

## FACT SHEET FREIGHT INDUSTRY COVID-19 TESTING

<b>Purpose:</b>	To help protect Australian residents from the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) by people who are required to drive a heavy vehicle to transport goods across state and territory borders.
<b>Mechanism:</b>	<b>National program supported by special new bulk billed MBS fee</b>
<b>Medicare Benefit Scheme Item Number:</b>	69501
<b>Eligible Patients:</b>	Asymptomatic people who are employed, hired, retained or contracted, to travel interstate as a driver of a heavy vehicle.
<b>Do patients require a doctor's referral?</b>	<b>NO.</b> But specific WDP pre-printed referral form must be used.
<b>Can other pathology tests be conducted?</b>	<b>NO.</b> This item is not to be claimed with other pathology items and is only for COVID-19 PCR (NCP).
<b>Is testing compulsory?</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>Initial test episode:</b>	Worker is required to present for test within 48hrs of entering WA (unless they have an exemption from a relevant officer based on evidence of a test in the last 5 days before entering WA).
<b>Frequency of testing:</b>	Testing is mandated on a 7 day rolling basis for a period of 14 days following entry to WA, or unless the traveller leaves WA within 7 days of last test.
<b>Results Turn Around Time:</b>	Within 24 hours of receipt of the specimen at an accredited pathology laboratory in order to qualify for MBS payment.
<b>Cost:</b>	Free for Medicare Card holders.
<b>What if the patient has no Medicare Card?</b>	Prepayment on the WDP website can be made in the sum of \$110.00. The patient must enter SURNAME DATE MBS69501 into the invoice number field.  <a href="https://www.wdp.com.au/patients/pay-your-bill/">https://www.wdp.com.au/patients/pay-your-bill/</a>  Presentation of the receipt at the drive through is required for the specimen to be collected. Otherwise the patient's company they are employed with can pay via their WDP account upon prior approval. Contact Elaine Bonthuisen to confirm account details (08) 9317 0834.
<b>Additional information to be captured:</b>	As outlined on the WDP pre-printed referral form please ensure you record the following additional information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Does the patient have any symptoms?;</li> <li>ii. Heavy Vehicle Licence or Employee ID Seen? (proof that they work in the industry);</li> <li>iii. Patient Consent for SMS Notification of Results (verbally sought from collector and signed by collector if agreed by patient);</li> <li>iv. Patient Mobile Number for SMS Results;</li> <li>v. Patient is Aboriginal or Torres Straight Islander?;</li> <li>vi. Collector signs the proof of test on the "Patient Copy"; and</li> <li>vii. Records the date and time.</li> </ul>
<b>What if the patient has symptoms?</b>	This program is <b>only for asymptomatic patients</b> . If the patient has symptoms, please refer them to their GP for a referral as symptomatic tests are categorised under a different MBS item number.
<b>Proof of Test:</b>	Penalties apply unless the worker has evidence of a test having been performed. Please ensure "Patient Copy" is signed and filled in completely and the worker receives and retains it.