

Aug 19 3:01PM – Email from the NT CAHO:

### **NT Restrictions Update - Darwin released, Katherine locked down for a further 24hrs**

For NT, the Lockdown lifted in Greater Darwin from noon today but it has been extended in Katherine for an additional 24 hours until noon tomorrow (with no change in conditions), while they await further COVID-19 test results.

If you live in Greater Darwin from noon today there are no restrictions on the reasons to leave home but some restrictions will remain in place to reduce the risk of COVID-19 in community. These will be reviewed in seven days on 26 August 2021.

A quick summary of those restrictions is below.

- Travel will be permitted across the Territory but restrictions continue to apply if you travel outside of the former Greater Darwin lockdown area.
- Face masks must be worn when you are unable to physically distance. Workers who come into close contact with patrons, or who work in crowded environments will need to wear a mask.
- The Territory Check-In App is mandatory for business, organisations and places. Customers and visitors must check-in every time, no matter how long they are there for.
- Private gathering of up to 10 people at a time in homes are allowed.
- Restaurants, cafes and pubs will re-open for seated service only. Patrons will be required to wear a mask when at the bar. Dance floors will remain closed. Markets will remain closed.
- Non-contact sports are permitted. Indoor exercise including at gyms, Zumba, barre, pilates and yoga studios will remain closed.
- Schools and childcare centres will open for learning from tomorrow. Children in Middle School and Senior School will be required to wear a mask, but those students at primary school who are under 12 years are encouraged but not required to.

Taking these next steps will continue to provide protection to NT communities while we review and monitor the situation.

**I encourage all Allied Health practitioners in NT to continue to observe physical distancing, hand hygiene, surface sanitising, use of Territory Check in app and wearing of masks in their clinics for both staff and clients.**

I have advocated since our previous lockdown in June 2021 for a change of wording around who can ask a person to remove a mask, and you will note the wording on CHO Direction 45 is now more generic:

*'is requested by a health practitioner to remove the face mask in order to enable the practitioner to administer treatment to the person; or'*

Group exercises classes are not supported until at least 26 August 2021.

kind regards,

Heather

Adj Prof Heather Malcolm

Chief Allied Health Officer