



COVID-19 weekly update ed 3 dated 8 Apr 2020

There is a positive trend in NZ where we are seeing a reduction in the number of confirmed cases. While the government has not made an announcement regarding the length of lockdown, we remain optimistic that the current level 4 alert will not be extended beyond the planned 4 weeks, ending 25 April.

On a bi-weekly basis, ACS assesses the local situation and how it relates to our active and pipeline studies with regards to set up activities, follow up visits and all other activities.

Infection Control at ACS:

-  ACS has implemented guidelines set out by the Ministry of Health as an infection control programme to ensure the safety of both staff and subjects whilst onsite.
-  Our clinical staff have been divided into “teams” to restrict who each staff member has come into contact with, as well as, separation between other departments within the organisation.
-  Subjects to Auckland Clinical Studies will be required to use social distancing measures, keeping two-metres apart when in recreational areas.
-  Subjects will be “screened” via phone call and a wellness check with nursing staff prior to admission to the units.
-  Cleaning methods have been increased to include a sanitising spray on all surfaces, by an external company following strict Infection Control processes.



Restrictions on attending ACS

 **If you, or someone living in the same household as you, has travelled outside of New Zealand or have been on a cruise ship in the last 14 days.** You MUST NOT attend ACS until after 14 days have passed since arriving in New Zealand. This is regardless of which country has been visited or transited through.

 **If you, or someone living in the same household as you, has had any contact with anyone who had a confirmed case of COVID-19.** You MUST NOT attend ACS until at least 14 days after contact with that confirmed case.

 **If you have any symptoms of being unwell** — this may be a fever, feeling lethargic/tired, respiratory symptoms (eg: cough, runny nose, sore throat, difficulty breathing, chest pains) or abdominal symptoms (eg: vomiting, diarrhoea) or any other symptoms that concern you. You MUST NOT attend ACS until a staff member has approved this.

 **If you have ever been diagnosed with COVID-19,** regardless of when the diagnosis was made, or whether your symptoms have resolved. You MUST NOT attend ACS until a staff member has approved this.

 **If you live in shared accommodation** where two or more people have had respiratory infections/illnesses recently – You MUST NOT attend ACS until a staff member has approved this.

If any of these apply to you, not attending ACS helps to minimise the risk of infection transmission to other participants, ACS staff and the general public.



COVID-19 Screening at ACS – What to expect

Participant due for visit the next day:

- 🧬 Study coordinator to call the participant the day before scheduled visit at ACS.

Participant arrival at ACS:

- 🧬 Allocated nurse to meet participant in foyer, ask if the participant has a temperature, is feeling unwell or has any other symptoms of pandemic disease.
- 🧬 Assist with escort to unit.
- 🧬 Participant must wash hands and use surgical mask on entry to unit.
- 🧬 Participants will be spaced out geographically, utilising separate floors when possible.
- 🧬 Personal protective equipment required for staff.

Participant departure:

- 🧬 Staff member will meet participant in foyer and ensure they leave the building safely.
- 🧬 Unit will be cleaned once all staff and patients have left, this is done by external cleaners and includes sanitising spray.