



Gaucher Disease and Coronavirus (COVID-19) Advice of Patients/ Parents / Guardians

A number of you have been in touch looking for advice relating to the global Coronavirus (also known as COVID-19) outbreak. The information below gives some practical general information and links to useful reliable websites. Please note **this is only a guide** – please ask your own Gaucher Specialist Medical Team and Primary Health Care practitioner if you have a query or concern about your situation.

The most up-to-date information about the outbreak, including information for returning travellers, can be found on the gov.au website

<https://www.smartraveller.gov.au/news-and-updates/coronavirus-covid-19>

The Department of Health has also has up to date advice on what to do if you've recently returned from travel abroad, symptoms to look out for, tips to avoid catching or spreading the disease, and action to take if you become unwell.

<https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert>

There are specific groups of patients who may be more at risk, because of a second condition or a complication of their disease. These include:

- those with diabetes
- those with chronic lung or heart disease or kidney disease

Individuals who are concerned that they may have been exposed to Coronavirus

Please call the National Coronavirus Health Information Line on **1800 020 080** or visit your State or Territory Health website.

NSW <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/diseases/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>

VIC <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus>

QLD <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19>

SA

<https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/health+topics/health+topics+a+-+z/novel+coronavirus>

TAS

https://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/publichealth/communicable_diseases_prevention_unit/infectious_diseases/coronavirus

ACT <https://www.health.act.gov.au/public-health-alert/updated-information-about-covid-19>

Individuals who may be asked to self-isolate

If you or other members of your immediate household are asked to self-isolate or present for Coronavirus testing, then

- let your Gaucher Specialist Medical Team know (this will help with planning)
- do not attend any routine outpatient appointments at the hospital but instead contact your Gaucher Specialist Medical Team to discuss if another form of appointment is needed eg. by telephone or video if available.

If you are unwell

If you feel that you are unwell and need to attend hospital for immediate / urgent treatment for your condition or are advised to do so by your Primary Health Care Provider then please do this. Give the contact details of your Gaucher Specialist Medical Team to the hospital staff so that they can be phoned for advice.

If you have other specific queries or concerns about your condition, then please contact your own Gaucher Specialist Clinic Team / Co-ordinator to discuss these further.

This guidance has been reviewed by the Medical Advisory Committee and Gaucher Association of Australia & New Zealand. Version dated: 15th March 2020.