevent serious illness of COVID-19 and lower the risk of transmission.

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

TESTING

There have been 1085 COVID-19 tests completed in Albury in the past 24 hours.

Testing is currently available in the Border region as follows:

Albury	Dorevitch Pathology Lavington Hall - Cnr Urana Road and Hague St	Monday to Thursday 9.00 am – 5.00 pm	Drop in Clinic
Albury	Douglass Hanly Moir Clinic Albury Showgrounds (entry via Fallon Street)	Monday - Saturday 8:00 am - 1:00 pm	Drop in Clinic
Albury	Lavery Pathology Lavington Sports Ground 1 Hanna St (use Centaur Road to access Pearsall Street)	7 days per week 8.00am – 5.00pm	Drive Thru clinic
Jindera	MLHD Clinic Jindera Recreation Reserve Dight Street	Thurs 21 Oct 21 10.00am – 2.00pm	Drop In or book via the MLHD Hotline 1800 831 099
Wodonga	AWH Corner Smythe and Stanley Streets	Mon – Fri 8.30am – 3.30pm (closed noon – 12.30pm)	Drop in clinic
Wodonga	AWH 79 Vermont Street, Wodonga	Mon – Sat 8.00am – 4.00pm	Drive Thru Clinic

For testing locations 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

The identification of exposure sites are now part of state-wide venue tracking processes.

We encourage residents to keep an eye on venues of concern via the NSW Health website:
<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/case-locations-and-alerts.aspx>

Information on requirements for close and casual contacts can be found here:
<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/covid-19/Pages/isolation-guidelines.aspx>

SEWAGE DETECTIONS

MLHD confirms that there have been no further sewage detections in the last 24 hours.

As previously reported, fragments of the virus that causes COVID-19 have been detected in sewage in Jerilderie and Wagga Wagga. MLDH renews calls for the community to come forward for testing.

ENDS