

# **Pandemic Declaration Accountability and Oversight Committee**

## ***Visitors to Hospitals and Care Facilities Order 2022***

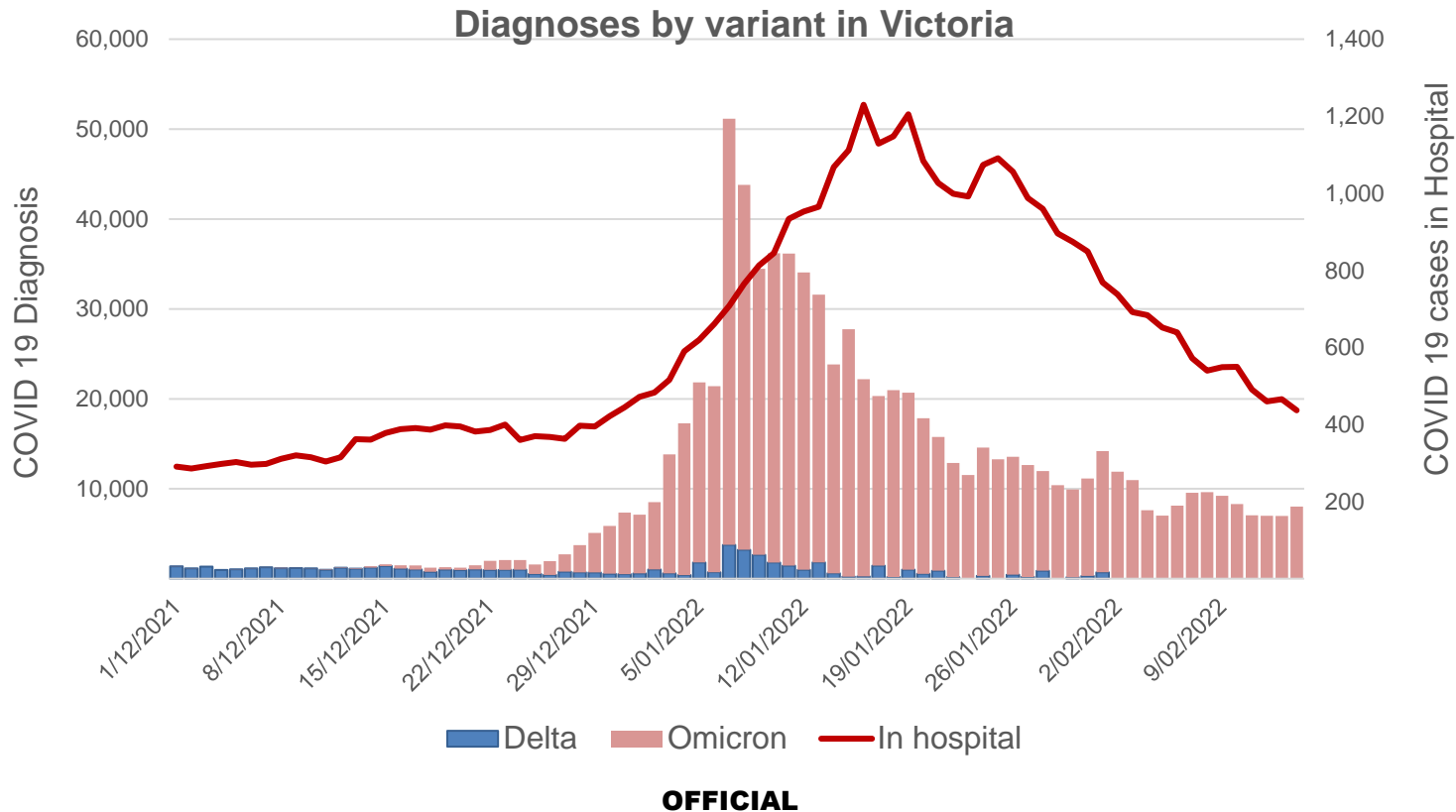
***(Nos. 1 and 2)***

### **Minister for Health Presentation**

**4 March 2022**

# Omicron Wave Data

Graph showing transmission and hospitalisations over Dec 1 – Feb 28



# Summary of the Orders – 15 December 2021

	CHO advice 10 December 2021	Pandemic (Visitors to Hospitals and Care Facilities) Order 2021 (No.1)
<b>Hospitals</b>	Hospitals and care facilities are sensitive settings where vulnerable patients and residents, workers and visitors are at increased risk of being exposed to and transmitting COVID-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visitors permitted for specific circumstances</li> </ul>
	Limiting the number of visitors to these settings reduces the number of interactions between a resident or patient and those who may be more mobile in the community, thus reducing opportunities for viral transmission.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 visitors at a time, 2 visitors per day (unless visiting for end of life reasons)</li> </ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clarification that persons are not to be excluded where their symptoms are caused by an underlying medical condition or medication.</li> </ul>
<b>Care facilities</b>	Care facilities are sensitive settings that require additional public health measures to mitigate the risk to vulnerable residents and to protect the workforce.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 visitors per resident per day</li> </ul>
	Residential aged care facilities have been the location of a significant proportion of outbreaks. Between August and December 2021, outbreaks in residential aged care facilities have still account for 5.5 per cent of all outbreaks in Victoria.	

# Summary of key changes to the Orders – 12 January 2022

	CHO advice	Pandemic (Visitors to Hospitals and Care Facilities) Order 2021 (No.2)
<b>Hospitals</b>	<p>Range of measures to assist with managing health risks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mandating surveillance testing through rapid antigen tests of workers and visitors to care facilities, and strongly recommended for visitors to hospitals</li> <li>• Requiring that all visitors to hospitals aged 18 years and over be fully vaccinated to gain entry</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 visitors at a time</li> <li>• 2 per day unless visiting for end-of-life reasons</li> <li>• Rapid antigen test strongly recommended for all visitors</li> </ul> <p>Visitors who are aged 18 and over must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fully vaccinated or</li> <li>• able to undertake and present a negative RAT result from just prior to entry, and wear a N95 face covering for the duration of their visit</li> </ul> <p>Visitors who are aged under 18 must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fully vaccinated; or</li> <li>• able to present a negative RA test result prior to entry</li> </ul>
	<p>Health service capacity is being significantly impacted by workforce leave, COVID infections, furlough as close contacts and the need to continue to support testing and vaccination. The daily increase in hospitalisations therefore coincides with reductions in workforce availability.</p>	
<b>Care facilities</b>	<p>Care facilities are often defined as sensitive settings, as residents at these facilities are particularly vulnerable to the negative impacts of COVID-19 infection, including severe disease and death.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 visitors per resident per day (dependents included)</li> <li>• Strongly recommend that all residents and visitors are fully vaccinated</li> </ul>
	<p>Rapid antigen tests show moderate sensitivity and high specificity for the detection of SARSCoV-2, are an appropriate asymptomatic screening tool in the context of high community prevalence to support the ongoing COVID-19 response.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visitors are required to complete a COVID-19 RAT, and receive a negative result before entering a care facility;</li> <li>• If no RATs are available at facility, limited to 2 visitors per day (dependents included)</li> </ul>

# Elective Surgery- significant changes since 15 December 2021

As at 15 December 2021	6 January 2022	25 January 2022	4 February 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Private hospitals</u> in Metro Melb, Geelong, Ballarat, Shepparton, Bendigo and Latrobe + <u>day procedure centres</u> + <u>public hospitals</u> in Metro Melb (<i>not</i> COVID streaming hospitals) <b>permitted to perform at 75% volume</b></li> <li>• <u>Public health</u> in Metro Melb (that do not operate COVID streaming areas) <b>permitted to perform at 75% volume</b></li> <li>• <u>Public health</u> in Metro Melb (including COVID streaming) and Barwon Health <b>permitted only Category 1 or 2A.</b></li> <li>• <u>Public health</u> in Regional Vic (<i>except</i> Barwon Health, Ballarat, Goulburn Valley, Bendigo or Latrobe: <b>permitted to reduce volume</b></li> <li>• <u>Public health</u> in Regional Vic that are Barwon Health, Ballarat, Goulburn Valley, Bendigo or Latrobe: <b>permitted to perform 75%</b></li> <li>• <b>IVF:</b> any IVF treatment performed at a registered facility + surgical terminations permitted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Private hospitals</u> in Metro Melb, Geelong, Ballarat, Shepparton, Bendigo and Latrobe + <u>day procedure centres</u> + <u>public hospitals</u> in Metro Melb (<i>not</i> COVID streaming hospitals) <b>only urgent elective surgery</b></li> <li>• <u>Public health</u> in Metro Melb (including COVID streaming) and Barwon Health, Ballarat, Goulburn Valley, Bendigo, or Latrobe <b>only urgent elective surgery</b></li> <li>• <u>Public health</u> in Regional Vic (<i>except</i> Barwon Health, Ballarat, Goulburn Valley, Bendigo or Latrobe: <b>permitted to reduce volume</b></li> <li>• <b>IVF:</b> any IVF treatment started before 6 Jan 2022 at a registered facility + any procedure for the preservation of eggs for the future (where treatment will render eggs non-viable) + surgical terminations permitted</li> </ul>	<p><b>IVF:</b> any IVF treatment performed at a registered facility + surgical terminations permitted (<b>noting, all non surgical IVF procedures resumed on 20 January 2022</b>)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Private hospitals, private networked hospitals + day procedure centres</u> in Metro Melb and Geelong + <u>private hospitals</u> (excluding <u>day procedure centres</u>) in Ballarat, Shepparton, Bendigo, Latrobe and Wangaratta <b>permitted only elective same day surgery (including non-urgent surgery) at 50% volume</b></li> <li>• <u>Public health</u> in Metro Melb and all public health in Barwon Health that operate a COVID streaming area + public health in Ballarat, Goulburn Valley, Bendigo, or Latrobe <b>only urgent elective surgery</b></li> </ul>

# Elective Surgery- significant changes since 15 December 2021

13 February 2022	20 February 2022	27 February 2022
<p><u>Private hospitals</u> (excluding day procedure centres) in Ballarat, Shepparton, Bendigo, Latrobe, Wangaratta <b>permitted elective surgery (including multi-day surgery and non-urgent surgery) at 75% volume. Metro no change</b></p> <p><u>Public health services</u> in Metro Melb <i>except</i> Peter Mac &amp; Royal Vic Eye and Ear Hospital <b>permitted only urgent elective surgery</b></p> <p><u>All public health services/ hospitals</u> in Regional Vic <b>permitted only urgent elective surgery or Category 2 or 3 and non-urgent non-ESIS where hospital has capacity</b></p> <p><u>Peter Mac &amp; Royal Vic Eye and Ear Hospital</u> <b>permitted only urgent elective surgery or Category 2</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <u>Private hospitals</u> and <u>day procedure centres</u> in Metro Melb and <u>private hospitals</u> in Geelong <b>permitted only same day surgery (including non-urgent surgery) at 75% volume</b></li><li>• <u>Private hospitals</u> (excluding day procedure centres) in Ballarat, Shepparton, Bendigo, Latrobe and Wangaratta <b>permitted elective surgery (including multi-day surgery and non-urgent surgery) at 100% volume</b></li><li>• <u>Public health services</u> located in Metro Melbourne <b>permitted only urgent elective surgery procedures or Category 2 procedures where hospital has capacity</b></li></ul>	<p><u>Private hospitals</u> and <u>day procedure centres</u> in Metro Melb + <u>private hospitals</u> (<i>excluding</i> day procedure centres) in Ballarat, Shepparton, Bendigo, Latrobe, Wangaratta and <b>permitted elective surgery (including multi-day surgery and non-urgent surgery) at 100% volume</b></p> <p><u>All Public Health Services in Victoria</u> <b>permitted elective surgery procedures that is a Category 1, 2, 3, or non-urgent non-ESIS elective surgery procedure</b></p>