
To:	General Practices, Pharmacists, After-Hours Centres and Emergency Departments in the greater Wellington and Wairarapa regions
From:	Dr Annette Nesdale, Medical Officer of Health
Date:	01 April 2021
Title:	New COVID-19 high index of suspicion (HIS) notification form

Please distribute the following information to relevant staff in your organisation.

All public health alerts are available at www.rph.org.nz/publichealthalerts

NEW COVID-19 HIGH INDEX OF SUSPICION (HIS) NOTIFICATION FORM

KEY POINTS

- RPH has a NEW HIS notification form – available at: <http://www.rph.org.nz/health-professionals/notifiable-diseases/>
- Please note that it is only necessary to notify individuals who fit the HIS criteria **AND** are symptomatic.
- Please use this form to notify RPH within 24 hours by email or if urgent by telephone 04 570 9002:
 - Monday – Friday RES-Entdisreptla@huttvalleydhb.org.nz (NB this email is **not** monitored afterhours)
 - Afterhours/weekends Res-CommsDisPHN@huttvalleydhb.org.nz
- All symptomatic HIS individuals should be informed of the need to **self-isolate** at home until they receive a negative test result. Whilst they are self-isolating at home, they should minimise contact with family members
- Following receipt of a negative test result, they should be advised to **stay at home** until they have been asymptomatic for 24 hours.
- Their household members/whānau are not required to stay at home unless they are also symptomatic.

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- There may be specific situations where RPH will request a second COVID-19 test and require the person to continue to isolate; the person and their GP will be advised of this directly by RPH.

Further information regarding clinical testing guidance is available at the Ministry of Health's website: [Clinical testing guidelines for COVID-19](#).

Further information regarding self-isolation and staying at home is available at the Ministry of Health's [self-isolation](#) webpage and their [staying at home](#) webpage.