



COVID-19 Message Grid

9 March 2022

This contains the most up-to-date and approved messaging on key COVID-19 matters.

Information that changes or is added between grids will be highlighted. Please ensure you are using the most up to date version.

This version was current at Wednesday 9/03/2022 5:20 pm.

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Unite Against COVID-19

Topic	Key Message	Supporting Messages	Notes
Isolation period for cases and household contacts update	The isolation period will be reduced from 10 to 7 days	<p>The isolation period for COVID-19 cases and their household contacts will be reduced from 10 to seven days from 11:59pm Friday 11 March.</p> <p>Household contacts will need to have a rapid antigen test at day 3 and day 7 – or if they become symptomatic - and if the result is positive, they are required to isolate for seven days from that point.</p> <p>If a person is isolating and still has symptoms after seven days, they are advised to stay home until 24 hours after symptoms resolve.</p>	Minister Hipkins' media stand-up, 9 Mar

Extended period without self-isolation after having the virus	The period for recovered cases has been extended	Recovered cases will no longer need to self-isolate if they become a household contact within 90 days after having the virus. This is an increase from the current 28 days.	Minister Hipkins' media stand-up, 9 Mar
My Covid Record update	Report test results on My Covid Record	<p>People are reminded to report RAT results on My Covid Record even if negative, and please make sure everyone in all those in the same household have reported their result.</p> <p>Later this week it will become possible to report a RAT result on behalf of someone else such as family members and for children under 12 via My Covid Record.</p> <p>There is also an 0800 number for this if preferred or if there is no Internet access.</p> <p>The self-reporting of RATs helps provide a clear picture of how the pandemic is progressing, both at a national and a regional level.</p>	MoH media stand-up, 8 March
St John update	Emergency Ambulance Services face highest ever 111 call volumes	<p>On Sunday 6 March, St John and Wellington Free Ambulance recorded 2,322 calls for help nationwide, about 100 more calls a day than the previous record.</p> <p>St John and Wellington Free Ambulance are asking the public to only phone 111 for an ambulance in genuine emergencies.</p> <p>If people are feeling unwell, or need health advice, they should call their regular health provider, for example, their GP, or Healthline, or visit covid19.govt.nz and consider alternative methods of transport to medical facilities for non-urgent conditions.</p> <p>If it is an emergency, people should continue to dial 111 for an ambulance.</p>	St John PR, 8 March
My Vaccine pass advice for Businesses	The NZ Pass Verifier can't be used to scan International Travel Vaccine Certificates.	<p>My Vaccine Pass is the only valid document that can be used to access events or venues requiring proof of vaccination status.</p> <p>If a person was vaccinated against COVID-19 while overseas they will need to complete the online Overseas Vaccination Submission form. It may take</p>	UAC

		<p>some time to get a My Vaccine Pass, so they are advised to start the process well before they travel.</p> <p>For more information visit the UAC website.</p>	
Health update	Hospitalisations, cases and testing.	<p>Hospitalisations</p> <p>There are currently 742 people in hospitals across New Zealand.</p> <p>19 cases are in high dependency or intensive care units.</p> <p>Cases</p> <p>There are 22,454 new cases in the community and 12 new cases identified at the border.</p> <p>Testing</p> <p>558 cases were identified through PCR testing and 21,896 via RAT.</p>	MoH web, 9 March

Vaccinations

Topic	Key message	Supporting messages	Notes
Booster programme update	Yesterday 9,226 booster doses were administered in New Zealand.	<p>The total number of people who have received boosters – including those vaccinated overseas – is 2,481,185 (72.5% of those eligible).</p> <p>Getting vaccinated and boosted is the best thing you can do right now to help the response. Those who are boosted and those under 12 years old are the most underrepresented group in hospitalisations.</p>	MoH web, 9 March
Vaccination progress	95.2% of eligible people in New Zealand have had two vaccine doses.	<p>Vaccines administered in New Zealand yesterday: 231 first doses; 987 second doses; 68 third primary doses.</p> <p>People vaccinated (including those vaccinated overseas): All Ethnicities (percentage of eligible people aged 12+): 4,067,123 first dose (96.6%); 4,008,592 second dose (95.2%), 2,481,185 boosted (72.5% of those eligible).</p>	MoH web, 9 March

<p>Paediatric vaccines</p>	<p>628 paediatric first doses and 245 paediatric second doses were administered yesterday.</p>	<p>To date, 250,933 paediatric first doses and 5,746 paediatric second doses have been administered in New Zealand.</p> <p>Detailed information on COVID-19 vaccines for children can be found at the MoH and UAC websites:</p> <p><u>COVID-19 vaccine and children: Information for parents and caregivers Ministry of Health NZ</u></p> <p><u>How children and young people can get vaccinated Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)</u></p>	<p>MoH web, 9 March</p>
<p>Novovax vaccine</p>	<p>The Novovax vaccine is available to book from tomorrow</p>	<p>A shipment of more than 250,000 Novavax COVID-19 vaccines (Nuvaxovid) has arrived in New Zealand and preparations are well advanced for some vaccination centres to be able to offer it next week for those people who would prefer, or require, an alternative.</p> <p>Novavax will be available for people aged over 18. It requires two doses, with a three week gap. As yet it has not been approved as a booster dose.</p> <p>For more information: <u>https://www.health.govt.nz/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccines-getting-novavax</u></p>	<p>Minister Hipkins' media stand-up, 9 Mar</p>