

Friday 5 November 2021

PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT – COVID-19 UPDATE

The Murrumbidgee Local Health District continues to urge the community to come forward for vaccination, particularly those aged 12 to 15, as the region records 29 new cases of COVID-19 in our District to 8pm last night.

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.

Currently 80.2% of those aged 12-15 in the Murrumbidgee LHD have received their first dose and 58.3% are fully vaccinated. In the Albury LGA, where we are managing our current outbreak, 80.5% have received a first dose and 46.9% are fully vaccinated.

Everyone in Australia aged 12 and over can receive a COVID-19 vaccination. Vaccination appointments can be booked via the [Australian Government Vaccine Clinic Finder](#).

MLHD is partnering with Albury Wodonga Health to provide several vaccination clinics across the border region this weekend:

Albury	TAFE NSW Poole Street	Friday 5 Nov 10.00 am – 1.00pm	Walk in Clinic Pfizer Only Aged 12+
Albury	Albury Entertainment Centre 525 Swift Street	Sat 6 Nov – Sun 7 Nov 10.00am – 3.00pm	Walk in Clinic Pfizer Only Aged 12+
Wodonga	Wodonga Vaccination Hub High Street (former Coles building).	Fri 5 Nov – Sat 6 Nov 8.30am – 4.00pm	No appointment needed
Wodonga	Upper Murray Family Care 76 Nordsvan Drive	Mon 8 Nov – Fri 12 Nov 9.00am – 4.30pm	Book via: https://49264.covidhub.com.au

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.

CASE BREAKDOWN

Of the 29 cases recorded in the MLHD to 8pm last night:

- 28 cases are residents of the Albury LGA
- One case is a resident of the Federation LGA

We are also sadly reporting the deaths of two people in the Albury LGA.

A woman in her 90s died at the Mercy Place aged care facility in Albury where she acquired her infection. She had received two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine and is the sixth death linked to an outbreak at this facility.

A woman in her 80s died at the Southern Cross Care residential care facility in Albury. She had received one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and is the first death linked to this facility.

The Murrumbidgee LHD wishes to express its deepest condolences to the family, friends and loved ones impacted.

There has been a total of **699** cases and **eight** deaths recorded in the MLHD since the start of the current outbreak. These include **546** in Albury LGA, 25 in Hilltops LGA, 32 in the Greater Hume LGA, 15 in Edward River LGA, 33 in Murray River LGA, **12** in Federation LGA, 12 in Berrigan LGA, 14 in Wagga Wagga LGA, two in Coolamon LGA, two in Murrumbidgee LGA, one in Cootamundra-Gundagai, and **four** in Griffith LGA and one in Lockhart LGA.

SEWAGE DETECTIONS

Fragments of the virus that causes COVID-19 has been detected in sewage in Mulwala, Corowa and West Wyalong in the past 24 hours.

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, Leeton, West Wyalong, and Griffith as follows:

Albury	Albury Entertainment Centre 525 Swift Street	Fri 5 th Nov – Mon 8 th Nov 10.00am – 4.00pm	Via MLHD Hotline 1800 831 099 or walk ins accepted
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.
Lockhart	Lockhart Hospital 53-55 Hebden Street	Fri 5 Nov 9.30am – 11.30am	Book an appointment via the MLHD Hotline 1800 831 099.
West	West Wyalong Hospital	Monday – Friday	Book an

Wyalong	70 Ungarie Road	8.00am – 10.00am	appointment via the MLHD Hotline 1800 831 099.
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MLHD will also be closing its Wagga Drive-through COVID Testing Clinic today to enable the reopening of community sport.

As part of MLHD's testing surge capacity, a new drive-through will be opened if the need arises.

Testing in Wagga will continue as follows:

Wagga Wagga	MLHD Testing Clinic 84-86 Murray St (between the pharmacy and the Australian Red Cross)	Open 7 Days 9.00am – 4.00pm	Drop in or book via MLHD Hotline 1800 831 099
Wagga Wagga	GP-Led Respiratory Clinic 8 Tanda Place Glenfield Park	Monday – Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm	Book online or contact the clinic at 02 6971 5000
Wagga Wagga	Laverty Pathology Riverina Playhouse Carpark, Tarcutta Street, entry via Cross Street	Monday – Thursday 8.00 am – 5.00pm Friday 8.00am – 3.00pm Saturday – Sunday 8.00am – 1.00pm	Drive through Clinic, no appointment needed.

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>