

AAP INFECTIOUS DISEASE RISK MITIGATION STRATEGY - 2026–27 Season

	Pre-departure Expeditioner Requirements	Pre-departure Risk Reduction Measures	Pre-departure PCR Screening Regime	Pre-departure Infectious Disease Case Management	Post-departure Screening and Prevention	Post-departure Infectious Disease Case Management
Purpose	Identify and reduce medical risk factors	Minimize risk of Infectious Disease entering AAP	Identification of Infectious Disease Cases	Isolation to prevent transmission Management depending on severity	Identification of Infectious cases to prevent community transmission and impact on operations	Isolation to prevent transmission Management depending on severity
Approach	Medical screening of AAP Expeditioners Vaccination Strong Recommendation Covid-19 +Annual Seasonal Influenza + Pertussis + Measles Required for at risk groups/projects *	Self Protection measures for 10 days pre-departure Includes: N95 mask use when in shared indoor and outdoor spaces Maintain safe behaviours and social distancing	Mandatory Health Declaration via SMS prior to departure Symptomatic Cases Respiratory Panel PCR Testing as required PMU Risk Assessment Case by Case	Isolation whilst symptomatic Mandatory N95 mask for infectious period Medical management depending on severity	Mandatory Asymptomatic PCR Respiratory Panel screening prior to Deep Field departure* Symptomatic PCR testing (Covid-19/Flu/RSV) Self Protection measures including N95 mask use when unable to socially distance	Isolation whilst symptomatic Mandatory N95 mask for infectious period Medical treatment depending on severity Activation of AAP Infectious Disease Response Protocol

Further enhanced risk mitigation strategies may be employed throughout the pre-departure and deployment phases due to:

- Identification of critical roles/project groups –MYIC + Traverse team, Law Base, CMWth Bay, McMurdo(USAP)*
- Risk profile associated with the phase of the season (e.g. season opening/closure)
- Response to evolving Infectious Disease variants, outbreaks or exposures- HPAI exposed expeditioners*



Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
Australian Antarctic Division



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