

Close Contacts

Fact sheet for prisoners

What is a close contact?

You are a close contact if you have shared a cell, cottage, cabin or lodge with someone who is COVID positive.

Do I need quarantine if I am a close contact?

You don't have to quarantine at all during this 7 day period, and you can leave your accommodation each day provided you:

- Continually test negative using a rapid antigen test for the 7 day period.
- wear a mask when leaving your shared cell, cottage, cabin or lodge.

Why should I wear a mask?











COVID-19 can spread when people breathe, talk, cough, or sneeze. A well-fitting mask keeps the virus from reaching others. It will also protect you the wearer from becoming infected.

Why if I don't get tested or wear a mask?

Testing will be facilitated, wherever possible, at morning unlock. Where you do not undertake a rapid test, you will be required to quarantine.

You will be strongly encouraged to wear N95 or KN95 masks.

What are the symptoms of Covid?

Fever and chills 	Cough 	Sore throat 	Shortness of breath 	Runny nose or sneezing 
Diarrhoea 	Loss of smell or taste 	Headache 	Muscle soreness 	Nausea or vomiting 



What happens if I test positive?

If you test positive, you will be moved to a COVID-19 isolation area for 7 days from the date of your positive test.

This is to keep you safe. The health care team will monitor and care for you during your illness.

I had Covid recently, do I need to test again?

You do not need to test or quarantine if you have had Covid within the last 4 weeks.

Remaining in your community

Where possible, we encourage you to stay within your community. This helps reduce the spread of COVID-19. Where it is necessary for you to mix with other prisoners across the site (eg. Health appointments, kitchen duties and industry areas) you are encouraged to:

- Wear a mask
- Wash your hands
- Maintain a physical distance of 1.5 meters from other prisoners and staff, where possible.

What is the difference between Covid and the Flu?



COVID spreads more easily and causes severe illness in some people than the flu.

It can be hard to tell the difference between COVID and flu symptoms – which is why it is necessary that you get tested if symptoms appear.

Get your COVID-19 Vaccination

COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective in protecting you against COVID-19.

COVID-19 vaccines provide strong protection against serious illness, hospitalisation, and death.

Getting vaccinated helps those at a higher risk of falling seriously ill have an increased immunity, such as people who are severely immunocompromised, adults aged above 65 years, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Getting vaccinated is a safer and more dependable way to build immunity to COVID-19 than getting sick with COVID-19. If you had COVID-19, you should still get vaccinated to receive maximum protection.

Talk to health staff for more information.