

AusPATH and PATHA Conference 2024

COVID Policy

Based on the current reporting of COVID infections in Australia the organising committee would like to model best practice behaviour at the conference to minimise the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

The organising committee will continue to monitor risk and government advice in the lead up to the conference and may institute additional precautions if the risk changes.

Please make yourself familiar with our COVID Safety Policy and requirements.

COVID Safety Policy.

We encourage you to test more than once and not just before travel to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all conference participants.

Attendees are reminded not to attend if:

- they are feeling unwell and displaying COVID-19 symptoms (and of loss or change in sense of smell or taste, fever, chills or sweats, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath or runny nose),
- are a household contact with a person with COVID-19 (with a positive test) within the last 7 days

If you are no longer able to attend the in person conference, the conference secretariat will provide you with a virtual registration so you can participate from home.

For those attending the 2023 AusPATH/PATHA Conference:

- 1. Mask wearing is strongly recommended:** Please remember that we wear masks for others, not only ourselves, and by making efforts like this, we enable high risk community members to safely participate in this event. As this event intends to be accessible to trans (binary and non-binary) community members who are overrepresented in disability and unmet medical need statistics, masking is a simple way to show you care. Some P2/KN95 masks and hand sanitiser will be available for those who would like to upgrade their safety precautions when they arrive.

If you feel unwell, with any COVID-19 symptoms, or are a close contact of someone who has tested positive or is unwell with COVID-19, please stay home, to take care of yourself and our community.

- 2. A COVID rapid antigen test (RAT) should be undertaken** before travelling to attend the conference (you should do a RAT prior to setting off to attend the conference – but there will be free RAT tests available at the conference as it is a multiple day event, and for anyone who cannot access a test).
- 3. Hybrid conference:** If you cannot attend or become unwell or if you feel uncomfortable about travelling and attending, **the hybrid format allows for anyone who is exhibiting symptoms to still participate, and maintain community health.**



2023 Conference

4. **Using a RAT test** before attending is another way to care for our higher risk community members in attendance.

Other measures that have been implemented to reduce the risk of COVID-19 include:

- Contactless check in / registration available (QR code)
- N95 masks available at registration
- COVID rapid antigen tests available
- Hand sanitisation places
- Post conference presentations available

Being COVIDSafe is a shared responsibility, and we want you to enjoy and make the most of the 2023 AusPATH/PATHA Conference in a safe way.

If you are concerned about any COVID-19 related risks during the conference, please notify the conference secretariat at conference@ashm.org.au or phone +61 458 291 166.