

Notifiable conditions in Victoria

Information for medical practitioners and pathology services

Your requirement to notify

Infectious diseases and other conditions of public health concern still occur frequently throughout the world, so constant vigilance is required to minimise their spread. Notification is a vital step in efforts to prevent or control the spread of infection and to prevent further harmful exposures. Health authorities depend on both medical practitioners and pathology services for information on the incidence of these conditions. Notifiable conditions are specified in Schedules 4 and 6 of the Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009.

When to notify

From 1 September 2018 a medical practitioner who reasonably believes that a patient has or may have a notifiable condition or has or may have died with a notifiable condition must notify as follows:

- **URGENT** conditions require immediate notification to the Department of Health & Human Services (the department) by telephone on 1300 651160 (24/7) **upon initial diagnosis or clinical suspicion** (presumptive or confirmed).
- **ROUTINE** conditions require written notification to the department upon initial diagnosis within five days.

Recent changes

The following changes apply from 1 September 2018:

- (1) Requirement has been removed for medical practitioners to notify the department of cases of certain conditions.
- (2) Groups of notifiable conditions simplified to 'urgent' (comprising former Group A conditions) and 'routine' (comprising former Group B, C, and D conditions). STIs and HIV will continue to be notified in a de-identified manner.
- (3) Requirement removed for medical practitioners to follow up telephone notifications of 'urgent' conditions (formerly Group A) in writing.
- (4) Rotavirus added as a 'routine' condition for notification by pathology services only.
- (5) Chikungunya virus infection reclassified from 'urgent' (formerly Group A) to 'routine'.
- (6) Listeriosis reclassified as an 'urgent' condition (formerly Group B).
- (7) AIDS removed as a notifiable condition (HIV infection retained as a 'routine' notifiable condition for both medical practitioners and pathology services).

Further details are available at <www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/publications/policiesandguidelines/information-medical-practitioners-changes-to-conditions>

Urgent and emerging public health concerns

Section 55 of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* provides the general authority for medical practitioners and pathology services to provide the department with any case information that relates to an urgent or serious potential public health risk. Within this authority, medical practitioners are able to highlight at risk cases, or cases with an importance to public health that are only required to be notified by pathology services, such as those with high risk occupations. Examples include a cluster of severe respiratory disease, a cluster of severe unexplained illness, or illness from suspected exposure to a serious hazard.

The authority provides an additional line of communication and much needed link between medical practitioners, as the day-to-day 'eyes and ears' of the Victorian health system, and the department. The authority may also be utilised for emerging conditions (identified by the Chief Health Officer or nationally) and increases the sensitivity of the Victorian surveillance system in an era of increasing emerging infections.

Investigations and enhanced surveillance

The department is authorised to capture additional information to assist investigations, prevent further cases and to inform prevention strategies (including those conditions not or no longer notifiable by medical practitioners). This additional information is often referred to as investigation data or enhanced surveillance data. These data are mandatory and must be provided by medical practitioners and pathology services when requested.

Privacy legislation

Commonwealth and State privacy legislation does not negate the requirement to notify the specified conditions nor to provide the information requested on these forms. Medical practitioners have a responsibility to inform their patients that their information is being provided to the department and that the department may contact them for further information about their illness.

Further information

All notifications and related inquiries should be directed to:

Department of Health & Human Services
Reply Paid 65937, Melbourne VIC 8060

Telephone 1300 651160 (24/7) Facsimile 1300 651170

Secure web form <www.health.vic.gov.au/notify>

Confidential and Urgent Conditions Notifiable by Medical Practitioners in Victoria



Health
and Human
Services

The following conditions require immediate notification by telephone on 1300 651160 (24 hours) to the Department of Health & Human Services on clinical suspicion or initial diagnosis (presumptive or confirmed)(written notification is not required):

Department of Health & Human Services, Reply Paid 65937, Melbourne VIC 8060 or fax 1300 651170.

Please ensure the case (1) has been informed of their diagnosis, (2) has been advised that this information is being provided to the department (as required by the Health Records Act 2001), and (3) has been informed that the department may contact them for further information about their illness. Commonwealth and State privacy legislation does not negate the responsibility to notify the specified conditions nor to provide the information requested on this form.

Please indicate the condition you are notifying

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anthrax | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Haemophilus influenzae</i> type b infection (Hib) | <input type="checkbox"/> Legionellosis | <input type="checkbox"/> Plague |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Botulism | <input type="checkbox"/> Epiglottitis | <input type="checkbox"/> Listeriosis | <input type="checkbox"/> Poliovirus infection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cholera | <input type="checkbox"/> Meningitis | <input type="checkbox"/> Measles | <input type="checkbox"/> Rabies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diphtheria | <input type="checkbox"/> Other invasive infections, specify: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Meningococcal infection (invasive) | <input type="checkbox"/> Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food or water borne illness (two or more related cases) | | <input type="checkbox"/> Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) | <input type="checkbox"/> Smallpox |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS) | <input type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis A | <input type="checkbox"/> Murray Valley encephalitis virus infection | <input type="checkbox"/> Tularaemia |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese encephalitis virus infection | <input type="checkbox"/> Paratyphoid | <input type="checkbox"/> Typhoid |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Viral haemorrhagic fevers |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow fever |

Case details—please answer all questions

Last name

First name(s)

Date of birth

Sex

- Male Other, specify _____
 Female

Residential address

City

Postcode

Tel home

Tel mobile

Parent/guardian/next of kin name

Is the case of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin

- No Aboriginal
 Unknown Torres Strait Islander
 Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Country of birth ...country

...year arrived in Australia

Australia

Overseas > _____

Interpreter required ...language

No

Yes, language > _____

Works in a high risk occupation

- Child care worker Health care worker
 Commercial food handler Other, specify below _____

Occupation and/or school and/or child care attended

Has the case recently travelled interstate or overseas

No

Yes, specify when/where > _____

Alive/deceased

Alive Died due to this condition >

Died due to other causes > _____

...date of death

Date of onset of illness

Has laboratory testing been requested

No Confirmed, specify lab > _____

Pending, specify lab > _____

Clinical comments – include risk factors, mode of transmission, history of illness, symptoms etc.

Notifying doctor/hospital/laboratory details

Doctor/hospital/laboratory name

Medicare provider no.

Department use only

Address

City

Postcode

Telephone

Fax

Date

Confidential and Routine Conditions Notifiable by Medical Practitioners in Victoria



Health and Human Services

The following conditions require written notification to the Department of Health & Human Services on initial diagnosis within five days to:

Department of Health & Human Services, Reply Paid 65937, Melbourne VIC 8060 or fax 1300 651170.

Please ensure the case (1) has been informed of their diagnosis, (2) has been advised that this information is being provided to the department (as required by the *Health Records Act 2001*), and (3) has been informed that the department may contact them for further information about their illness. Commonwealth and State privacy legislation does not negate the responsibility to notify the specified conditions nor to provide the information requested on this form.

Please indicate the condition you are notifying

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brucellosis* | <input type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis D | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Mycobacterium ulcerans</i> infection (Buruli ulcer)* | <input type="checkbox"/> Shiga toxin and verotoxin producing <i>Escherichia coli</i> (STEC/VTEC) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chikungunya virus infection | <input type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis E | <input type="checkbox"/> Pertussis | <input type="checkbox"/> Shigellosis* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) | <input type="checkbox"/> Kunjin virus infection | <input type="checkbox"/> Pneumococcal infection (invasive)* | <input type="checkbox"/> Tetanus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Variant CJD | <input type="checkbox"/> Leprosy | <input type="checkbox"/> Q fever* | <input type="checkbox"/> Tuberculosis* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cryptosporidiosis | <input type="checkbox"/> Lyssavirus—other, specify: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Rubella* | <input type="checkbox"/> Varicella zoster (chickenpox) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dengue virus infection* | <input type="checkbox"/> Australian bat lyssavirus | <input type="checkbox"/> Congenital rubella* | <input type="checkbox"/> Varicella zoster (shingles) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis B—Newly acquired* | <input type="checkbox"/> Malaria | <input type="checkbox"/> Salmonellosis | <input type="checkbox"/> Varicella zoster (unspecified) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis B—Unspecified* | <input type="checkbox"/> Mumps* | | <input type="checkbox"/> West Nile/Kunjin virus infection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis C—Newly acquired* | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis C—Unspecified* | | | |

*Enhanced data are collected for these conditions. We encourage the use of enhanced surveillance forms, accessible via the 'Form' links at www.health.vic.gov.au/notify.

Case details—please answer all questions

<p>Last name</p> <hr/> <p>First name(s)</p> <hr/> <p>Date of birth Sex</p> <p>____/____/____ <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Female</p> <p>Residential address</p> <hr/> <p>City Postcode</p> <hr/> <p>Tel home Tel mobile</p> <hr/> <p>Parent/guardian/next of kin name</p> <hr/> <p>Is the case of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Torres Strait Islander</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</p> <p>Country of birth ...country ...year arrived in Australia</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Australia</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Overseas > _____</p> <p>Interpreter required ...language</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, language > _____</p>	<p>Works in a high risk occupation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Child care worker <input type="checkbox"/> Health care worker</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Commercial food handler <input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify below _____</p> <p>Occupation and/or school and/or child care attended</p> <hr/> <p>Has the case recently travelled interstate or overseas</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes, specify when/where > _____</p> <p>Alive/deceased ...date of death</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Alive <input type="checkbox"/> Died due to this condition > _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Died due to other causes > _____</p> <p>Date of onset of illness</p> <p>____/____/____</p> <p>Has laboratory testing been requested</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Confirmed, specify lab > _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Pending, specify lab > _____</p> <p>Clinical comments – include risk factors, mode of transmission, history of illness, symptoms etc.</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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Notifying doctor/hospital/laboratory details

<p>Doctor/hospital/laboratory name</p> <hr/> <p>Address</p> <hr/> <p>City</p> <hr/> <p>Telephone</p> <hr/>	<p>Medicare provider no.</p> <hr/> <p>Postcode</p> <hr/> <p>Fax</p> <hr/>	<p>Department use only</p> <hr/> <p>Date</p> <p>____/____/____</p>
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The following conditions require written notification to the Department of Health & Human Services upon initial diagnosis within five days to:

Department of Health & Human Services, Reply Paid 65937, Melbourne VIC 8060 or fax 1300 651170.

Please ensure the case has been advised that this information is being provided to the department (as required by the *Health Records Act 2001*). Commonwealth and State privacy legislation does not negate the responsibility to notify the specified conditions nor to provide the information requested on this form.

Please indicate the condition you are notifying

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donovanosis | <input type="checkbox"/> Syphilis infection (less than 2 years)* | <input type="checkbox"/> Syphilis (2 years or more duration or unknown)* | <input type="checkbox"/> Congenital syphilis* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gonococcal infection* | <input type="checkbox"/> Primary (chancere or ulcer) | Has this been adequately treated | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infection* | <input type="checkbox"/> Secondary (symptomatic e.g. rash) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Early latent (asymptomatic) | <input type="checkbox"/> No | |
| | Is this a reinfection | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> No | | |

*The department collects additional disease specific and current relevant epidemiological data on these conditions for program delivery and policy on how to best inform timely targeted prevention efforts. The enhanced surveillance form for these conditions are available on the at <www.health.vic.gov.au/notify> and we encourage you to use the disease specific enhanced surveillance forms when notifying these conditions.

Case details—please answer all questions

Provide only the first two letters of first and last names

Last name	First name

Date of birth	Sex
	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Female

City	Postcode

Is the case of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin

- No
 Aboriginal
 Torres Strait Islander
 Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
 Unknown

Country of birth ...country	...year arrived in Australia
<input type="checkbox"/> Australia <input type="checkbox"/> Overseas > _____	_____

Works in a high risk occupation

- Sex worker
 Health care worker

Alive/deceased

- Alive Died due to this infection >
 Died due to other causes >

...date of death

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Date of onset of illness

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Has laboratory testing been requested

- No Confirmed, specify lab >
 Pending, specify lab > _____

Clinical comments include risk factors, mode of transmission (if any) etcetera

Partner notification

Partner notification is an essential component of clinical and public health management of cases. It is the treating doctor's responsibility to discuss the completion of partner notification with the case. If you require assistance or advice please contact the department's partner notification officers on (03) 9096 3367.

Please indicate below:

- I do not require assistance or advice with contact tracing
 I have already referred this case to partner notification officers

Notifying doctor/hospital/laboratory details

Doctor/hospital/laboratory name	Medicare provider no.
Address	
City	Postcode
Telephone	Fax
	Date

Department use only

Notifiable conditions in Victoria

Conditions notifiable by medical practitioners and pathology services

Notifiable condition	Doctor	Lab	Notifiable condition	Doctor	Lab
Urgent public health concern or emerging disease	✓	✓	Malaria	✓	✓
Anthrax <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓	Measles <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓
Arbovirus infections – other arbovirus infections	✓	✓	Meningococcal infection (invasive) <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓
Barmah Forest virus infection		✓	Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓
Blood lead greater than 5µg/dL		✓	Mumps	✓	✓
Botulism <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓	Murray Valley encephalitis (MVE) virus infection <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓
Brucellosis	✓	✓	<i>Mycobacterium ulcerans</i> (Buruli ulcer)	✓	✓
Campylobacteriosis		✓	Paratyphoid <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓
Chikungunya virus infection	✓	✓	Pertussis	✓	✓
Chlamydia trachomatis infection*		✓	Plague <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓
Cholera <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓	Pneumococcal infection (invasive)	✓	✓
Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) and variant CJD	✓	✓	Poliovirus infection <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓
Cryptosporidiosis	✓	✓	Psittacosis (ornithosis)	✓	✓
Dengue virus infection	✓	✓	Q Fever	✓	✓
Diphtheria <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓	Rabies <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓
Donovanosis (<i>Klebsiella granulomatis</i> infection)*	✓	✓	Ross River virus infection		✓
Food-borne and water-borne illness (two or more related cases) <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓	Rotavirus infection		✓
Gonococcal infection*	✓	✓	Rubella	✓	✓
Haemolytic Uraemic Syndrome (HUS) <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓	– Congenital Rubella	✓	✓
Haemophilus influenzae, type B (meningitis, epiglottitis, other invasive infections)	✓	✓	Salmonellosis	✓	✓
Hepatitis A <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓
Hepatitis B (newly acquired)	✓	✓	Shiga toxin and Verotoxin producing <i>Escherichia coli</i> (STEC/VTEC)	✓	✓
Hepatitis B (unspecified)	✓	✓	Shigellosis	✓	✓
Hepatitis C (newly acquired)	✓	✓	Smallpox <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓
Hepatitis C (unspecified)	✓	✓	Syphilis (2 years or more duration or unspecified)*	✓	✓
Hepatitis D	✓	✓	Syphilis (less than 2 years duration)*	✓	✓
Hepatitis E	✓	✓	Syphilis—Congenital Syphilis*	✓	✓
Hepatitis (other viral)		✓	Tetanus	✓	✓
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) infection*	✓	✓	Tuberculosis	✓	✓
Influenza		✓	Tularaemia <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓
Japanese encephalitis <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓	Typhoid <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓
Legionellosis <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓	Varicella zoster infection (chickenpox)	✓	✓
Leprosy	✓	✓	Varicella zoster infection (shingles)	✓	✓
Leptospirosis		✓	Viral haemorrhagic fevers <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓
Listeriosis <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓	West Nile/Kunjin virus infection	✓	✓
Lyssavirus – Australian bat lyssavirus	✓	✓	Yellow fever <small>☎24/7</small>	✓	✓
Lyssavirus – other (specify)	✓	✓			

Initial notification requirements

- **URGENT** ☎24/7 conditions require immediate notification to the Department of Health & Human Services (the department) by **telephone on 1300 651160 (24/7) upon initial diagnosis or clinical suspicion** (presumptive or confirmed).
- **ROUTINE** conditions require written notification to the department upon initial diagnosis within 5 days. All written notifications should be sent to:
 - Department of Health & Human Services, Reply Paid 65937, Melbourne VIC 8060 (no postage stamp required)
 - Facsimile 1300 651170
 - Secure web form <www.health.vic.gov.au/notify>

*Sexually transmissible infections (STIs) and HIV infection are notified using coded patient details. Separate forms (orange) are provided for notifying these conditions.

Notifiable conditions in Victoria

Information about privacy legislation for medical practitioners and pathology services

The Health Records Act 2001

The *Health Records Act 2001* (HRA) aims to protect the privacy of an individual's health information and how this information is managed. The HRA applies to the Victorian Government sector, Victorian Government funded services, private health services within Victoria and any other organisations within Victoria that hold health information.

The Privacy Act 1988 (Cwth.)

This federal legislation applies to large organisations in the private sector and services directly funded by the Australian Government.

How does privacy legislation fit with the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act and Regulations*?

Privacy law is subsidiary legislation. Where a privacy law is inconsistent with another law, the privacy law is 'of no force or effect.' Privacy law therefore does not affect legal obligations regulating the notification of conditions listed in the regulations, nor when information is requested by the department under the Act.

What are my obligations regarding notifiable conditions and privacy?

Under the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*, doctors and laboratories are required by law to notify the Department of Health & Human Services of diagnoses of specified conditions. The *Public Health and Wellbeing Regulations 2009* stipulate the information that must be provided. This includes demographic data, clinical history, the disease or condition diagnosed, risk factors, suspected modes of transmission and clinical comments.

The HRA requires you to inform your patient that this information is provided to the department, the reasons why it is provided and that there is a legal imperative to do so. The department has developed information sheets you can give your patient to assist with this process.

Can my patients refuse to allow the disclosure of this information to the department?

No—it is a legislative requirement that is designed to identify causes and risk factors for infectious diseases and other notifiable conditions and to protect public health and safety.

What about supplementary information collected through enhanced surveillance?

Supplementary information is considered as statistical information essential for the planning, implementation and evaluation of public health services. The data collected are predominantly risk factors and clinical histories. The information collected, including sensitive information (for example, ethnicity, sexual preferences), is regarded as core data relevant to public health practice. The *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* permits the disclosure of relevant clinical and risk factor information, and information about the suspected modes of transmission.

Where can I obtain further information?

Department of Health & Human Services:

- Communicable disease related enquiries
1300 651 160
<www.health.vic.gov.au/infectious-diseases>
- Lead related enquiries
1300 761 874
<www.health.vic.gov.au/environment>
- Privacy
<www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/publications/privacy-policy>
privacy@dhhs.vic.gov.au

Office of the Health Complaints Commissioner:

<hcc.vic.gov.au>

Office of the Australian Information Commissioner:

<www.oaic.gov.au>

Office of the Victorian Information Commissioner:

<ovic.vic.gov.au>

Notifiable conditions in Victoria

Privacy information for patients

Why is information collected about my illness?

Under the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* (the Act), the Department of Health and Human Services (the department) is authorised by law to collect information from doctors and laboratories about diagnoses of certain health conditions in Victoria. The law exists to monitor and control the occurrence of infectious diseases and other specified conditions, and helps to prevent further illness.

The aim is to protect the health and safety of the community.

What happens to my health information?

The department is committed to protecting the privacy of your information. Only authorised staff can access the information.

Some conditions require immediate contact with either your doctor, health service and/or yourself to identify the cause and prevent further infections. Where possible, we will attempt to contact your treating doctor first.

Under section 57 of the Act, the department is authorised to share your information with others, such as officers of local government (local council), to assist with investigations in protecting public health and preventing disease spread and further illness in the community. Identifying information is never released to anyone not directly involved in the investigation of the source of your illness.

If you have been exposed to lead in an occupational setting, your information may be provided to WorkSafe. Under the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007, an employer in a workplace where a lead process is undertaken is required to notify WorkSafe of any lead-risk jobs in that workplace, as well as when an employee is removed from a lead-risk job due to elevated blood lead levels.

Other uses of my information

National Notifiable Diseases Surveillance System – Some information on notifiable conditions is forwarded regularly to the Australian Government Department of Health, which is responsible for monitoring the occurrence of infectious diseases in Australia. Information that identifies you is always removed before this occurs.

Teaching – Some information is used to help educate staff, plan for the future and evaluate current service provision. Information that identifies you is always removed before this occurs.

Research and audit – Information is only made available for research projects after a Human Research Ethics Committee has approved them. Each Ethics Committee follows strict, nationally agreed guidelines for the review of research involving humans and health information. If anything to do

with the research involves you personally, the researcher will contact you so you can decide if you want to take part. People who carry out research must follow strict guidelines and maintain the confidentiality of the information they access. Release of identifying information to researchers is extremely rare.

Can I, or my doctor, refuse to provide this information?

No. If the department is not provided with this information, there may be delays in preventing further exposure and in planning control strategies. Doctors and laboratories are required by law to provide the department with key information about you and your illness.

Is my privacy protected?

Yes. All staff working in the department treat your information with the strictest confidence and have a legal duty to do so. Anyone who receives information from us is also under a legal obligation to keep it confidential.

Can I access my information?

Yes. Under the *Freedom of Information Act 2001* you have the right to apply for information held by the department. The department keeps records in accordance with the *Health Records Act*.

Where can you find further information?

For infectious disease related enquires telephone 1300 651 160. Further information can be found on the department's website at:

- <www.health.vic.gov.au/infectious-diseases>
- <www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au>

For lead related enquiries telephone 1300 761874. Further information can be found on the department's website at:

- <www.health.vic.gov.au/environment>

WorkSafe Victoria can be contacted by telephoning 1800 136089, or at the following website:

- <www.worksafe.vic.gov.au>

Information about the department's Privacy Principles can be found on the department's website at:

- <www.health.vic.gov.au/privacy>

Information about making a Freedom of Information request can be found on the department's website at:

- <www.health.vic.gov.au/foi>

Notifiable conditions in Victoria

Medical practitioners are required by law to notify the Department of Health and Human Services if they believe a patient has, or may have, a notifiable condition

URGENT notifiable conditions

The conditions listed below require immediate notification to the Department of Health & Human Services by **telephone on 1300 651 160 (24/7) upon initial diagnosis or clinical suspicion** (presumptive or confirmed).

Telephone 1300 651 160

Anthrax
Botulism
Cholera
Diphtheria
Food-borne and water-borne illness (2 or more related cases)
Haemolytic Uraemic Syndrome (HUS)
Haemophilus influenza, type B infection (meningitis, epiglottitis, other invasive infections)
Hepatitis A
Japanese encephalitis
Legionellosis
Listeriosis
Measles
Meningococcal infection (invasive)
Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV)
Murray Valley encephalitis (MVE) virus infection
Paratyphoid
Plague
Poliovirus infection
Rabies
Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)
Smallpox
Tularaemia
Typhoid
Viral haemorrhagic fevers
Yellow fever

ROUTINE notifiable conditions

The conditions listed below require written notification to the department upon initial diagnosis within 5 days. All written notifications should be sent to:

- Department of Health & Human Services
Reply Paid 65937, Melbourne VIC 8060
- Facsimile 1300 651 170
- Secure web form <www.health.vic.gov.au/notify>

Brucellosis
Chikungunya virus infection
Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (classical/variant)
Cryptosporidiosis
Dengue virus infection
Donovanosis*
Gonococcal infection*
Hepatitis B (newly acquired/unspecified)
Hepatitis C (newly acquired/unspecified)
Hepatitis D
Hepatitis E
Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)*
Leprosy
Lyssavirus (inc. Australian bat lyssavirus)
Malaria
Mumps
Mycobacterium ulcerans (Buruli ulcer)
Pertussis
Pneumococcal infection (invasive)
Q Fever
Rubella (inc. congenital rubella)
Salmonellosis
Shigatoxin and verotoxin producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC/VTEC)
Shigellosis
Syphilis* (inc. congenital syphilis)
Tetanus
Tuberculosis
Varicella zoster infection (chickenpox/shingles)
West Nile/Kunjin virus infection

* Notifications of HIV and sexually transmitted infections are de-identified to protect patient privacy

Further information

Disease information, surveillance data and links to public health alerts can be found at: <www.health.vic.gov.au/infectious-diseases> or by telephoning 1300 651 160.

Notifiable conditions in Victoria

Medical practitioners are required by law to notify the Department of Health and Human Services if they believe a patient has, or may have, a notifiable condition

URGENT notifiable conditions

The conditions listed below require immediate notification to the Department of Health & Human Services by **telephone on 1300 651160 (24/7) upon initial diagnosis or clinical suspicion** (presumptive or confirmed).

Telephone 1300 651 160

- Anthrax
- Botulism
- Cholera
- Diphtheria
- Food-borne and water-borne illness (2 or more related cases)
- Haemolytic Uraemic Syndrome (HUS)
- Haemophilus influenza, type B infection (meningitis, epiglottitis, other invasive infections)
- Hepatitis A
- Japanese encephalitis
- Legionellosis
- Listeriosis
- Measles
- Meningococcal infection (invasive)
- Middle East Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV)
- Murray Valley encephalitis (MVE) virus infection
- Paratyphoid
- Plague
- Poliovirus infection
- Rabies
- Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS)
- Smallpox
- Tularaemia
- Typhoid
- Viral haemorrhagic fevers
- Yellow fever

ROUTINE notifiable conditions

The conditions listed below require written notification to the department upon initial diagnosis within 5 days. All written notifications should be sent to:

- Department of Health & Human Services
Reply Paid 65937, Melbourne VIC 8060
- Facsimile 1300 651170
- Secure web form <www.health.vic.gov.au/notify>

- Brucellosis
- Chikungunya virus infection
- Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (classical/variant)
- Cryptosporidiosis
- Dengue virus infection
- **Donovanosis***
- **Gonococcal infection***
- Hepatitis B (newly acquired/unspecified)
- Hepatitis C (newly acquired/unspecified)
- Hepatitis D
- Hepatitis E
- **Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)***
- Leprosy
- Lyssavirus (inc. Australian bat lyssavirus)
- Malaria
- Mumps
- *Mycobacterium ulcerans* (Buruli ulcer)
- Pertussis
- Pneumococcal infection (invasive)
- Q Fever
- Rubella (inc. congenital rubella)
- Salmonellosis
- Shigatoxin and verotoxin producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC/VTEC)
- Shigellosis
- **Syphilis* (inc. congenital syphilis)**
- Tetanus
- Tuberculosis
- Varicella zoster infection (chickenpox/shingles)
- West Nile/Kunjin virus infection

* Notifications of HIV and sexually transmitted infections are de-identified to protect patient privacy

Further information

Disease information, surveillance data and links to public health alerts can be found at: <www.health.vic.gov.au/infectious-diseases> or by telephoning 1300 651 160.