

# Victorian COVID-19 Therapies

September 2022

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Department  
of Health

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# COVID treatments linkage project overview



The majority of antiviral treatments prescribed for COVID-19 occur through the PBS.



In the past two months, the Federal Department of Health has begun providing identifiable PBD data on COVID-19 treatments to Victorian Department of Health for the purpose of linkage and analysis.



PBS data has been linked to Victorian COVID-19 surveillance data as well as outcomes data such as VAED and VDI.



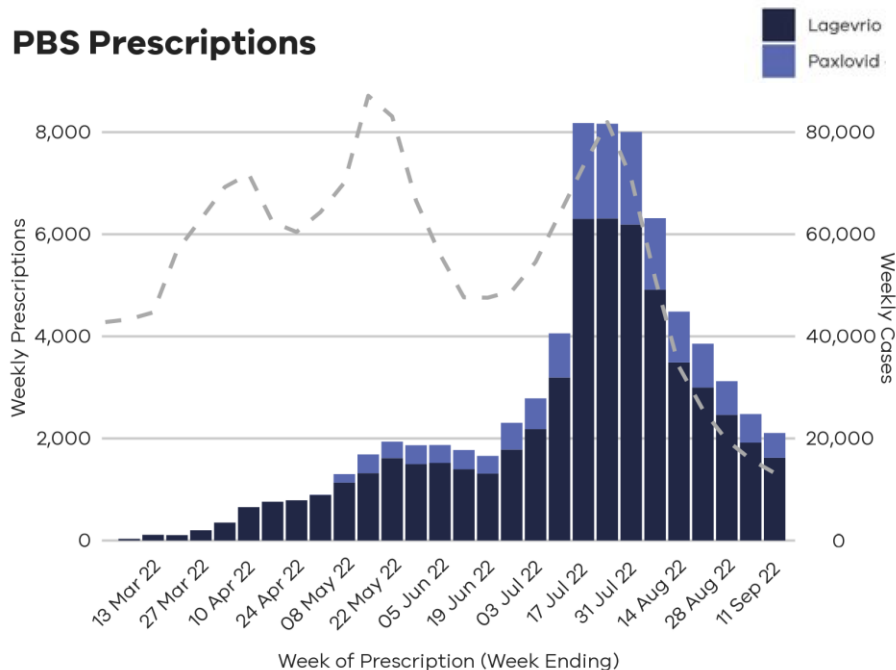
Preliminary analysis has looked to explore a range of topics to support and enable engagement and process improvement.



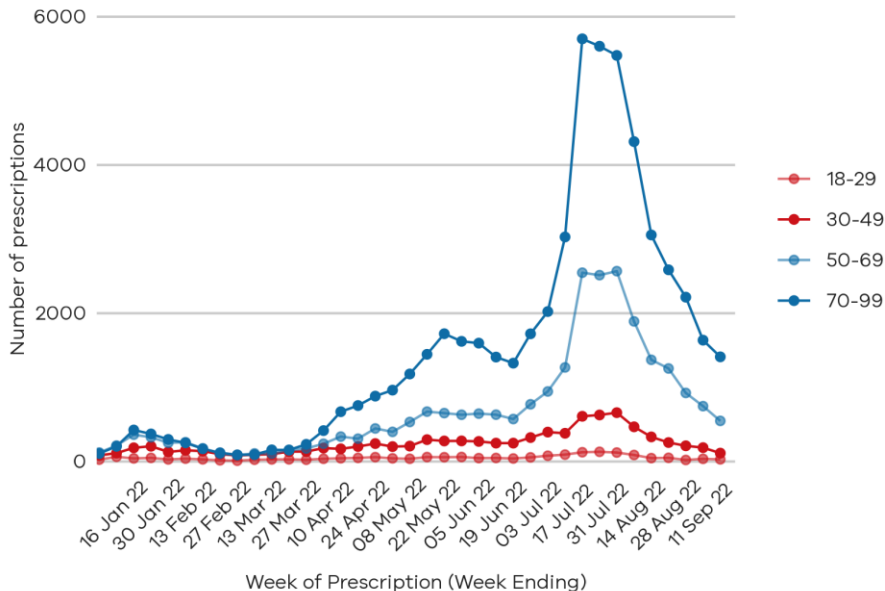
The following slides will focus on the scale of treatment provision and time to treatment analysis (TtT).

# Most prescriptions for COVID-19 have been Lagevrio

## PBS Prescriptions



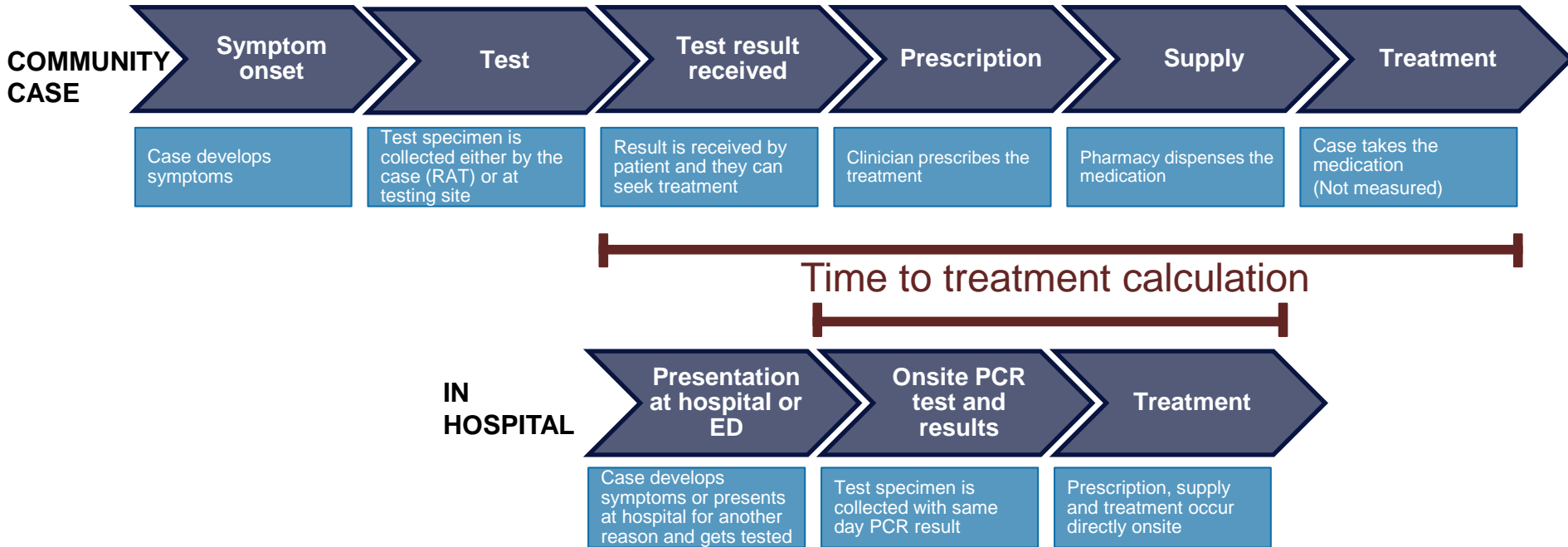
## Prescriptions by age



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- Treatment prescriptions do not account for patients being prescribed multiple treatments and may overestimate patients treated.
- Excludes prescriptions of Evusheld which is prescribed prophylactically.
- Excludes prescriptions for Victorian Medicare Card holders dispensed interstate, and non-Victorian Medicare Card holders dispensed in Victoria.

# Time to treatment is calculated from test result received



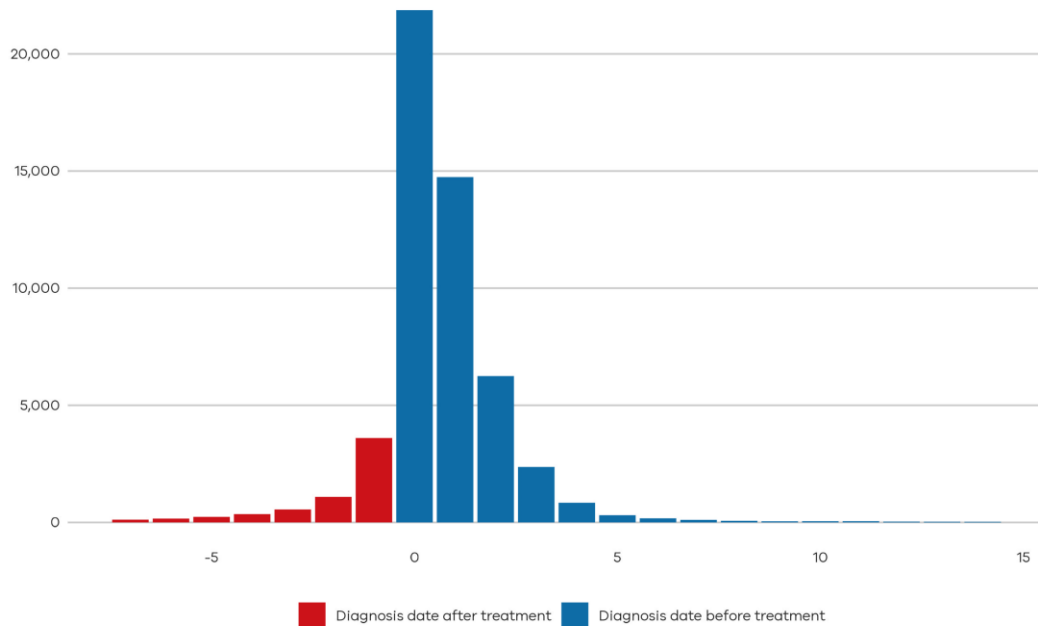
# Many Victorians may be reporting their COVID-19 diagnosis after receiving treatment

As shown in the chart, the majority of people who receive treatment do so in the first few days following diagnosis.

**A small proportion of people who receive treatment have a treatment date before their diagnosis date (red in the chart).** This may be due to several factors such as the choice to report a test late or due to data entry issues.

For the time to treatment analysis in the following slides, the data is filtered to only people with a diagnosis date on or before their treatment date.

Diagnosis date to treatment (days)

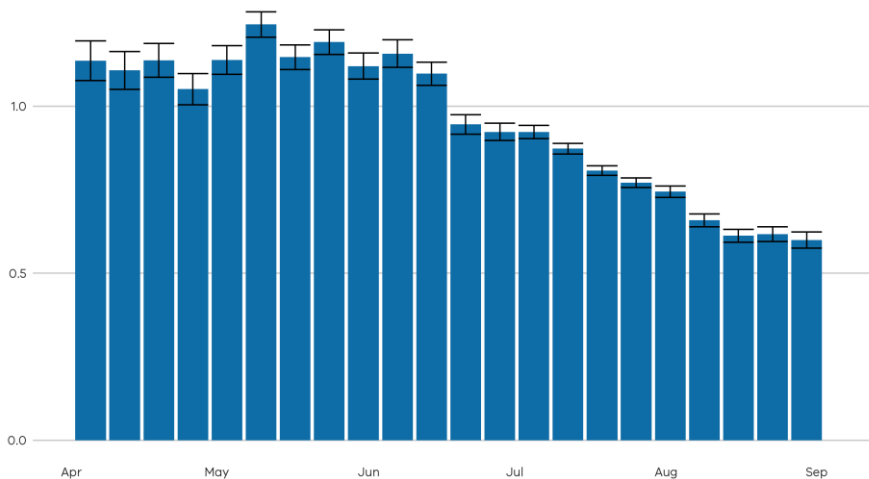


Source data: Trevi and PBS treatments linked data

# Time to treatment has decreased

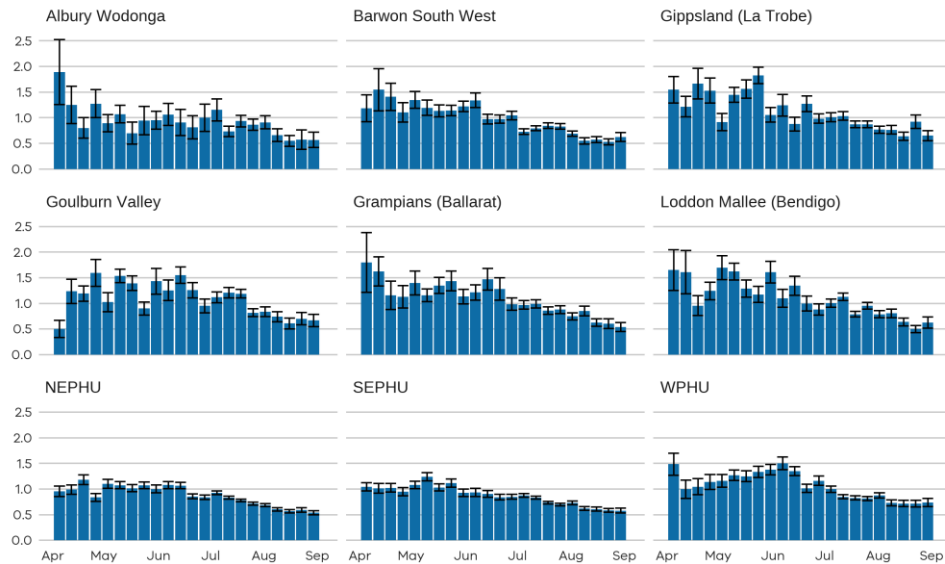
Average days to treatment

Victoria



Source: PBS treatments dataset. Error bars show the standard error.

Average days to treatment



Source: PBS treatments dataset. Error bars show the standard error.

# Victorians in higher socioeconomic deciles receive treatment faster

**Victorians in higher socioeconomic deciles (8-10) had significantly lower days to treatment than Victorians in lower socioeconomic deciles (1-7).**

Mean days to treatment:

- IRSAD deciles 8-10 **0.79 days**
- IRSAD deciles 4-7 **0.92 days**
- IRSAD deciles 1-3 **0.95 days**

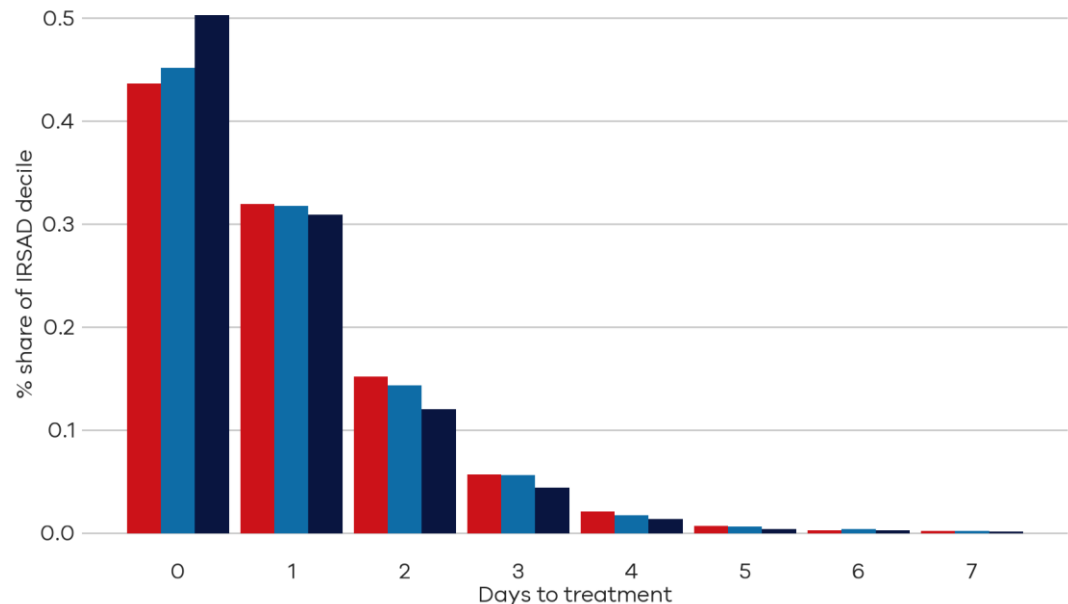
**81%** of Victorians in higher socioeconomic deciles (8-10) get their treatments less than 2 days after diagnosis compared to **76%** for Victorians in lower socioeconomic deciles (1-3).

Note: days for time to treatment is calculated to the nearest day, due to lack of precision available in the data. Absolute estimates for mean time to treatment should be interpreted with caution. Individuals with time to treatment less than 0 and greater than 7 were excluded from the mean calculations (<1% of the data).

## Days to treatment by IRSAD decile

Data from 02 Mar - 12 Sep, total treatments n = 43082

■ 1-3 ■ 4-7 ■ 8-10



# Older Victorians receive treatments faster

Victorians (not in aged care) in older age groups had significantly lower days to treatment compared to younger Victorians.

Mean days to treatment:

- Under 50s **1.01 days**
- 50-69 **0.92 days**
- 70+ **0.81 days**

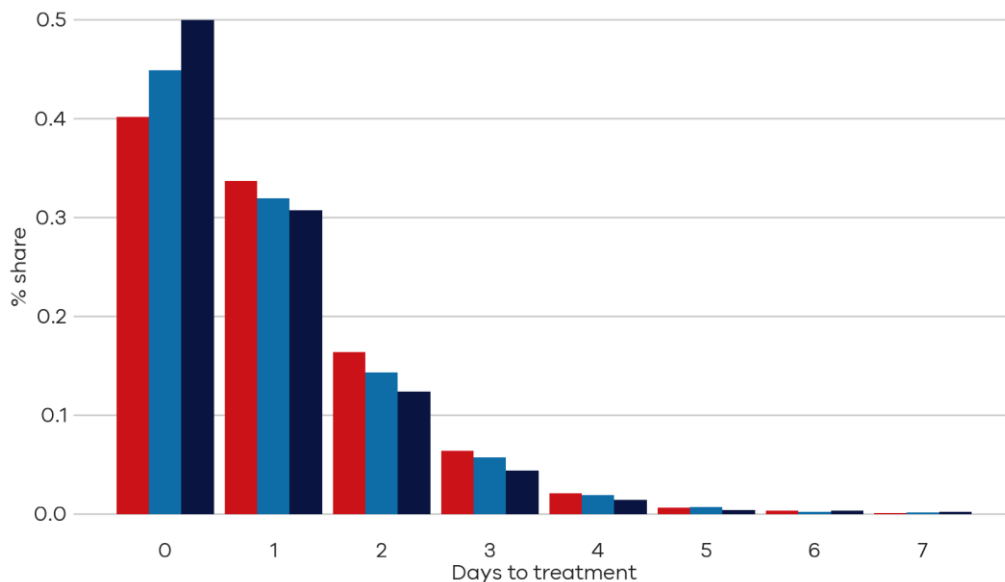
There were significant differences between all 3 groups.

**74%** of Victorians under 50 get their treatments less than 2 days after diagnosis compared to **81%** for Victorians over 70

## Days to treatment by Age Group

Data from 02 Mar - 12 Sep, total treatments n = 43121

under 50 50-69 70+



Note: days for time to treatment is calculated to the nearest day, due to lack of precision available in the data. Absolute estimates for mean time to treatment should be interpreted with caution. Individuals with time to treatment less than 0 and greater than 7 were excluded from the mean calculations (<1% of the data).

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# Victorians in Metro regions received treatment closer faster

**Metropolitan Victorians had significantly lower days to treatment than regional Victorians.**

Mean days to treatment:

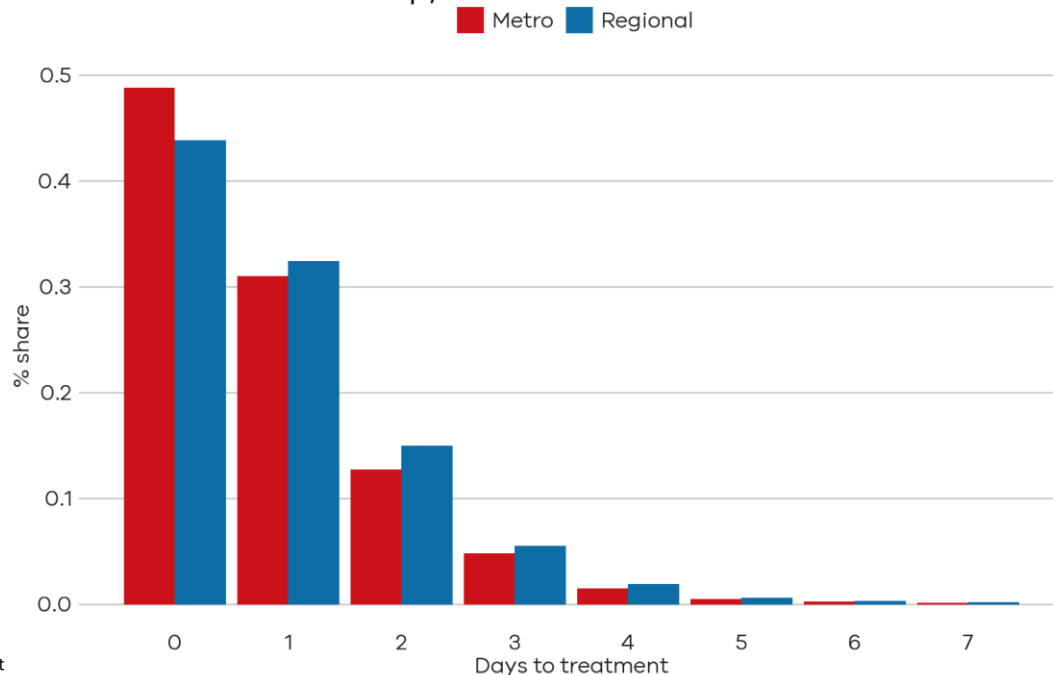
- Metro **0.83 days**
- Regional **0.94 days**

**88%** of Victorians in metro areas receive treatment in less than 2 days after diagnosis compared to **76%** for Victorians in regional communities

Note: days for time to treatment is calculated to the nearest day, due to lack of precision available in the data. Absolute estimates for mean time to treatment should be interpreted with caution. Individuals with time to treatment less than 0 and greater than 7 were excluded from the mean calculations (<1% of the data).

## Days to treatment by Metro vs. Regional

Data from 02 Mar - 12 Sep, total treatments n = 43118



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