



Special Commission of Inquiry into the Ruby Princess

# EXHIBIT 118

Risk Assessment Form prepared by NSW Health for  
the arrival of Ruby Princess on 24 February 2020

**From:** Elizabeth Ellis (Ministry of Health) on behalf of MOH-PHEOOperations  
**Sent:** Sun, 23 Feb 2020 18:53:47 +1100  
**To:** MOH-PHEOOperations;Jennifer Thorncraft (Sydney LHD);Zeina Najjar (Sydney LHD);Isabel Hess (Sydney LHD);Emma Quinn (Sydney LHD);Sean Tobin;Jeremy McAnulty;Leena Gupta (Sydney LHD);Sven Nilsson (Sydney LHD);Bradley Forssman (Nepean Blue Mountains LHD);SESLHD-PublicHealthUnit-CruiseShipSurv;MOH-PHEOLogistics;MOH-PHEOPlanning;Vicky Sheppard (South Eastern Sydney LHD);Mark Ferson (South Eastern Sydney LHD);Kelly-Anne Ressler (South Eastern Sydney LHD)  
**Subject:** RE: Ruby Princess Risk Assessment  
**Attachments:** H20 16274-20 Ruby Princess Cruise ship risk assessment\_arrival 240220 FINAL.DOCX

Dear All

This is an update to confirm that on the basis of additional information received following our teleconference today, the finalised risk assessment for the Ruby Princess, arriving 24/02/20 to OPT remains **low risk**. No health team attendance is required.

Kind Regards  
 Liz

Operations Team | [REDACTED]  
**Public Health Emergency Operations Centre**  
 100 Christie Street, St Leonards, New South Wales 2065

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**From:** Elizabeth Ellis (Ministry of Health) **On Behalf Of** MOH-PHEOOperations  
**Sent:** Sunday, 23 February 2020 1:56 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Thorncraft (Sydney LHD); [REDACTED]; Zeina Najjar (Sydney LHD); [REDACTED]; Isabel Hess (Sydney LHD); [REDACTED]; Emma Quinn (Sydney LHD); [REDACTED]; Sean Tobin; [REDACTED]; Jeremy McAnulty; [REDACTED]; Leena Gupta (Sydney LHD); [REDACTED]; Sven Nilsson (Sydney LHD); [REDACTED]; Bradley Forssman (Nepean Blue Mountains LHD); [REDACTED]; SESLHD-PublicHealthUnit-CruiseShipSurv; [REDACTED]; MOH-PHEOLogistics; [REDACTED]; MOH-PHEOPlanning; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; MOH-PHEOOperations; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Ruby Princess Risk Assessment

Dear All

Please find attached the finalised risk assessment of the Ruby Princess, arriving 24/02/20 to OPT. The panel endorsed a low risk assessment based on current information, but noted that it is uncertain whether an announcement has been made on the ship to actively ask whether any passengers or crew are ill.

Vicky Sheppeard has kindly agreed to follow up to check whether an announcement has occurred, and to request this if not already undertaken.

Vicky - we would be grateful if you could provide an update this afternoon.

If there are any additional notifications to suggest an outbreak, a further teleconference will be convened. Otherwise, in the absence of any further notifications of relevant illness, the panel agreed that the risk assessment will remain low risk.

I will provide an update once further information is known.

Kind Regards

Liz

**Dr Elizabeth Ellis**

Public Health Medicine Registrar | **Office of the Chief Health Officer**

NSW Ministry of Health

100 Christie Street, St Leonards NSW 2065



# CRUISE SHIP SCREENING PROCEDURE FOR PORTS OF FIRST ENTRY INTO AUSTRALIA

T/C 23/02/20 at 12:30

## Attendees:

Jeremy McNulty, MOH Operations (Liz Ellis), MOH Logistics (Khizar Ashraf), Vicky Sheppeard, Zeina Najjar, Bradley Forssman (joined at 12:35pm)

## Pre-arrival risk assessment form

Completed by Kelly-Anne Ressler

Key questions	Answer	Details (names and dates, etc.)
Name of ship	Ruby Princess	113561 gt (large)
Date and time of arrival in NSW	24-Feb-2020 07:00 (Mon)	
Terminal of arrival	Overseas Passenger Terminal	
Port of origin of this cruise	Sydney	
Date of departure	11 February 2020	
Has the ship been in a foreign port during this cruise in last 14 days?	Yes	13 day NZ cruise
Ports visited and dates during this cruise in last 14 days		12-13 Feb <i>at sea</i> 14-21 Feb <b>NZ</b> 22-23 Feb <i>at sea</i> 24 Feb <b>Sydney</b>
Has the ship had a health assessment at the previous port?	Unknown	
Number of passengers on board	2817	
Number of crew on board	1168	
Number of passengers and crew have been in contact with a confirmed case	0	As reported in MARS
Number of passengers and crew who have been in mainland China within 14 days of embarking	0	As reported in MARS
Number of passengers and crew who have been in another country of concern* within 14 days of embarking	Unknown	Denied boarding for people with travel to Hong Kong, they don't have the information for other countries.
Has the ship obtained accurate contact information (mobile phone and email addresses) for all passengers?	Yes, Princess are able to do this rapidly	
Has the ship ensured all passengers with respiratory symptoms and fever are isolated while on board and provide them with hand rub and masks for onward travel?	ILI isolated and treated with tamiflu	Will ask Dr to provide masks and alcohol hand gel to people with current symptoms for onward travel
Has the ship actively asked passengers and crew if they have respiratory symptoms or fever AND asked them to present to the ships doctor for assessment before arrival?	Unknown	
Is assessment free of charge?	No, they are charging for respiratory consultations	
Number of passengers and crew who presented to ship's clinic with acute respiratory illness this cruise	22	14 ARI 8 ILI
% of ship's crew/passengers who had influenza like illness	0.2%	

\*currently Hong Kong, Japan, Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand

## CRUISE SHIP SCREENING PROCEDURE FOR PORTS OF FIRST ENTRY INTO AUSTRALIA

Number of <b>ill</b> passengers and crew who have been in countries included in the <b>Australian CoVID-19 testing</b> criteria in the 14 days before embarkation	0	Noted that many of the crew have been on-board the ship for months and none have been in countries of concern
Total number of passengers and crew <b>swabbed</b> for flu, and number tested positive this cruise	6	Of 8 with ILI: 4 Flu A pos, 1 Flu B pos, 1 flu neg and 2 not done
Number of swabs <b>available</b> for COVID-19 testing	0	
<b>Other</b>		
<b>Considering</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the exposures of the passengers and crew, and</li> <li>the nature of the illness and the results of flu testing</li> </ul> What is the risk that COVID-19 is circulating on board?	<b>Low</b>	<b>Outcome of panel discussion: low risk</b>
If <b>low</b> , then <b>additional assessment</b> of the ship is not generally required.		

### Additional information:

Panel on 23/02/20 noted that it is unclear whether an announcement has been made on the ship to actively ask whether any passengers or crew have respiratory symptoms or fever

- Vicky Sheppeard will follow up to check whether this has occurred and if it has not, to request an announcement is made and provide an update
- Assuming that there are no further notifications of illness following an announcement, the panel agreed that the risk assessment will remain at low risk and no health team attendance is required.
- If there are any additional notifications to suggest an outbreak, a further teleconference will be convened.

### 23/02/20 18:40

Additional information received from Vicky. The ship provided an orientation at the start of the cruise which included relevant information.