



Enquiries to: State Health Emergency
Coordination Centre
Telephone: 07 3708 5190
File Ref: C-ECTF-20/10473

Queensland Health

Dear Freight and Logistics Operators

As you may be aware, there are currently COVID-19 hotspots across New South Wales and Victoria, the latter of which has reported cases of COVID-19 connected with distribution centres. The movement of freight and logistics drivers in and out of COVID-19 hotspots represents a potential transmission risk for these persons and the broader community.

Given the critical function served by our freight and logistics drivers in supporting the ongoing functioning of Australia, I understand that it is not practical to require these persons to quarantine when moving in and out of COVID-19 hotspots.

In order to protect both the drivers and our community, I would encourage all freight and logistics operators to require their drivers who are entering Queensland from a COVID-19 hotspot:

- to be tested for and receive a negative test result for COVID-19 dated within 7 days of their arrival in Queensland, and maintain a weekly testing regime while they continue to travel into and out of COVID-19 hotspots; and
- be tested if they develop any symptoms consistent with COVID-19, including cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, loss of smell or loss of taste; and
- retain records of the testing, which may be requested by an emergency officer (public health).

The above testing approach seeks to contribute to positive health outcomes for your drivers and our community. We must work together to respond to COVID-19 and testing has proven to be an effective measure in managing the spread of infection. I would also hope that this testing approach would provide a measure of comfort to your drivers given their transit through COVID-19 hotspots as their health and wellbeing is important to the Queensland Government.

To limit any operational impact of the above, please be assured that drivers will not be required to present evidence of the testing each time they enter Queensland, and the current management around border crossings will be maintained.

This advice will remain in place until more is known about the spread of infection within the COVID-19 hotspots and the current rates of infection are under control.

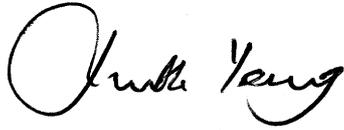
Queensland Health will work with you to establish roadside testing clinics in key locations to facilitate testing. Additionally, should drivers wish to be tested independently in Queensland they can find information about COVID-19 testing locations at: <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/stay-informed/testing-and-fever-clinics>.

The management of freight and logistics drivers is also being discussed at the national level through the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee. Once there is a national position on how to manage the possible transmission risk this will be adopted by Queensland

to ensure consistency for our freight and logistics drivers who may be transiting through multiple Australian jurisdictions.

Thank you for your ongoing work in the service of our community. The transport of freight across Australia is essential and I wish to ensure that our network of drivers remains safe and that any persons who are unwell are identified, tested and, if necessary, treated for COVID-19.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeannette Young'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'J'.

Dr Jeannette Young PSM
Queensland Chief Health Officer
Deputy Director-General
Queensland Health
15 July 2020