

As at 25 June 2020

Additional Screening Question: Have you travelled to Melbourne in the last 14 days?

If Yes:

Have you travelled to any of the Melbourne COVID Hotspot suburbs in the last 14 days?

If a staff member answers 'Y'; complete the following actions:

1. Assess the staff member for symptoms (following the usual entry screening protocol)
2. Advise the staff member of the need to get tested for COVID-19 should even the mildest of symptoms arise
3. Assess the staff member's usual place of work/ nature of work duties according to the following:

| Non- Clinical Area and/ or Non- Clinical Work | Clinical Area and/ or Clinical Work and <u>able to be redeployed</u> | Clinical Area and/ or Clinical Work and <u>Not Able to be redeployed</u> |
|---|--|--|
| No further action required; continue with daily entry screening of staff member and ensure careful self-monitoring for symptoms | Plan for redeployment; any combination of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative duties • Alternative location on-site • Working from home or another off-site location (including working from home) if practicable | Ensure redeployment is not possible |
| | Keep in contact with staff member regularly to ensure ongoing suitability of temporary arrangement and advise to carefully self-monitor for symptoms | Undertake risk assessment and establish local management plan if absence of the staff member from clinical duties will in any way compromise clinical care |
| | Return staff member to their ordinary role and/ or place of work upon completion of 14 days from departing Melbourne Covid Hotspot Suburb | Staff member commences on Special Leave for the balance of the 14 days remaining from departing Melbourne Covid Hotspot Suburb Note: check staff member has enough special leave entitlement remaining to cover the balance of the 14-day period |

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| | | Keep in contact with staff member regularly to ensure ongoing suitability of temporary arrangement |
| | | Return staff member to their ordinary role and/ or place of work at end of 14 days from departing Melbourne Covid Hotspot suburb |

Melbourne- Covid Hotspot Suburbs

Consider real time advice in relation to known COVID-19 hotspots in Melbourne:
As of 25 June 2020 and subject to change; 10 Melbourne suburbs identified as Covid hotspots, having high rates of community transmission are:

- Broadmeadows
- Keilor Downs
- Maidstone
- Albanvale
- Sunshine West
- Hallam
- Brunswick West
- Fawkner
- Reservoir
- Pakenham

Future Recreational Travel by NSW Health Staff to Melbourne after Sunday 28 June

NSW Health staff should be aware that this is a fast-evolving situation. As above, if you undertake recreational travel to Melbourne COVID Hotspot suburbs you may be required to be absent from the workplace for 14 days upon your return. You are therefore asked to reconsider your travel plans. If you travel to a Melbourne COVID Hotspot suburb after Sunday 28 June Special Leave may not be available in respect of self-isolation upon return. Updates on this situation will be provided as soon as available.

Why the need to only avoid Clinical Duties/ Clinical Areas; as opposed to withdrawing from the workplace completely?

The risk is presently very low; however, patients generally have a range of co-morbidities which render them more vulnerable in relation to COVID-19.

With the exception of vulnerable workers who should have already been identified and risk assessments completed to ensure their safety; the majority of staff are not rendered more vulnerable to COVID-19 in the same way that patients are.

It is important to note that the temperature and wellness checks conducted for all staff and visitors to NSW Health facilities are very effective in identifying anyone who has relevant symptoms prior to their entry to our facilities. The arrangements currently in place for returned travellers from Melbourne COVID Hotspot suburbs are a high-level additional precaution.

Factors for Consideration when Risk Assessing a Returned Staff Member's Travel to Melbourne COVID Hotspot Suburbs

A range of factors should be considered when Risk Assessing a returned Staff Member's Travel to a Melbourne COVID Hotspot suburb including:

- Location and duration of contact in the Melbourne COVID Hotspot suburb
- Nature of transmission risk involved (number of social contacts, level of contact with potentially affected communities and proximity of work to patients from those communities)
- Type of clinical duties to be undertaken, and whether other mitigations such as physical distancing; hand hygiene; PPE etc will be possible and the level of residual risk that remains?

Any symptoms however mild should require immediate exclusion and testing, with no return to work until a negative test result is available and any associated symptoms have resolved