

COVID-19 Public Health Alert

No. 8 / 31 March 2020

Important information for Fever Clinics and GPs

People in home quarantine who develop symptoms for assessment

With the increasing number of people currently in quarantine related to travel history or contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19, it is likely that some of these people will develop symptoms suggestive of COVID-19.

If you have tested a person for COVID-19 and they do not need to go to hospital they must be placed in home isolation and follow the guidance regarding home isolation requirements.

If the test result for COVID-19 is negative, they must be informed that they are required to continue in home quarantine until the end date on their quarantine notice.

If you are unsure of what to advise, please contact your local public health unit before advising the patient (<https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/contact-us/contact/public-health-units>)

You may wish to use the text below in your communication with individuals whose COVID-19 tests are negative.

Draft SMS scripting

Your test for COVID-19 is negative. Call (insert number) if further information is needed.

If you have been issued with a notice directing you to self-quarantine, you must remain in self-quarantine until the end date written on the notice, regardless of this negative result.

This is because you may still develop COVID-19 infection.

If you develop respiratory symptoms, call your doctor or 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84).

Call 000 if you have serious symptoms such as difficulty breathing and please tell them if you are in quarantine.

Public Health Incident Controller, Communicable Diseases Branch Incident Management Team