



Budget October 2022-23

This information is accurate as of 25 October 2022.

COVID-19 Package – aged care

This measure provides funding to extend in-reach COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) testing for residential aged care facilities (RACF) for 3 months. RACFs will continue to have priority access to COVID-19 PCR pathology laboratory testing through the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS).

This will support patient diagnosis and treatment through access to oral antiviral medicines in RACFs.

More than 400,000 people are expected to access PCR tests through this measure.

This program is led by the Department of Health and Aged Care. Services Australia administers the MBS. Services Australia has been allocated \$300,000 in 2022-23 to implement this measure.

This measure is not subject to the passage of legislation.

Who does this measure affect?

This affects patients in RACFs eligible for these MBS items and health professionals providing these services.

When will this start and finish?

This started on 1 October 2022 and will end on 31 December 2022.