



# COVID-19 Message Grid

## 10 February 2022

This contains the most up-to-date and approved messaging on key COVID-19 matters.

Information that changes or is added between grids will be highlighted. Please ensure you are using the most up to date version.

This version was current at 10/02/2022 5:04 pm.

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## Unite Against COVID-19

Topic	Key Message	Supporting Messages	Notes
Critical service worker contact exemption	Close contact exemption scheme to help keep critical supply chains running though Omicron launches	<p>From today, businesses and organisations can register online as a critical service if they think they will meet the criteria when New Zealand enters Phase 2.</p> <p>Critical service workers who are close contacts of COVID-19 cases can keep going to work instead of isolating if they return a negative rapid antigen test.</p> <p>Critical services include food production and its supply chain, key public services like health and emergency services, lifeline utilities such as power and water supplies, transport, critical financial services, news media and social welfare. It also includes human and animal health and welfare.</p>	Min Hipkins and Min Verrall PR, 10 Feb

<p>"Bubble of one" contact exemption</p>	<p>Guidelines have been confirmed for people who either work alone, or can do so</p>	<p>These workers will be able to continue operating in a "bubble of one" if they are identified as a contact.</p> <p>These guidelines apply to any workers, not just critical workers, and do not require them to return regular tests.</p> <p>These changes strike a balance between continuing to keep people safe, but also keep businesses and services operating as smoothly as possible.</p>	<p>Min Hipkins and Min Verrall PR, 10 Feb</p>
<p>Health update</p>	<p>Cases, testing and contact tracing</p>	<p><b>Hospitalisations</b></p> <p>There are currently 12 people in hospitals across New Zealand.</p> <p>No cases are in high dependency or intensive care units.</p> <p><b>Cases</b></p> <p>There are 306 new cases in the community and 30 new cases identified at the border.</p> <p><b>Testing</b></p> <p>27,425 tests processed nationwide in the last 24 hours.</p> <p>Number of Rapid Antigen Tests in New Zealand: 6,800,000</p>	<p>MoH site, 10 Feb</p>
<p>Big Boost Week update</p>	<p>Tuesday is the start of the Big Boost Week, with pop-up vaccination clinics and extended hours across the country</p>	<p>People are encouraged to get their booster today, it's the best time to do so, before Omicron takes off significantly.</p> <p>Northland has more than 40 clinics up and running. Hawke's Bay has extra weekend booster clinics. Auckland metro has more than 350 sites open including a new one at The Cloud, with four major drive-throughs, and South Island DHBs have also extended hours with a drive-through in Dunedin.</p> <p>From today the extra 1 million people who can get their booster now will receive a text or email alert.</p>	<p>PM's post-cab stand-up, 8 Feb</p>

Flu vaccines	Up to 2 million New Zealanders will be eligible for free flu vaccination in 2022	<p>The Government will fund a quarter of a million more flu vaccines for this year's winter campaign to protect vulnerable communities and the health system.</p> <p>MoH and PHARMAC are currently updating the eligibility criteria for a free flu vaccination with a focus on reducing the age of eligibility for at-risk populations, and potentially including a wider range of young people.</p> <p>Currently flu vaccinations are free for pregnant women, over 65s, and people who have certain medical conditions including those with cancer and diabetes.</p> <p>The flu vaccine can be safely administered at the same time as the COVID-19 vaccine - whether that be a booster shot or paediatric vaccine.</p>	Min Little PR, 8 Feb
Vaccine donations	New Zealand gives vaccines to Tonga, Samoa	<p>Aotearoa New Zealand is donating an additional 9,300 doses of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine to Tonga, and 10,000 doses to Samoa.</p> <p>This brings New Zealand's total vaccine donations to over 47,000 for Tonga and 94,000 for Samoa.</p>	Min Mahuta and Min Sio PR, 5 Feb

## Vaccinations

Topic	Key message	Supporting messages	Notes
Booster programme update	The Big Boost Week is now in full swing, with 56,257 booster doses administered yesterday	<p>This brings the total so far to more than 1.7 million – 55% of those eligible.</p> <p>With Omicron in New Zealand, the best thing people can do is get their booster as soon as eligible.</p> <p>Boosters lower the chances of getting very sick and being hospitalised. They also help slow the spread of the virus.</p> <p>People are urged to have personal plans ready, and follow the key public health advice of getting vaccinated, boosted, tested (if symptomatic) and masking up.</p>	MoH site, 10 Feb

<p>Vaccination progress</p>	<p>95% of New Zealanders have had two vaccine doses.</p>	<p>Vaccines administered to date (percentage of eligible people): 4,049,971 first doses (96%); 3,977,640 second doses (95%).</p>	<p>MoH site, 10 Feb</p>
<p>Paediatric vaccines</p>	<p>1,941 paediatric doses administered yesterday</p>	<p>To date, 204,727 first doses has been administered to 5-11-year-olds (43%).</p> <p>The decision for the vaccination of children solely sits with parents, caregivers and whanau – the Government’s job is to make sure they have all the advice, support and information to make that decision.</p> <p>Detailed information on COVID-19 vaccines for children can be found at the MoH and UAC websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">COVID-19 vaccine and children: Information for parents and caregivers   Ministry of Health NZ</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">How children and young people can get vaccinated   Unite against COVID-19 (covid19.govt.nz)</a></li> </ul>	<p>PM media stand-up, MoH and UAC sites, 10 Feb</p>