

# Notifiable Diseases in Tasmania

## A Guide for Laboratories

### Laboratory notifiable diseases

The *Public Health Act* requires that certain medical conditions be notified to the Director of Public Health (DPH). This includes diseases and conditions which should be notified to the Communicable Disease Prevention Unit (CDPU) by laboratories.

Laboratories are required to notify a positive result for the specified infectious diseases and conditions. Notification allows for public health action to manage these conditions and to control the spread of diseases.

Changes to the *Guidelines for Notifying Diseases and Food Contaminants* will come into effect on 1 June 2024. This change includes

- Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (COVID-19) will now be included in this Guideline, with the *Guideline for Notifying Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)* being revoked.

The current list of laboratory notifiable diseases and related fact sheets are on the Health website at

[http://www.health.tas.gov.au/publichealth/public\\_health\\_act2](http://www.health.tas.gov.au/publichealth/public_health_act2)

The *Guidelines for Notifying Diseases and Food Contaminants* have requirements for the reports that are issued for notifiable diseases.

These include clear specifications around the content of information detailed on the notification report.

Notification reports are to:

- Provide the contact information for the medical practitioner who requested the initial test.
- Contain information about the laboratory who conducted the test if this has not been previously notified to the DPH.
- Contain specific details in relation to the disease report
  - authorisation date of the laboratory report
  - the date the specimen was collected
  - the method of diagnosis.

The *Guidelines for Notifying Diseases and Food Contaminants* can be found at

[http://www.health.tas.gov.au/publichealth/public\\_health\\_act2](http://www.health.tas.gov.au/publichealth/public_health_act2)

1 June 2024.