## Communique

# 15 April 2021 Restrictions in Queensland

## Update of Restrictions for Queensland

Due to no new unlinked community transmission cases of COVID-19, there will be a deescalation of PPE requirements and easing of restrictions across Queensland from 6 am Thursday 15 April 2021. There are currently no impacted areas in Queensland and all of Queensland will be subject to the same, current restrictions.

Decisions regarding the public health response to increase or decrease restrictions and the use of PPE are made by the Chief Health Officer to ensure the continued safety of Queensland communities.

#### Face masks

Face masks are no longer mandatory, with the exception of airports and on planes, however it is recommended that a face mask is still used where social distancing is not possible, including health care settings and allied health private practices, and indoor workplaces (where it is safe to wear a mask and you can't physically distance).

If unsure, allied health professionals should wear a mask and take a commonsense approach. Further information about face masks, including FAQ's is available <u>here</u>.

## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Information regarding the use and de-escalation of personal protective equipment (PPE) can be found on the dedicated <u>Queensland Health PPE webpage</u>.

From 6am Thursday 15 April 2021, all geographic areas in Queensland will be 'low' risk for the purpose of determining appropriate PPE usage.

Standard precautions are required for all patients regardless of their known or presumed infectious status as the primary strategy for minimising the risk of infection and must be used as part of day-to-day practice when providing healthcare. In accordance with standard precautions, a surgical mask and protective eyewear should always be worn when providing healthcare to a patient with acute respiratory infection symptoms.

Please refer to the <u>Pandemic Response Guidance – Personal Protective Equipment in</u> <u>Healthcare Delivery</u> for the specific details for healthcare settings.

### Enquiries

Please direct enquiries to the Allied Health Professions' Office of Queensland, by email <u>allied\_health\_advisory@health.qld.gov.au</u>.

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