

## General practice respiratory clinics: key messages

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### Key messages

- People with mild respiratory symptoms should be directed to a GP – not a hospital.
- If a person's regular GP is not able to see them face to face, appointments are available at general practice respiratory clinics (GPRCs).
- Clinicians at GPRCs provide comprehensive face-to-face assessments and immediate illness management support for anyone with respiratory symptoms.
- [Appointments are available](#) for anyone including babies, infants, children and adults.
- Care is free for everyone, with or without a Medicare card.
- Respiratory issues include:
  - COVID-19
  - influenza
  - cold symptoms such as a cough, runny nose, sore throat or fever
  - asthma
  - hay fever
  - chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)
  - emphysema
  - pneumonia
  - mild shortness of breath\*.
- If you or your child are feeling unwell and your usual GP is not available, visit a GPRC to see a clinician face-to-face. You will receive early diagnosis and treatment to keep you well and out of hospital.
- GPRCs can provide care and a treatment plan for people who test positive for COVID-19.
- GPRCs can prescribe antiviral medication for eligible people.

- GPRC services are available to people with or without a Medicare card, at no cost to the patient. Some clinics are open after-hours and on weekends.
- To ensure continuity of care, the GPRC will share information with a consenting patient's usual GP.
- Visit [gprespiratoryclinics.org.au](http://gprespiratoryclinics.org.au) for more information, including booking links, opening hours and a map of all GPRCs in Victoria.
- Wear a mask to your appointment at a GPRC.
- GPRCs do not provide asymptomatic or pre-travel testing.

*\*If you have severe trouble breathing, blueness around the mouth, chest pains, or pain in your arms or jaw, call triple zero (000) for urgent help.*