



Northern Territory of Australia

Public and Environmental Health Act 2011

COVID-19 Directions (No. 34) 2021: Day 3 post-quarantine testing requirement

I, Hugh Crosbie Heggie, Chief Health Officer, under section 52 of the *Public and Environmental Health Act 2011 (the Act)*, consider it necessary, appropriate or desirable to take action to alleviate the public health emergency in the Territory, declared by instrument entitled "Declaration of Public Health Emergency", dated 18 March 2020 (the **public health emergency declaration**), by making the following directions:

Part 1 Preliminary matters

- 1 These Directions remain in force while the public health emergency declaration is in force.

Note for direction 1

These Directions will remain in force during any subsequent extensions of the duration of that declaration, which may be made under section 50(2) of the Act.

- 2 In these Directions:

quarantine facility, see my COVID-19 Directions (No. 55) 2020, or any subsequent Directions that replace and substantially correspond to those Directions.

suitable place for quarantine, see my COVID-19 Directions (No. 8) 2021, or any subsequent Directions that replace and substantially correspond to those Directions.

- 3 These Directions apply in relation to a person who was quarantined in a hotel or facility managed by a State or another Territory and who enters the Territory within 4 days of exiting that quarantine.

Part 2 Testing persons exiting interstate quarantine

- 4 Unless advised otherwise by an authorised officer, the person must submit to a COVID-19 testing procedure approved by me on:
- (a) the 3rd day after exiting the quarantine; or
 - (b) as soon as possible after that day.

Examples for direction 4

- 1 *A person who leaves hotel quarantine in Brisbane on Monday and enters the Territory on or before Thursday must be tested.*
- 2 *A person who was already tested after leaving quarantine within the 4-day period in the State or other Territory may be advised they do not need to be tested again in the Northern Territory.*

Note for direction 4

The person must book their own appointment.

- 5 The COVID-19 testing procedure must be conducted by one of the following:
- (a) an authorised officer;
 - (b) a health practitioner as defined in section 5 of the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law;
 - (c) another person approved by me.

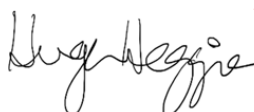
Part 3 Mandatory quarantine

- 6 If a person who is required under direction 4 to submit to a COVID-19 testing procedure is not tested by the end of the 5th day after exiting quarantine, the person must:
- (a) quarantine in a suitable place for quarantine; and
 - (b) remain quarantined in that place until the COVID-19 testing procedure indicates the person is not infected with COVID-19.
- 7 A person who must remain quarantined in a place under direction 6 must not leave that place except:
- (a) for the purpose of submitting to a COVID-19 testing procedure; or
 - (b) for the purpose of obtaining medical care; or
 - (b) in an emergency.

- 8 If a person refuses to submit to the COVID-19 testing procedure, the person must:
- (a) travel directly to a place specified by me and as directed by an authorised officer; and
 - (b) remain quarantined in that place for the period starting from the time of non-compliance and ending at 12:00 (noon) on the 14th day after the day of non-compliance.
- 9 During the period of quarantine referred to in direction 8(b), the person is subject to all directions applicable to a person quarantined in a quarantine facility.
- 10 A person quarantined under direction 8 is not required to remain in quarantine if:
- (a) the person later submits to the COVID-19 testing procedure; and
 - (b) the testing procedure indicates the person is not infected with COVID-19.
- 11 These Directions apply to the person in addition to, and despite, any requirement in any of my other COVID-19 Directions.

Notes for these Directions

- 1 *Section 56 of the Act provides for an offence for failing to comply with a direction given by me under section 52(3) of the Act.*
- 2 *The maximum penalty for this offence is 400 penalty units.*
- 3 *A person is not guilty of this offence if the person has a reasonable excuse.*
- 4 *An infringement notice may be given for failing to comply these Directions with a fine equal to 32 penalty units for an individual and 160 penalty units for a body corporate.*


Digitally signed by Dr Hugh Heggie
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Chief Health Officer

Dated