

Question on Notice

No. 271

Asked on 19 March 2024

MR B MICKELBERG ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR WOMEN (HON S FENTIMAN)—

QUESTION

With reference to the State Government's free Rapid Antigen Tests program for concession card holders—

Will the Minister advise (a) why there are no distribution locations on the Sunshine Coast and (b) how eligible Sunshine Coast residents can access the free Rapid Antigen Tests?

ANSWER

The Queensland Government is continuing the scheme that offers free Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) at Queensland Health distribution points if you:

- hold an eligible Commonwealth Concession card
- are at risk of or experiencing homelessness, including people escaping domestic and family violence
- are seeking asylum in Queensland
- recently arrived from Ukraine
- working in Queensland as part of the Pacific Australia Labour Mobility scheme.

Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service (SCHHS) will provide RATs to eligible Sunshine Coast residents from the following facilities until 31 December 2024, reinforcing our commitment to the wellbeing of the Sunshine Coast community:

- Caloundra Health Service – 4 West Terrace, Caloundra;
- Gympie Hospital - 12 Henry Street, Gympie;
- Maleny Soldiers Memorial Hospital - 17 Bean Street, Maleny;
- Nambour General Hospital - Hospital Road, Nambour
- Maroochydore Community Health Centre - 60 Dalton Drive, Maroochydore;
- Noosa Community Health - 14-16 Bottlebrush Avenue, Noosa; and
- Sunshine Coast University Hospital – 6 Doherty Street, Birtinya.

The Department of Health maintains a website called “[Get free RATs](https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/health-advice/exposed-to-covid/covid-testing-in-queensland/free-rat-concession-card-qld)” (at <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/health-advice/exposed-to-covid/covid-testing-in-queensland/free-rat-concession-card-qld>) which describes the eligibility criteria for the public and provides a map of the Hospital and Health Services (HHS) distribution points. The website is continually updated as Hospital and Health Services bring additional collection points online.