



FACT SHEET

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

NATIONAL HEALTH PLAN

Aged Care – Pathology Testing in Aged Care

The Government will fund specialist ‘inreach’ pathology testing for COVID-19 and influenza in residential aged care facilities.

Residents of aged care facilities with COVID-19 symptoms will be able to be tested without leaving the facility.

Why is this important?

The risks to older Australians living in aged care facilities from COVID-19 are higher than the general population. It can also be more difficult to coordinate care and testing for people living in residential aged care.

This measure will provide a dedicated service to collect and test samples for people living in residential aged care. The services will be available quickly and efficiently, without additional administrative work for providers.

Who benefits?

Australians living in residential aged care will benefit from this measure.

If aged care providers are supported through outbreaks of COVID-19, by efficient, timely testing, the outcomes will be better for their residents, and for the health system as a whole.