



Building & Construction Industry

COVID-19 Update Friday 5th November 2021

Update on Positive Cases and Outbreaks

It has been a week since my last update, punctuated by the Melbourne Cup day long weekend for those able to take some time off. The pandemic continues however with persistently high positive case numbers in Victoria and regrettably multiple deaths each day. On a more optimistic note (I nearly wrote positive note), there are fewer and fewer positive cases being reported in our industry, which of course is a vaccinated workforce. It's time to remind you that workers must have received their second dose vaccination by 13 November – next Saturday.

Date Reported	Positive Cases	Active Cases	First Vax %	Second Vax %
Today 5 th Nov	1343	18,952	%	%
4 th November	1247	17,674	92	82.6

New Workplace Directions (no 54) came into force last week and we await Dept. Health clarification concerning the interpretation of the Density Quotient for non publicly accessible areas. The likelihood is that properly ventilated crib rooms can now go to 1 person per 2 sqm, but best to await confirmation.

For the same reason, we have Revision 15 of the Industry COVID-19 Guidelines ready to issue when that confirmation is obtained.

New Regulations for Proof of Vaccination

The Chief Health Officer has declared that from 6pm, Friday 29 October, only the Australian Immunisation Register medical exemption form is to be used to provide patients proof of a medical exemption to any vaccination requirements in Victoria.

If there are people with an exemption letter that isn't the Australian Immunisation Register form – such as just a standard doctor's certificate – they will need to return to their medical practitioner to submit the form by 12 November. They can continue to use a doctor's certificate up to that date.

It will also mean that those who don't meet the specific medical contraindications to COVID-19 vaccination according to ATAGI guidance will not have a valid exemption after 12 November.

For your reference, the form is here: [Australian Immunisation Register \(AIR\) - immunisation medical exemption form \(IM011\) - Services Australia](#)

Michael Paynter
Industry Liaison Officer Building and Construction Industry
mpaynter@peregrineindustrial.com.au
Ph 0418 268 555