

# NSW Health fact sheet for people with COVID-19 symptoms



A person with COVID-19 symptoms is someone who has any of the reported symptoms of COVID-19:

- fever (37.5°C or higher) or history of fever (night sweats, chills)
- cough
- sore throat
- shortness of breath (difficulty breathing).
- runny nose
- loss of taste
- loss of smell

Other reported symptoms include fatigue, acute blocked nose (congestion), muscle pain, joint pain, headache, diarrhoea, nausea/vomiting, loss of appetite, unexplained chest pain and conjunctivitis.

If you have any of the symptoms listed, you must arrange to be tested immediately, do not wait for symptoms to progress or change.

## Do I need to get tested and self-isolate?

All people with COVID-19 like symptoms must get tested as soon as possible.

To get tested:

- Visit your [closest testing location](#) If you need a COVID-19 test and can't go to a testing clinic, refer to [COVID-19 testing at home](#).

You should travel directly to the COVID-19 testing clinic by private car or motorcycle, or, if you are well enough, on foot (where practical) or bicycle.. You must not travel by public transport, taxi or ride-share to have COVID-19 testing. You need to remain isolated until you receive a negative test result.

You should continue to monitor for symptoms while you are waiting for your result. If your symptoms become worse, but are not serious, contact your doctor. **If you become severely unwell and it's a medical emergency, you should phone Triple Zero (000)**. Tell the ambulance staff that you have COVID-19 like symptoms.

If you receive a positive result, you will be contacted by an authorised contact tracer. Refer to the advice for [people diagnosed with COVID-19 infection](#).

## What if I live with other people?

If you live with other people, they do not need to get tested and isolate unless they have COVID-19 like symptoms too.

If you live with other people you should separate yourself from them as much as possible and wear a mask.

If you live with people who work in high risk settings, please refer to the [advice for households of people working in high risk settings](#).

## **Do I need to get tested if I have symptoms and I am vaccinated?**

If you have COVID-19 symptoms you should get tested and self-isolate until you receive a negative result, even if you have had a COVID-19 vaccination.

The COVID-19 vaccination will substantially reduce the chance that you develop COVID-19. No vaccine is completely effective. It takes a few weeks for your body to build up protection from the vaccine. Some people may still get COVID-19 despite having been vaccinated, but they should develop a less severe illness.

Even if you have mild COVID-19 symptoms after being vaccinated, you should get tested immediately.

## **What if I develop COVID-19 like symptoms and I'm away from home?**

If you're away from home and develop COVID-19 like symptoms, you should get tested immediately. If you are a close contact or casual contact, please immediately identify yourself when you present for testing. Anyone who is tested for COVID-19 should remain in place until you receive your result.