

## Medical Confirmation of Covid-19 Definition for Vulnerable Persons

Dear Doctor

James Cook University is working with its staff to maximise their safety and protection against covid-19. The presenting JCU Staff Member has identified themselves as meeting the criteria for being a vulnerable person ("person at risk") and we seek your confirmation on this matter. Upon receiving confirmation, JCU will conduct a risk assessment to determine what reasonable adjustments can be made to support this individual in the workplace.

JCU ask that you please review the criteria for "People at Risk" as outlined on the Australian Government Department of Health website or on the second page of this document, and confirm the following:

<b>I declare I have reviewed the current definition for "People at Risk" and confirm that, at the time of signing this form, this JCU Staff Member meets the criteria of a person at risk of serious or severe illness from COVID-19.</b>	
<b>Staff Member's Name:</b>	
<b>Treating Doctor's Name:</b>	
<b>Treating Doctor's Signature:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	
<b>Practice Stamp:</b>	

With thanks,

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## **Australian Government Department of Health Coronavirus (COVID-19) advice: People at Risk**

### **Who might be at higher risk of severe illness**

You might be more likely to suffer severe illness due to COVID-19 if you:

- are 70 years of age or over
- are aged 65 years or over and have a chronic medical condition
- are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander aged 50 years and over with chronic medical conditions
- have had an organ transplant and are on immune suppressive therapy
- have had a bone marrow transplant in the last 24 months
- are on immune suppressive therapy for graft versus host disease
- have blood cancer e.g. leukaemia, lymphoma or myelodysplastic syndrome (diagnosed within the last 5 years)
- are having chemotherapy or radiotherapy

### **Who might be at increased risk of moderate illness**

You might be more likely to suffer moderate illness due to COVID-19 if you have:

- chronic renal (kidney) failure
- heart disease (coronary heart disease or failure)
- chronic lung disease (excludes mild or moderate asthma)
- a non-haematological cancer (diagnosed in the last 12 months)
- diabetes
- severe obesity with a BMI  $\geq 40$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>
- chronic liver disease
- some neurological conditions (stroke, dementia, other)
- some chronic inflammatory conditions and treatments
- other primary or acquired immunodeficiency
- poorly controlled blood pressure

Evidence suggests having two or more conditions may increase risk, regardless of age. More severe disease and/or poor control of the condition may also increase the risk of severe disease.

This information is current as of 14 July 2020 and sourced from: <https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert/advice-for-people-at-risk-of-coronavirus-covid-19> and <https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert/advice-for-people-at-risk-of-coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-for-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-peoples-and-remote-communities>