

Community Engagement Noticeboard

15 September 2022

Latest updates on the COVID-19 pandemic



Novavax vaccine now available for adolescents

- The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) recommends COVID-19 vaccination for all adolescents aged 12-17 years.
- Pfizer, Moderna and now Novavax can be used for the primary course of COVID-19 vaccination in this age group.
- Novavax can also be used as a booster in this age group if no other COVID-19 vaccine brand is suitable for that person.
- Bookings for adolescents aged 12-17 years available from 5 September.
- To find a clinic with Novavax search the Vaccine Clinic Finder.



Moderna recommended for some children under 5 years

- ATAGI has recommended a paediatric formulation of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for children aged 6 months to under 5 years who are severely immunocompromised, or have a disability, as well as those who have complex and/or multiple health conditions that increase their risk of severe COVID-19.
- ATAGI does **not** currently recommend vaccination for children aged 6 months to 5 years who are not in the above risk categories. Get more facts here.
- Find a clinic for eligible children by searching the Vaccine Clinic Finder.



The isolation period after testing positive has changed

- People who test positive to COVID-19 must isolate for a minimum of 5 days.
- How long your isolation period goes for depends on whether you have symptoms, which include a fever, sore throat, runny nose, cough or shortness of breath. Don't visit sensitive settings if you have symptoms.
- If you work in a high-risk setting like hospitals, disability and aged care, or in-home care, you cannot return to work until after 7 days.

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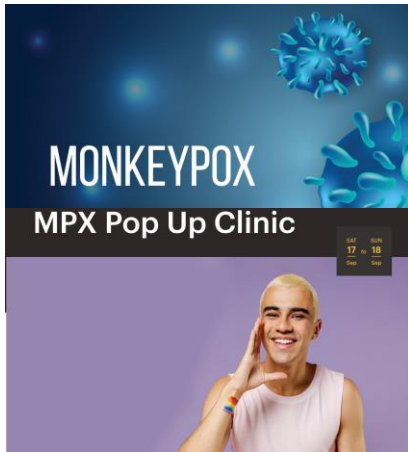
Get it fast, directly from the source. Just provide your email address on the subscription form by scanning the QR Code, or simply by clicking on it.

Got a good news story or resource for the Noticeboard?

Send us an email at communityengagement@monashhealth.org and we'll be in touch.



Latest information on monkeypox



- Monkeypox (MPX) is a disease caused by infection from the monkeypox virus. It causes flu-like symptoms and a distinctive skin rash or lesions. It is spread mostly through skin-to-skin contact with someone who has monkeypox. Most people recover within a few weeks.
- Monkeypox can affect anyone. The current outbreak is mostly affecting gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men.
- Thorne Harbour Health in partnership with STAR Health and Your Community Health are providing dedicated [pop-up clinics](#) in Prahran and Preston this weekend, offering a safe space for eligible LGBTIQ+ people to get a vaccine. Find more information on monkeypox and vaccine eligibility [HERE](#).

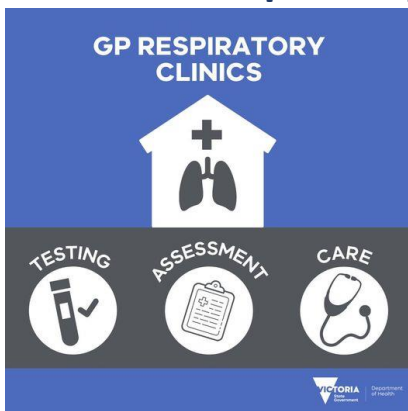
Thunderstorm asthma – know what to do



‘Thunderstorm asthma’ happens when there are thunderstorms and a high pollen count. People with asthma or hay fever should follow these simple steps:

- Monitor the asthma risk forecast on the [VicEmergency app](#).
- Don’t be outdoors in a storm, or in the winds before a storm.
- Use your medication as directed, even when you are symptom free.
- Carry your reliever and know how to manage an asthma attack.
- Follow your asthma action plan or use ‘4 steps for Asthma First Aid’
- Find more information from the [Better Health Channel](#) and a fact sheet on thunderstorm asthma at www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/.

More GP Respiratory Clinics in the South East to help test and treat



- GP Respiratory Clinics (GPRCs) provide to face-to-face assessment of respiratory symptoms (including COVID-19), plus testing and immediate treatment.
- They operate 7 days per week are free to use with or without Medicare. If your usual GP isn’t available, book in at one of the GPRCs in the South East region: Carrum Downs, Cranbourne, Dandenong (NEW), Frankston, Glen Eira, Hastings, Mentone, Narre Warren South, Officer, Port Melbourne, Prahran, Rosebud. [Details here](#).
- The Victorian Government recently announced [two paediatric GP respiratory clinics](#) will open soon, one at Monash Children’s Hospital.

Other important news, links and resources

- [2021 Census infographics on your local govt area](#)
- [Good news story on RATs rolled out in the SE](#)
- [Hay Fever or COVID? Try the Symptom Checker](#)
- [Do you need medical care or advice? poster](#)
- [True or false? COVID FactCheckers local & abroad](#)
- [Easy Read resources for people with disabilities](#)
- [PM announces pandemic leave payments to stay](#)
- [EVA – the easy way to book your COVID vaccine](#)

September Monash Health Vaccination Bus Itinerary

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
						
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<i>Pakenham Monash Health Community staff</i>	<i>Dandenong Monash Health Community staff</i>	UNAVAILABLE	Caulfield: Monash University 9am – 4pm Find Flyer HERE	UNAVAILABLE		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Cheltenham: Community Centre 11am – 3pm Find Flyer HERE	Clayton: Monash University 9am – 4pm Find Flyer HERE	UNAVAILABLE	<i>Dandenong Hospital Staff</i> 9am – 4pm	<i>Moorabbin Hospital Staff</i> 9am – 4pm	UNAVAILABLE	NOBLE PARK: Little Day Out Ross Reserve 11am – 4pm* Find Flyer HERE
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<i>Casey Hospital Staff</i> 9am – 4pm	SPRINGVALE: South East Community Links 10am – 3pm* Find flyer HERE	CARRUM: Pantry 5000 St Aidan’s Church 9.30am–1.30pm Find Flyer HERE	Australian PUBLIC HOLIDAY  A day of mourning Queen Elizabeth II	Victorian PUBLIC HOLIDAY  Celebrating the AFL Grand Final	AFL Football Grand Final Day  MCG Kick-off 2.30pm	CLICK HERE <i>Dandenong Plaza Vaccination Clinic</i> OPEN ON Sat 24th 9am – 4pm (closed on 22 nd & 23 rd)
26	27	28	29	30		
<i>Kingston Centre Staff</i> 9am – 4pm	<i>Dandenong Hospital Staff</i> 9am – 4pm	NOBLE PK NTH Jan Wilson Centre 9am – 3pm Find flyer HERE	NOBLE PARK: Afri-Aus Care Noble Park CC 10am – 3pm* Find flyer HERE	<i>Casey Hospital Staff</i> 9am - 4pm		<i>Frankston Vaccination Clinic</i> closed from 22 – 25 September



Get your COVID-19 vaccine at one of our pop-ups

Walk-in only, no bookings or Medicare needed. Just bring ID.

- Primary doses for people aged 12 years and older
- Third dose (booster) for people aged 16 years and older
- Fourth dose (booster) for people aged 30 and older
- (*Paediatric doses for children aged 5-11 years)

Choose an option near you through Clinic Finder

Compare clinics, check availability and book an appointment in one place. Use the [Vaccine Clinic Finder](#) for yourself, your children, or someone else.