

General practice respiratory clinics: winter 2022 key messages

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.
- Respiratory issues include:
 - COVID-19 (book ahead)
 - influenza and 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.
- 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 nwmpnhn.org.au/gprcs for more information, including booking links, opening hours and a map of all GPRCs in metropolitan Melbourne.
- 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.*