

COVID-19 RISK MITIGATION STRATEGY for 2023 – 24 season

	Pre-departure Expeditioner Requirements	Pre-departure Risk reduction Measures	Pre-departure PCR Screening Regime	Pre-departure COVID-19 Positive Case Management	Post-departure PCR Screening and Prevention	Post-departure COVID-19 Positive Case Management
Purpose	Identify and reduce medical risk factors	Minimize risk of COVID-19 entering Antarctica	Identification of COVID-19 cases	Isolation to prevent transmission Management depending on disease severity	Identification of COVID-19 cases to prevent community transmission and impact on operations	Isolation to prevent transmission Management depending on disease severity
Approach	Medical screening of AAP Expeditioners COVID-19 booster 3 – 6 months prior to deployment* Recommend annual seasonal Influenza vaccination	Recommend COVID-19 safe measures for a minimum of 10 days pre-departure Includes: encourage N95 mask use when in all shared indoor and outdoor spaces, maintain COVID-19 safe behaviours (including social distancing)	Mandatory COVID-19 asymptomatic PCR Screening day -2	Isolation whilst symptomatic followed by mandatory N95 mask wearing for duration of 10 day infectiousness period Medical management depending on disease severity	Mandatory COVID-19 asymptomatic PCR Screening - day 2 and 5 on Ships Symptomatic COVID-19 RSV/Influenza PCR testing as required Encourage COVID-19 safe behaviours including N95 mask use when unable to socially distance	Isolation whilst symptomatic followed by mandatory N95 mask wearing for duration of 10 day infectiousness period Medical treatment depending on disease severity Activation of AAP COVID-19 Outbreak Management Plan
<p>Further enhanced risk mitigation strategies may be employed throughout the pre-departure and deployment phases due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of critical roles or project groups – i.e. MYIC Traverse team, DTC Bunger Hills • Risk profile associated with the phase of the season • Response to evolving COVID-19 variants or outbreaks 						



Australian Government

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