Tuesday, 16 November 2021

Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District COVID-19 update

The Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District (ISLHD) has recorded one COVID-19 case in the 24 hours to 8pm last night. Despite the continued low cases numbers in recent weeks, the LHD reminds the community to remain vigilant for even the mildest of symptoms, and to continue to come forward for testing and vaccination.

The case is from the 2502 postcode in the Wollongong Local Government Area and investigations are ongoing.

There have been 2,488 local cases of COVID-19 in the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District since June.

As at 8pm Monday 15 November, there were eight patients being treated in hospital as a result of COVID-19.

Remember to get tested if any symptoms appear, no matter how mild. These include cold or flu-like symptoms such as fever, sore throat, cough or shortness of breath. People with mild symptoms, such as fatigue, new muscle aches or pains, a change in taste or smell or a runny nose should also arrange testing as quickly as possible.

There are a number of COVID-19 testing clinics across the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District. Visit the District's website for a full list and updated opening hours and times. There are also more than 500 COVID-19 testing locations across NSW – visit the NSW Government website for details.

Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District also urges the community to continue to come forward for vaccination. Everyone in Australia aged 12 and over can receive a COVID-19 vaccination. For more information visit www.health.gov.au.

The District's vaccination clinics are now offering a booster dose of the Pfizer vaccine to people aged 18 years and older, six months after their second dose. Appointments are preferred and can be made by calling the ISLHD Booking Team on 1300 096 365 during business hours, or online via the ISLHD COVID-19 Vaccination Support form.

In addition to the District's clinics, booster shots are available at local general practitioners and pharmacies.

The community is being reminded that case locations for regional and rural NSW will not be listed on the NSW Health website. This change does not affect NSW Health's contact tracing work.

NSW Health will continue to contact people diagnosed with COVID-19 and their close contacts, and all people who need to follow specific health advice. If you receive a message from NSW Health, it is important that you follow the advice in that message.

People who have been to a venue around the same time as a person with COVID-19 will continue to receive a case location alert from Service NSW.

NSW Health will also continue to support workplaces and other locations with a potential COVID-19 outbreak.

This minor change was already made several weeks ago for case locations in Greater Sydney, including the Central Coast, Wollongong and Shellharbour, and the Nepean Blue Mountains.

NSW Health will continue to notify the public of venues of concern where there has been high levels of transmission and there is a need to alert members of the community who may have been there during the exposure period.

For more information visit www.health.nsw.gov.au