



RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Hearing Date: 31/01/2022

Directed to: Professor Brett Sutton

1. Ms WARD Page no. 20

Question asked: What is the average stay in hospital for an unvaccinated person versus a vaccinated person?

Response:

The average length of stay for COVID in Victoria is not significantly different between those who are vaccinated and those who are not.

2. Mr WELLS Page no. 21

Question asked: Do you or do you not have the number of workers that have been stood down due to vaccine mandates?

Response:

The Department of Health is unable to provide information about the potential number of workers who may or may not have been stood down due to non-compliance with vaccine mandates.

Since introducing mandates across a number of workforces, the Department of Health has worked with peak industry bodies, employers and unions to ensure fair and equitable access to vaccination for affected individuals.

3. Ms KEALY Page no. 18

Question asked: What information was provided to you from pathology companies as to the maximum capacity of their testing system and what modelling was done in regard to when you would hit peak testing?

Given that coincided with a large number of recommendations to ease restrictions coming into the Christmas period, which was when we saw a peak of omicron cases coming through, did you take into consideration or what advice did you provide to the minister and to the Premier in regard to when Victoria's pathology testing system would meet its maximum capacity and therefore try and minimise a situation where people were getting their results 12 days after they were tested or 100 000 tests were actually thrown out?



Response:

Testing system Capacity

	Previous capacity (85% turnaround time in 24 hours)	In December 2021 - Capacity with increased positivity rates (85% turnaround the next day)
Total Overall Pathology Capacity	76,800	50,000