

As of mid-2026, COVID-19 remains a manageable respiratory virus in Australia, with prevention focused on vaccination (especially for high-risk groups) and staying home when sick.

Key measures include maintaining good hygiene, testing if symptomatic, and accessing free oral antivirals for eligible individuals within five days of symptoms.

Common COVID-19 FAQs (Australia 2026):

- **What are the symptoms?**

Symptoms are similar to previous strains, including fever, cough, fatigue, and sore throat.

- **What should I do if I test positive?**

Stay home, avoid high-risk settings, and manage symptoms.

- **Who is eligible for antiviral treatment?**

People aged 70+, or 50+ with risk factors, or 30+ (Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander) with risk factors, and immunocompromised individuals.

- **How do I get a vaccine?**

Vaccines remain free. Most people need 1 first dose for their primary course, with further doses recommended for older adults or those at higher risk.

- **How long am I infectious?**

Generally, from 48 hours before symptoms appear (or test) until symptoms resolve, typically up to 10 days.