



TOITU TAIRĀWHITI

NGATI POROU - TE AITANGA A MAHAKI - RONGOWHAKAATA - NGAI TAMANUHIRI

PANUI

8 HEPETEMA 2021

Tena tatou,

There are 15 new community cases of Covid-19 in the country today, taking the total of the current community outbreak to 855 cases. 218 cases were deemed to have recovered, 37 are in hospital, 6 are in ICU and 4 are on ventilators.

Feature Article

How does the COVID-19 vaccine work?

In the case of COVID-19 vaccine, the protein made is a duplicate of the spike protein that is found on the surface of the SARS-CoV-2 virus (the virus that causes COVID-19). On the virus, this protein enables the virus to infect the cells in our airways. The vaccine targets our immune response against this spike protein to block the virus from entering our cells and to stop infection. As a second line of defence, this primed immune response can also quickly kill any cells infected with the virus if it is unable to completely block initial infection. [Watch this video for more information.](#)

Two doses of the vaccine provide highly effective and lasting immunity against the virus.

Protection against COVID-19

Protection after vaccination can last longer by stopping the spread of the virus. This will work in two ways – to reduce the amount of virus in the community and to lower the risk of more infectious and virulent strains emerging that may bypass any immunity generated by the vaccine.

An ideal vaccine stops everyone from carrying and passing on the infection as well as protecting them from becoming seriously ill. Recently published data from Israel showed that its mass COVID-19 vaccination campaign (using the Comirnaty vaccine) was working well with two doses cutting documented infection by 92% across all vaccine-eligible age groups.

Data reported by the CDC in the US has also shown that mRNA COVID-19 vaccines were 90% effective in health care workers against SARS-CoV-2 infection (with and without symptoms). These data show that Comirnaty can prevent infection as well as symptomatic disease, however, its ability to do this could be reduced with the more infectious variants.

When the vaccine is only able to stop the symptoms of the disease, but unable to stop the virus from infecting us and reproducing, then the virus may still be able to be spread to those who are not immunised or have a suboptimal response. Even in this case, by reducing the number of people with symptoms will help to control the spread of the virus because fewer people will be producing large quantities of virus and spreading it by coughing. See this [Conversation article for further](#) information on infection in vaccinated individuals.

However, particularly with the emergence of more transmissible virus variants, this potential limitation highlights the importance of continuing to follow public health advice such as mask wearing, contact tracing, hand washing and isolating when unwell, even post vaccination. [Find more information here.](#)

How long does protection last?

It remains uncertain how long Comirnaty will protect against COVID-19. As part of the conditional approval of the COVID-19 vaccine, further data will be provided on durability of the immune response post vaccination in coming months. The original clinical trial data confirmed protection for at least two months and more recent data released by Pfizer in April 2021 showed protection for at least 6 months. This is similar to those who have had COVID-19, in New Zealand antibodies have been shown to last for at least 8 months without any further boosting.

After vaccination, immune memory of the spike protein in the lymph nodes that can produce high quality and durable antibody responses against SARS-CoV-2 spike protein has been reported.

The duration of protection against COVID-19, both after vaccination and after the SARS-CoV-2 infection, is dependent on a combination of the following factors and will vary between individuals, countries, and changes in the virus.

Factor influencing immunity		Positives and negatives	
SARS-CoV-2 virus and COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variants of concern 	The vaccine could become less effective as mutations occurring the virus evolves change the shape of the target antigen	The mRNA and viral vector vaccines are able to be quickly altered as needed; booster doses would be required
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous infection with COVID-19 	A stronger and longer lasting immune response is expected in those who have previously had COVID-19	Vaccination after prior infection can act like a booster dose. Exposure to the virus after vaccination can also act like a booster dose.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection against severe disease 	Even if immunity wanes with time, it is likely to be sufficient to protect against severe disease	Waning protection may result in mild breakthrough infections in vaccinated people or mild symptoms may last longer.
Vaccine type		It is not yet known how long lived the immunity from this type of vaccine can last	The vaccine may produce a longer lasting or better targeted immune response than the actual disease.
Neutralising antibodies decline and boosting	Booster doses may be needed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To adjust vaccine to better match circulating strains 2. To increase the levels of antibody 	Better fitting antibodies may be required to neutralise the virus Allowing the disease to circulate may provide a boosting effect in those vaccinated.
	No defined correlate of protection	It is not yet known what level of neutralising	The presence of memory T cells and B cells can also

		antibody provides the best protection	provide an added layer of protection
	Evidence of long-lived memory B cells after vaccination	These cells remain in the lymph nodes ready to make antibody when activated	
Age	Older people often respond less well to vaccines than younger people.	When the antibody levels start at a lower level, protection is lost sooner as levels wane and are too low to prevent disease.	Comirnaty has been shown to be safe and effective in older age groups, particularly against severe disease
Underlying health conditions	Underlying conditions can affect the immune system	These types of conditions increase the risk of severe COVID-19.	Even a reduced immune response provides protection against severe outcomes of COVID-19 and hospitalisation.

Will the vaccine make a person test positive on COVID-19 tests?

No. The nasal swab detects the virus genetic material not proteins, such as antibodies or spike protein. You must be infected by the virus for the genetic material to be detectable in your nose.

Also, the spike protein that is made in using the vaccine's instructions does not travel far and will not reach your nose because your immune system sees it as foreign and quickly removes it. Likewise, the RNA in the vaccine is also destroyed very quickly if it gets outside of your arm muscle and will not be detectable in your nose.



COVID Cases for Tuesday 8 September.

Number of new community cases	15
Number of new cases identified at the border	1
Location of new cases	Auckland
Location of community cases (total)	Auckland 838 (210 recovered). Wellington 17 (8 recovered)
Number of community cases (total)	*855 (in current community outbreak)
Cases infectious in the community	5 (25%) of yesterday's cases have exposure events
Cases in isolation throughout the period they were infected	15 (75%) of yesterday's cases
Cases epidemiologically linked	13 of today's cases
Cases to be epidemiologically linked	2 of today's cases
Cases epidemiologically linked (total)	830 (in current cluster) (25 unlinked)
	8 epidemiologically linked subclusters. 2 largest subclusters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mangere church group: 371. • Birkdale social network cluster: 76.
Cases in hospital	37 (total):
Cases in ICU or HDU	6
Confirmed cases (total)	3,473 since pandemic began
Contacts	
Number of contacts identified (total)	38,018
Percentage who has received outbound call from contact tracers (to confirm testing and isolation requirements)	87%
Percentage with at least one test result	91%
Locations of interest	
Locations of interest (total)	126 (as at 10am 5 September)
Tests	
Number of tests (total)	3,082,577
Number of tests total (last 24 hours)	13,230
Tests in Auckland (last 24 hours)	8,566
Wastewater	
Wastewater detections	No unexpected detections in past 24 hours
COVID-19 vaccine update	
Vaccines administered to date (total)	4,032,710; 1 st doses: 2,662,131; 2 nd doses: 1,370,579
Māori	1 st doses: 245,139; 2 nd doses: 120,907
Pacific Peoples	1 st doses: 157,145; 2 nd doses: 82,434
NZ COVID-19 tracer	

Te Hauora o Tūrangānui a Kiwa Ltd

Turanga Health

Regional Update

No confirmed COVID-19 cases in Tairāwhiti.

Vaccination Clinics

Ngāti Porou Hauora

Date	Time	Venue	Phone Number
Thu 9 Sept		Tokomaru Senior Citizens	(06) 864 6803
Fri 10 Sept		Te Puia Springs Hospital	(06) 864 6803
Mon 6 - Fri 10 Sept	2.00pm-7.30pm	TE TINI O POROU Corner Huxley & Tyndall Rds., Turanga	
Sat 11 & Sun 12 Sept	10.00am-5.00pm	TE TINI O POROU Corner Huxley & Tyndall Rds., Turanga (Walk-in, no appointment required)	

Please note change in clinic times Need help with transport, Call or TXT 021 963 044

All vaccination clinics are open to all whānau 12 years and older. Children 12+ must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver to receive the vaccine.

Te Hauora o Tūrangānui a Kiwa Ltd

Turanga Health



TURANGA HEALTH RURAL VACCINATION CLINICS

RURAL VACCINATION CLINICS

Muriwai - Tamanuhiri Marae	Friday 10 September	10am-3pm
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These clinics are open to all walk-ins
no appointment required.

Poutama Clinic

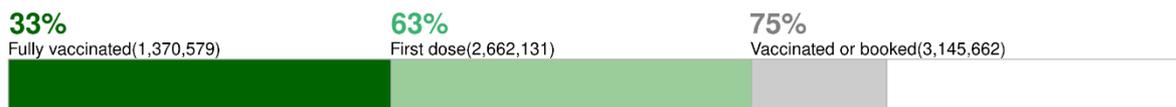
Date	Time
Thursday 9 September	10.00am – 6.00pm
Friday 10 September	9.00am – 5.00pm
Saturday 11 September	9.00am – 3.00pm

This clinic is for **booked** appointments only

National Update

Total Vaccinations

	Vaccinations yesterday	Cumulative total	Eligible population vaccinated %	Total population vaccinated %	Vaccinated or booked	Eligible vaccinated or booked %
First dose	49,594	2,662,131	63%	53%	3,145,662	75%
Second dose	23,299	1,370,579	33%	27%	2,753,674	65%
Total doses	72,893	4,032,710				



Golden rules to practice throughout New Zealand

We all have a role to play to stamp COVID-1 out of our community. The current situation shows it is critically important for everyone to remain vigilant and stick to the key public health behaviours in New Zealand. These include:

- In general, wear a face covering in most public places. The Delta variant is more transmissible by droplets, so face coverings are a way we can protect ourselves and each other.
- If you're around people you don't know, it's a good idea to wear a face covering.
- Keep 2 metres apart from people you do not know in public
- Practice good hygiene - wash hands regularly, cough and sneeze into the elbow
- Scan in or keep a physical record wherever you go
- Stay home if unwell and get advice from Healthline about having a test
- For more information on the key public health behaviours visit the Unite Against COVID-19 website.

Mandatory record keeping from today,

Businesses and locations will be required to take steps to ensure people can make a record when they visit. This is especially important in places where there is close contact between people, where it's harder to wear a mask, and where the virus can easily spread.

New mandatory record keeping requirements will strengthen our ability to trace and quickly stamp out COVID-19, with the overall hope of reducing the amount of time we spend in lockdowns. Many businesses and services are already displaying QR posters and do a great job of encouraging customers to scan in.

While the legal requirement to ensure record keeping sits with the business, service, or event, keeping a record of places visited especially by scanning QR codes is something everyone should do, everywhere they go.

The new mandatory record keeping requirements applies at Alert Level 2 and above for places like health and aged care facilities, public facilities such as libraries, gyms, bars, restaurants, cinemas, night clubs, concerts, churches, and close-contact businesses like hairdressers. Mandatory record keeping is required at social gatherings including weddings, funerals, tangihanga or faith-based services at Alert Level 2.

Mandatory record keeping Privacy requirements and alternate mandatory record keeping systems Businesses and services are required to have systems and processes in place to ensure people can easily scan QR codes or make a record and have an alternative system for people who do not use the NZ COVID Tracer app to record their details such as a tablet sign-in app or ballot box type system.

The use of paper-based lists is no longer acceptable as it risks private information being disclosed to others. Businesses, services, and events should use a ballot box type system to collect manual records. Businesses and services must ensure information collected is used, stored, and disposed of safely and securely in accordance with the Privacy Act.

Inter-regional travel rules

Inter-regional travel is permitted between Alert Level 2 regions. Travelling through Auckland People are only able to transit through Auckland for permitted work and personal reasons. People are required to travel directly as far as reasonably practicable without stopping. Stopping in Auckland for petrol is allowed, and a few public toilets close to transport and freight routes are open. People must provide evidence of the purpose of their travel and are encouraged to take a COVID-19 test before travelling. Police checkpoints are in place.

Business Travel

Business or work travel across Alert Level boundaries is strictly limited. If your business travel across the boundary is permitted, you are already allowed to cross the boundary. You do not need to apply for an exemption to travel if you are permitted to do so.

Education at Level 2

All early learning services, schools, kura and tertiary education facilities are open at Alert Level 2 Face coverings in schools for those aged 12 and over is strongly encouraged.

School transport

All school transport services return under Alert Level 2. Face coverings are not required on school transport, including chartered buses hired by the school, but anyone who chooses to wear a face covering should be supported to do so. Students 12 and older are required to wear masks on public transport.

Boarding schools Under Level 2,

Students that normally board at school hostels can return but must travel there in a safe way.

Tertiary

Tertiary education facilities are open and will maintain the core capability to deliver comprehensive distance learning to students. The tertiary education hardship fund has been topped up and is available to students who need it. More information is available on the TEC website.

MoE Education at Alert Level 4

Changes to NCEA and University Entrance are available for those NCEA, and NZ Scholarship exams will not go ahead under Alert Level 3 and 4. This position has changed since last year due to the higher risks from the Delta variant. 5 who accumulate more than 20 school days in Alert Level 3 or 4.

NCEA candidates will be eligible for an Unexpected Grade Event (UGE) if their region is at Alert Level 3 or 4 during exam period. The Ministry of Education is considering moving NZ Scholarship exams should any region be in Alert Level 3 or 4.

Police update

Police will continue to be out as most of the country moves to Alert Level 2. Compliance Police are pleased that most people are complying with the new restrictions. Infringement notices as at 5pm on 7 September, Police have issued 3,872 infringements nationwide.

Police have now received a total of 17,907 breach notifications through the 105-online portal. No significant issues have been reported at boundary checkpoints in the past 24 hours.

Workers crossing Auckland boundaries

New requirement for testing at Alert Level boundaries. Travel is restricted across Alert Level boundaries and is for permitted travel only. From 11.59pm on Thursday 9 September employers must have systems in place for employees travelling across boundaries to get tested.

This includes allowing time off work to get tested. From 11.59pm, Thursday, 16 September, all Alert Level 4 workers who are permitted to cross Auckland boundaries must show proof of having a test taken in the seven days before crossing. Permitted workers do not need to stay at home while they await their result. Evidence of workers being permitted to cross a boundary – such as a Business Travel Document – is also required for travel in and out of Auckland. There is no cost for workers who get a test.

Gatherings in defined spaces

Capacity limits for facilities including cinemas, stadiums, concert venues and casinos Event facilities Up to 50 people allowed indoors and 100 people outdoors. Large event facilities, such as conference venues, can have groups of 50 people inside, but these groups must be in separate 'defined spaces' at all times. Bathroom facilities need to be separate for each group. The Ministry of Health is working on further guides.

Hospitality

Hospitality venues may have 50 people indoors and 100 people outdoors but must have separate bathroom facilities for each group of patrons.

MoH Face coverings at Alert Level 2

Face coverings are now mandatory at Alert Level 2 and above for most people visiting and working in businesses and services. This is a new requirement at Alert Level 2 for when you're visiting retail shops, and visiting indoor public facilities like museums, malls, and libraries. More information is available [here](#).

Public transport at Level 2

No standing on public transport. The number of people allowed on buses, trains and ferries is being limited. To do this, services will not be carrying standing passengers. This does not apply to dedicated school transport services.

Wear a face covering when using public transport, airplanes, taxis, or ride-share services. People should scan in or keep a record of the services they use.

Public transport operators legally must display QR code posters. Do not travel if you are sick. Waka Kotahi.

KIA MATAARA, KIA MANAWANUI