

RTI 2775/21

Post application document

Scope of application:

1. *Date Covid 19 infections first started and were first recorded by Qld Health.*
2. *Regarding the Qld Health Covid 19 data published on its website (Queensland COVID-19 statistics | Health and wellbeing | Queensland Government (www.qld.gov.au) since start date:*
 - a. *In respect of the RT-PCR tests, the cycle rate (or cycle rate range) used in a test to determine a case.*
 - b. *In respect of the total cases recorded, how many resulted in hospitalization.*
 - c. *Of the hospitalized cases, the number of days spent by each case in hospital before discharge.*
 - d. *Of the hospitalized cases, the further types of testing (if any) conducted for each case after hospital admission to confirm infection was Sars Covi 2.*

Date range – 1 January 2020 – 31 November 2021

The below information is relevant to Queensland Health only.

1. *Date Covid 19 infections first started and were first recorded by Qld Health.*

On 28/01/2020 Queensland Health was notified of the first case of COVID-19 in Queensland, in a person with onset of symptoms and first SARS-CoV-2 positive swab collected the same date (28/01/2020).

2. *Regarding the Qld Health Covid 19 data published on its website (Queensland COVID-19 statistics | Health and wellbeing | Queensland Government (www.qld.gov.au) since start date:*

a. In respect of the RT-PCR tests, the cycle rate (or cycle rate range) used in a test to determine a case.

The maximum cycle threshold (CT) across all Pathology Queensland assays is 45. All positive results are confirmed via a second assay and/or through genomic sequencing.

b. In respect of the total cases recorded, how many resulted in hospitalization.

Please note – this information was relevant as of **8 December 2021**, however given the current climate, the current situation may have changed.

Currently all COVID cases are hospitalized or managed in a virtual ward through hospital in the home process. This will change as numbers increase, with only those requiring hospitalization being admitted to a hospital or virtual ward.

c. Of the hospitalized cases, the number of days spent by each case in hospital before discharge.

As all cases within your nominated date range of 1 January 2020 – 31 November 2021, were hospitalised or managed virtual ward through hospital in the home process, there is no possible way to provide you with this figure given the number of positive cases (within the low thousands).

d. Of the hospitalized cases, the further types of testing (if any) conducted for each case after hospital admission to confirm infection was Sars Covi 2.

There is no set testing program, additional tests will be determined by the treating clinician. Confirmatory testing is undertaken on any cases where there is uncertainty as to whether the case is acute or historical or whether a false positive. This is done by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing of nose and throat specimens.

The National SoNG for COVID provides some guidance on testing for cases. [Department of Health | Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)