

Minor update to Directions issued

Further to our previous [Bulletin](#), we advise that a number of public health directions ('Directions') have been updated and commenced operation from **6pm on Friday, 5 November 2021**.

The update is minor in nature, with the main change relating to an expanded list of COVID-19 vaccines, which is relevant in relation to the **vaccination status** of individuals who normally reside **outside of Australia** and have received a dose or doses of a COVID-19 vaccine that, whilst recognised by the Therapeutic Goods Administration, is not currently available in Australia (e.g. Jansen-Cilag or Sinovac). Other changes include the removal of currently non-applicable references (e.g. vaccinated economy trials).

Each of the updated Directions have a current nominal expiry date of **11:59pm, Thursday 18 November 2021**:

- [Open Premises Directions \(No 4\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination \(Workers\) Directions \(No 7\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination \(General Workers\) Directions \(No 2\)](#)

Note: Further to our last Bulletin, the **COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination (General Workers) Directions** relate to workers who are **not** authorised workers – and are therefore **not** covered by the **COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination (Workers) Directions** or Open Premises Directions. It gives effect to the previously outlined change in settings that enables non-authorised workers (e.g. office-based employees) the ability to return to the workplace if fully vaccinated.

It remains expected that the next significant change to the Directions will occur when Victoria reaches **90 per cent (12 years and over) fully vaccinated** status ('Phase D'). The current indicative date for the move to Phase D restriction levels is **Wednesday, 24 November 2021**.

COVIDSafe Settings remain in effect

Members are reminded that **COVIDSafe settings** outlined in our previous **Bulletin** remain in effect. With COVID-19 infections rates remaining at elevated levels in the community, members are encouraged to remain vigilant.

VACC recommends that **COVIDSafe Plans** be regularly reviewed to ensure it is tailored to your business and remains up-to-date; and that **face covering, cleaning, signage, record-keeping** and other requirements applicable to your business (including response to suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 at the work premises) are being adhered to and communicated with all relevant staff. Members seeking guidance on how to deal with a **positive case of COVID-19 in the workplace** are encouraged to review the recent [Bulletin](#)

Members should contact the VACC OHSE Unit for any further information or assistance on 03 9829 1265.

COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination (Workers) Directions

Members should also ensure that any correspondence that they issue in future to workers are **updated to reflect the latest version of the COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination (Workers) Directions**. VACC have updated the references in the [Consultation Template](#) and [Confirmation of Termination Template](#) accordingly.

Members are reminded that they are strongly encouraged to seek member-specific advice and assistance from the IR Department before actioning the above (including how to facilitative vaccination exempted employees working at the workplace), to ensure that the written correspondence provided to an employee reflects the consultation process that has occurred – and that it is undertaken in a lawful and procedurally fair manner.

Members seeking further advice or assistance are encouraged to contact VACC's Workplace Relations team on 03 9829 1123 or ir@vacc.com.au.

Daniel Hodges
Executive Manager – Workplace Relations
Industrial Relations | OHSE