

Currently at:

Level 4 - Eliminate

Likely that disease
is not contained

Find out more at
[Covid19.govt.nz](https://www.covid19.govt.nz)
New Zealand Government

Unite
against
COVID-19

COVID-19 update for staff

Daily COVID-19 update for staff – Sunday 12 April 2020

Current Hawke's Bay COVID-19 numbers: 12 April, 2020		
<i>These numbers are updated each afternoon following the Ministry of Health update</i>		
Confirmed & probable cases in Hawke's Bay	38	
Recovered cases in Hawke's Bay	6	
	<i>Current cases</i>	<i>Recovered cases</i>
Hastings district	14	1
Wairoa district	3	0
Central Hawke's Bay	0	0
Napier	21	5
Number of cases in hospital in Hawke's Bay	1	
Total number of tests in Hawke's Bay	2,020 (11 April)	
<u>Click here to see national figures on the Ministry of Health website</u>		

* Probable cases are cases that are a close contact of a previously confirmed case that meets the clinical criteria of having COVID-19.

No new cases reported of COVID-19 in Hawke's Bay

The Ministry of Health, today reported no new COVID-19 cases in Hawke's Bay – the total for the region remains at 38.

Hawke's Bay District Health Board Medical Officer of Health Dr Rachel Eyre said while no new cases were reported the region needed to remain vigilant.

"While it's good news today we need to remain at home and continue to follow the rules. We have had recent examples of why lockdown is so important and we continue to reinforce those messages -stay at home and if you are unwell ring your GP or Healthline."

“While we understand people may be anxious in the Flaxmere community, we need to emphasise that the risk is low for anyone else contracting the disease, and the supermarket owners have done everything right to reduce that risk even further.

The district health board won't be providing more details of this case, she said. However, people could be reassured that public health was working closely with the contacts and contact tracing, and was confident the case was well contained and there was no wider risk.

Dr Eyre said there had been enormous feedback through social media on this case, much of it was unkind and blaming. “We remind people to be kind and support their communities and everyone that lives within them - people have this disease through no fault of their own.”

The Flaxmere General Practice, Totara Health, had also received many calls from people who were well but had visited the supermarket and were concerned. Dr Eyre said only if you had cold and flu like symptoms did you need to contact a GP or Healthline, if you were well and had just visited the supermarket there was no need for concern.

There was no-cost for anyone to call their GP or Healthline for an assessment/referral to a Community-Based Assessment Centre.

It remains important for anyone in Hawke's Bay who had developed illness, even very mild illness such as a cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose or loss of smell and taste, to contact their GP or Healthline on 0800 358 5453 to be tested and remain at home whilst waiting for results.

Read more here: www.ourhealthhb.nz/hbupdate12april

The national picture from the Ministry of Health today reports that there are 18 new cases of COVID-19, made up of 14 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 4 new probable cases.

There are no additional deaths to report - the total remains four deaths.

New Zealand now has 1,339 confirmed and probable cases of COVID-19. More information is available on our current cases page.

There are now 471 reported cases of COVID-19 we can confirm have recovered – an increase of 49 on yesterday. We continue to report more people recovered than new cases.

The combined total of confirmed and probable cases in New Zealand is 1330.

Today, there are 14 people in hospital. The total includes five people in ICU – one each in Wellington, Middlemore, Wairau in Blenheim, Dunedin and North Shore hospitals. One of these ICU patients - in Dunedin - remains in a critical condition.

For those cases we have information on, 47% involve contact with a confirmed case within New Zealand including those in known clusters, 40% have a link with overseas travel and community transmission accounts for 2%. We are still investigating 11% of cases, down from 18% a week ago

2421 tests were processed yesterday, with a rolling 7 day average of 3523 and total tests to date of 61,167.

Today's Ministry of Health national case updates can be found [here](#). More details are available on the [Current cases page](#).

Updated: Employee related general FAQs

TAS has updated the Employee Related FAQs as at 09 April 2020 – please find attached or [click here to download](#). You will find revisions documented in red font.



09 April 2020
COVID-19 Empl...

UPDATED: Process for staff with COVID-19 symptoms

Please note the pathway provided on Friday contained an incorrect phone number. Please find an updated version attached or get one from: [Click here to read more about this on Our Hub](#).



Pathway for staff with symptom...
Referral and Check sheet for...

During weekdays you can use the form and scan it and send to: Jane.O'Kane@hbdhb.govt.nz or occupationalhealth@hbdhb.govt.nz

Do not scan and email on the weekends. Instead please phone Occ Health and if we do not answer, leave a message with the above information for us, and we will follow-up.

There have also been many enquiries about staff who have family members or other home bubble occupants tested for COVID-19, and whether the staff member is able to continue working if they are asymptomatic. The advice from John Gommans is:

“ Until negative result available they are able to continue working if they :

-Wear a mask

-Remain well

-Temperature check before each shift”

Temperature checks can be done when they arrive at work, but before starting, or Occupational Health has thermometers available for staff if needed.

You are all doing an amazing job organising people, allaying concerns, taking care of your staff, and generally just being here.

Please take care of yourselves as well – you know we are here for you all.

Stay well,
Occ Health

Please do not use the patient parks at Te Kakano

All staff are asked to please do not park in the reserved patient-only car parks of Antenatal Clinic (Te Kakano).

Maternity Services advise they still have women coming for essential face-to-face antenatal outpatient checks and currently there are no spaces left this morning due to staff using these parks.

Thank you.

The Wellbeing Hub

The Wellbeing Hub team offers three types of support:

1. A range of wellbeing resources ([that can be found on OurHub](#)) that will be updated regularly
2. One-on-one support from our team of qualified staff, who can help staff with whatever support they need
3. A range of Te Ao Māori wellbeing support resources.

To let the Wellbeing team know how it can help, simply email Staffwellbeing@hbdhb.govt.nz and let the team know your phone number and the best time to get in contact with you. This service operates Monday to Friday 8am-4pm. We aim to connect with you within 24 hours.

[Click here to visit the staff Wellbeing Hub](#)

Updated PPE guidelines

Please click here to see updated PPE guidelines for all frontline health workers. These reflect the addition of surgical earloop masks for those who are not able to maintain the 2 metre physical distance. This refreshed guideline is intended to be easier to follow, system wide. They are also attached to this email.



Infection Prevention and Control Easter weekend contacts

The Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) team are working the following hours over the next week.

A reminder also re IPC contact details:

- For internal/HBDHB staff enquiry phone the IPC Duty Phone 027 381 995, out of normal working hours contact the Duty Manager.
- For external enquiry contact the EOC desk ext 7145 or email emergency.response@hbdhb.govt.nz

Role	Days	Hours	Easter hours
IPC Advisor	Mon - Fri	0800 - 1630	Off
IPC Assistant	5 days, rostered	0930 - 1800	All days - Fri, Sat, Sun, Mon 0900 - 1700
IPC ARC / Community Liaison	Wed - Fri	0800 - 1630	Off
IPC ARC / Community Liaison	Mon - Wed	0800 - 1630	Off
IPC BAu Assistant	Mon - Thurs	0800 - 1630	Off

Updated information: Additional Childcare Arrangements – Essential Workers

You will be aware that the Government has agreed to help ensure essential workers can access care and supervision for their children. The Ministry of Education initially engaged with three of the largest home-based providers, who to date have facilitated care for approximately 700 children across 400 families. Cabinet has agreed to expand the scheme to other home-based providers. To support this MoE have reached out to the wider home-based sector and to date 12 additional providers have expressed an interest in assisting.

To further support essential workers to find care and supervision, MoE have established a dedicated team within the Ministry of Education to help broker care for them.

If there is an essential worker that has not been able to access care for their child/children, the essential worker can contact the Ministry via ECE.Info@education.govt.nz (Please note: this mailbox may differ to previous advice.). MoE will then make arrangements for a home-based provider to contact the essential worker.

Please do not wear uniforms in public

The public has recently seen HBDHB staff wearing their uniforms in supermarkets. This has caused much concern to the public around potential COVID 19 risk to themselves.

It is **our policy** not to wear our uniforms in public places. However, wearing uniform from home to work and not vice versa, removed and washed as per infection control guideline is permitted. There is the option of changing into your uniform at work, thus traveling in mufti to and from work so shopping can be done without the need to go home first.

We are aware that some supermarkets had previously advertised health workers in uniform get priority entry for shopping. However, we have worked with supermarkets to advise of our no-uniform policy and ensure **worker ID is all that is required for priority shopping**.

It is important for us to recognise the public anxiety about COVID19 and risk of infection. We are asking staff to adhere to our uniform policy, and not to wear uniforms in public places.

Supermarket shopping clarification

We have been receiving many questions regarding supermarket shopping offers to emergency service workers etc. We sought clarification from Countdown HQ.

We have also advised Countdown of our no-uniform policy outside of the workplace and that DHB staff will be showing just their staff ID. This is perfectly acceptable. See below.

Countdown Supermarkets

A message from Countdown HQ:

“Countdown’s priority shopping hour (8am to 9am daily) is available to NZ Police, Fire Service, ambulance, paramedic, DHB, hospital and **medical personnel** with proper ID. So yes to GPs and pharmacists. They are just required to have ID. We don't require any of these people to be in uniform - IDs are just fine.”

Tamatea Pak'nSave

Pak'n'Save Tamatea is offering priority access for emergency services and personnel - you will need to carrying appropriate DHB ID, medical centre or proper ID. This will give you priority to enter the store or go through checkouts first.

ZACs now has socially distanced indoor seating

The wonderful team at ZACs have heard from staff that as the weather cools there is a need for some safe, socially distanced seated tables indoors.

From Wednesday 8 April staff will be able to access ZACS from the courtyard entry door. The number of staff inside at any one time will be limited along with the number of staff who are in the food serving area at any one time.

We ask all our staff to please observe and respect the rules in ZACs. If staff fail to follow the guidelines ZACs will close to once again only providing takeaway food.

These measures are no different to the rules people are being asked to follow at the supermarket. Please be kind to the staff they need to feel, as you do, safe in their work place.

If the weather allows please eat and drink outside or within a staff room.

Change in required isolation period for essential workers testing negative for COVID-19

Clarification has been sought around the isolation expectations of essential workers who show symptoms consistent with the suspect case definition of COVID-19, but test negative for it.

Staff showing symptoms are eligible for immediate testing.

The Ministry of Health yesterday amended this advice to recognise the serious potential resourcing impacts on some key services if individuals have to isolate for 10 days.

The updated advice is that where a test is negative, the individual will only be required to remain at home for 48

hours providing they remain symptom-free for that period. They are not required to complete the longer 10-day stand down.

Please note that the 48 hours relates to when an individual is symptom free, not to the negative test. For example, if the negative test result comes back after 24 hours of being symptom free, individuals still have to wait for another 24 hours. If the negative test result takes a while to come back, they still have to wait for that negative test result, even if they have been symptom free for 72 hours.

COVID-19 Discharge Cleaning Guidelines for Suspect or Positive Patient

[Click here](#) to see IPC cleaning guidelines for the hospital for suspected or confirmed COVID patients.

Service disruption update: Nuclear Medicine Services

We have managed to secure a delivery of radiotracer once every 2 weeks via land transport beginning the week of 13 April. This will mean we are able to continue our service for non-deferrable patients from next week.

Please indicate on nuclear medicine referrals:

- *why the study cannot be deferred/must be done during lockdown*
- *how the performance of the study will impact care for the patient*
- *the patient's current COVID-19 status - cold, warm or hot.*

Thank you once again for your assistance and bearing with us during this critical time.
Radiology Department

No need to double-bag or label COVID linen bags – a message from Allied Laundry

Please do not double-bag linen that has been used by COVID patients, and do not label linen bags with 'COVID' – neither is required and it creates extra work for Allied Laundry.

Please do not double-bag biohazard waste as per routine process.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Reminder: No general paper/light cardboard recycling services due to COVID-19

Due to the Covid-19 Alert Level 4 lockdown and in line with the recent announcement from Hastings District Council, the general paper/light cardboard recycling services provided by Waste Management have temporarily ceased.

Please place all paper/light cardboard into general waste bins.

Any full paper recycling bins will not be collected until the restrictions are lifted.

This notice does not apply to confidential paper recycling; you can continue using these bins as usual.

The new 'No Visitor' policy also applies to staff

Please remember that staff are not to access parts of the hospital to visit family members or patients - they must only access clinical areas for clinical needs. Staff still need to abide by the [new visitor policy](#).

Hawke's Bay Hospital Chapel

Hawke's Bay Hospital's chapel is open for staff only. This is so staff can enjoy some quiet time and reflection. The chapel will be set up so staff can maintain safe social distancing. It will be open 7 days a week from 6.30am until 1700 hours.