

# COVID-19 Maritime Industry Update 65

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**12 February 2021**

This guideline is for the maritime industry and port supply chain

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Last updated: 12 February 2021

This document is uncontrolled if printed. Please refer to the Maritime New Zealand website for the latest version.

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# 1. Vaccination update

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Vaccination planning is continuing following the announcement today that the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine will soon arrive in New Zealand.

We are hoping to announce next week detail around how the roll out will take place to ensure border and MIQ workers and their close contacts, are offered the vaccine early in the roll out. An invitation to arrange an appointment to receive the vaccine may not be far away and once contact has been made, there will be a need to coordinate with workmates to ensure there are enough staff to continue operations in your area.

In addition, you may soon be asked to provide contact details for family/household contacts so they can also receive the vaccine. We aim to have some information that you can share with your household contacts soon so they can understand more about what to expect and when they can make an appointment.

While taking the vaccine is not mandatory, the government strongly encourages everyone to get vaccinated. The vaccine is another layer of protection for you and your family/household contacts from COVID-19, but it is the most important protection measure available to date.

You will still need to wear PPE, get tested regularly, observe physical distancing and hygiene practices, and stay at home if you feel unwell. The vaccine protects people from the effects of the virus and is safe to take. However, it is too early to confirm whether a vaccinated person could still transmit COVID-19, which is why we must continue to keep the preventative measures in place to protect New Zealand's hard fought gains.

There is a lot of information in the public arena and not all of it is accurate. For information you can trust, go to the Ministry of Health website at <https://www.health.govt.nz/> or the Unite Against COVID-19 website at <https://covid19.govt.nz/>.

Please look at the updated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) document attached to this week's Maritime Industry Update for the latest from the Ministry of Health on the vaccine. If you have any questions, please send them to [MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz](mailto:MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz).

The Maritime Industry Update is issued weekly, usually in the second half of the week. However, publication days might change when there is a need to provide a quick update.

If you have any questions about updates, or suggestions for what you would like included, please contact Maritime NZ by emailing [MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz](mailto:MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz).

## 2. Saliva testing for quarantine workers

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In response to higher infection rates overseas and the emergence of new COVID-19 variants first identified in the UK, South Africa and Brazil, voluntary daily saliva tests will be offered to **workers in quarantine and dual-use MIQ facilities**.

Saliva testing will be offered **in addition to** the weekly nasopharyngeal swab testing already in place for these workers. Offering saliva testing during each shift will increase the frequency of screening of border workers who are at the greatest risk of exposure to these new variants, so we can identify any positive cases as early as possible.

Staff will still need to maintain other practices such as social distancing, PPE use and good hygiene. There are no plans at this stage to roll out saliva testing beyond MIQ facilities. A review of the saliva testing initiative will be included within an overall review of border testing, due later this year.

## 3. Crew change update

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Crew changes are continuing and over January, 145 individual crew (replacement crew and outgoing crew) have been processed through the system.

Thank you to everyone who has made this possible, many of whom have given their free time to keep crew changes happening.

Maritime NZ along with our stakeholders and government partners will continue to refine the crew change process even further and we will keep you up to date on developments.

## 4. Information and guidance for worker aboard international ships

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As many of you will know, we have been gathering your input and thoughts along with key government agencies, to update guidance for PCBUs and workers, including marine pilots and stevedores, who access international vessels.

We appreciate everyone's input and we will soon be publishing the guidance, which will also include sending an A6 size fold out brochure to the ports and workers, to assist in making the right calls when boarding an international vessel.

We will launch the guidance via the Maritime Industry Update once finalised.

## 5. Answering your questions

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There are a huge number of stakeholders in the maritime industry and ports' supply chain, and all of you are affected in different ways by COVID-19 and New Zealand's response to it.

If you have questions you would like answered, please email [MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz](mailto:MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz) by 5pm, Friday each week.

## 6. Key sources of information

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The following links provide you with key sources of information.

- For all your questions, and to provide information and make suggestions – email Maritime NZ  
[MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz](mailto:MNZCovid-19@maritimenz.govt.nz)
- Port and maritime guidelines and other information  
[www.maritimenz.govt.nz](http://www.maritimenz.govt.nz) – click on the COVID-19 banner on the home page
- Official health advice, including PPE guidance – Ministry of Health  
[www.health.govt.nz/](http://www.health.govt.nz/)
- Up-to-date information across the transport sector (land, sea and air) – Ministry of Transport  
[www.transport.govt.nz/about/covid-19/](http://www.transport.govt.nz/about/covid-19/)
- All New Zealand COVID-19 legislation  
[www.pco.govt.nz/covid-19-legislation/](http://www.pco.govt.nz/covid-19-legislation/)
- New Zealand's campaign to stamp out COVID-19  
[www.covid19.govt.nz](http://www.covid19.govt.nz)
- Information for businesses operating under alert levels  
[www.business.govt.nz/covid-19/operating-at-alert-levels/](http://www.business.govt.nz/covid-19/operating-at-alert-levels/)
- Wage Subsidy Scheme information  
[www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/resurgence-wage-subsidy/index.html](http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/covid-19/resurgence-wage-subsidy/index.html)
- Managed Isolation and Quarantine  
[www.miq.govt.nz/](http://www.miq.govt.nz/)

### Stamp it out



#### Practise good hygiene →

Wash your hands with soap. Cough or sneeze into your elbow. Clean surfaces.



#### Keep track of where you've been →

If COVID-19 reappears, help our health services reach people quickly to stop any further spread.



#### Stay home if you're sick →

If you have cold or flu symptoms, you should stay home and call your doctor or Healthline.