



IAS 2023

Harm reduction and medical services guide for Brisbane

Harm reduction and medical services will be available during IAS 2023, the 12th IAS Conference on HIV Science, in Brisbane, Australia, from 23 July to 26 July 2022.

In collaboration with local harm reduction service facilities and medical professionals in Brisbane, IAS – the International AIDS Society – will ensure that these services are available to all delegates joining us in Brisbane throughout the conference.

While in Brisbane, the IAS is required to follow rules and guidelines for the provision of harm reduction services as determined by local public health services.

Below, you will find information and guidance on:

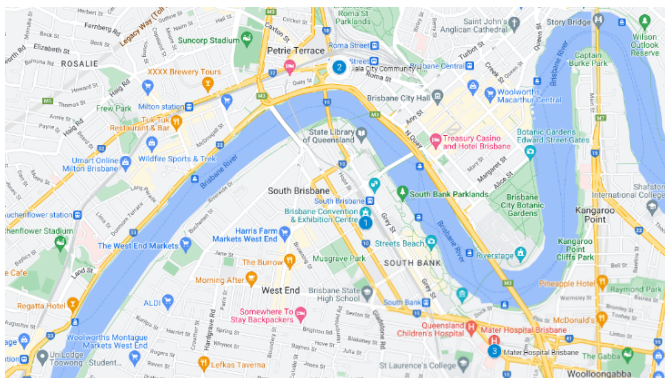
- [Community organizations in Brisbane \(information and services for HIV and STBBI prevention\)](#)
- [Access to health services \(hospitals\) in Brisbane](#)
- [Access to HIV, STI testing and treatment clinics](#)
- [Access to harm reduction services in Brisbane](#)
- [Information about the use of drugs while in Brisbane \(including drug and safety policies\)](#)

This guide includes advice from harm reduction experts.

In case of emergency, call 000.

For medical enquiries, please call 13HEALTH (13 43 25 84).

[Map of key health services close to IAS 2023 \(Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre\)](#)



- 1 Brisbane Convention & Exhib...
- 2 Biala City Community Health...
- 3 Mater Hospital Brisbane
- 4 Princess Alexandra Hospital



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Community organizations in Brisbane

The following organizations provide information and services for HIV and sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections (STBBI) prevention and support to local communities:

- [Queensland Positive People \(QPP\)](#): QPP is a peer-led, community-based organization committed to improving the lives of all people living with HIV across Queensland.
- [Queensland Council for LGBTI Health \(QC\)](#): The Queensland Council for LGBTI Health has been a home for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, intersex, queer, sistergirl and brotherboy people and communities in Queensland for over 35 years. The QC is proud to be a community-led and community-owned health and well-being service, representing the diversity of Queensland communities.
- [Respect](#): This provides drop-in and outreach services for sex workers in Queensland.
- [QulHN](#): QulHN provides health services to people who use substances across Queensland.
- [Ethnic Communities Council of Queensland](#): The council is the reference point for ethnic community representation in Queensland.
- [Institute for Urban Indigenous Health \(IUIH\)](#): IUIH is primarily a service system for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The closest location to the conference venue would be:
 - ATSICHS Brisbane, 55 Annerley Road, Woolloongabba.

Access to health services in Brisbane

Find emergency departments and medical doctors at the following locations.

Please take identification and proof of medical insurance with you, if possible, when going to an emergency department or hospital. As a traveller, it is your responsibility to take out adequate healthcare coverage before your trip.

The closest **hospital and/or medical** services are:

- [Mater Hospital Brisbane](#)

All specialties

Access requirements: If you do not hold a current Medicare card or do not qualify under the terms of a Reciprocal Healthcare Agreement, you may be Medicare ineligible and will be billed for the cost of treatment. <https://www.mater.org.au/health/services/emergency-care/emergency-care-public> and <https://www.mater.org.au/health/services/emergency-care/emergency-care-private>

Address: Raymond Terrace, South Brisbane QLD 4101

Contract telephone number: +61 7 3163 8111

Mater Hill busway station; two bus stops from Cultural Centre busway station on Route 66



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- **Princess Alexandra Hospital**

All specialties

Access requirements: If you do not hold a current Medicare card or do not qualify under the terms of a Reciprocal Healthcare Agreement, you may be Medicare ineligible and will be billed for the cost of treatment. <https://metrosouth.health.qld.gov.au/sites/default/files/msh-medicare-ineligible-fees-charges.pdf>

Address: 199 Ipswich Rd, Woolloongabba QLD 4102

Contract telephone number: +61 7 3176 2111

PA Hospital busway station; three bus stops from Cultural Centre busway station on Route 66

- **Royal Brisbane Women's Hospital**

All specialties

Access requirements: If you do not hold a current Medicare card or do not qualify under the terms of a Reciprocal Healthcare Agreement, you may be Medicare ineligible and will be billed for the cost of treatment. <https://metronorth.health.qld.gov.au/rbwh/patients-and-visitors/are-you-visiting-from-overseas>

Address: Butterfield St, Herston QLD 4006

Contact Telephone Number: +61 7 3646 8111

RBWH busway station; six bus stops from Cultural Centre busway station on Route 66

For Information related to COVID-19 in Brisbane, visit

<https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19>

In case of emergency, call 000.

Access to HIV, STI testing and treatment clinics

Please note that you will likely be required to pay fees upfront if you do not have an Australian Medicare card. You can call ahead to confirm.

Services closest to IAS 2023:

Who	Where	When	Contact
Metro North Sexual Health and HIV Service Can see Medicare-ineligible and uninsured clients	1/270 Roma St, Brisbane City QLD 4000	Opening times Monday 08:30-16:00 Tuesday 08:30-16:00 Wednesday 08:30-12:00 Thursday 08:30-16:00 Friday 08:30-16:00	+61 7 3837 5611
Brisbane Metro South Sexual Health Service	199 Ipswich Rd Woolloongabba QLD 4102	Monday to Friday 08:00-16:00	+61 7 3176 5881



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By appointment only.
Medicare-ineligible clients
will be billed for
consultation, pathology
and medication

<u>RAPID Point of Care HIV and STI Testing</u> Free service for everyone	Level 1/725 Ann St Fortitude Valley QLD 4006	Tuesday to Friday 14:30-20:00 Saturday 12:00-17:00	+61 7 3013 5566
<u>QCGP+</u> Unable to see healthcare clients without a valid Medicare card. Please ring if you do not have a valid Medicare card to discuss alternate services	16/421 Brunswick St Fortitude Valley QLD 4006	Monday to Friday 9:00-17:00	+61 7 3017 1777
<u>Better Access Medical – QulHN</u> The same payment as for Medicare-eligible people may be required if person is able to pay	1 Hamilton Place Bowen Hills 4006	Monday to Friday 8:30-17:00 (excl. public holidays)	+61 7 3620 8111
<u>Crimson Clinic</u> (STI testing and treatment for sex workers only) Located at QCGP+	16/421 Brunswick St Fortitude Valley QLD 4006	Every second Wednesday 18:00-20:00	+61 424 657 064

Access to harm reduction services in Brisbane

Queensland Needle and Syringe Program – Biala

The Queensland Needle and Syringe Program (QNSP) aims to reduce the incidence of blood-borne viruses and injection-related injuries and disease in Queensland by providing sterile injecting equipment, facilitating the safe disposal of used injecting equipment, and improving access and referral to drug treatment programmes, healthcare and other services.

Located on ground floor, 270 Roma Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
Phone +61 7 3837 5613
Opening hours: Monday to Sunday, 07:00-23:00.



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No referral required. No appointment required. No waiting lists

For all persons who inject drugs

Closest train station: Roma Street Station, Brisbane

Better Access Medical – QuIHN

QuIHN operates a Needle and Syringe Program and bulk-billing general practice called Better Access Medical.

Located at 1 Hamilton Place, Bowen Hills, QuIHN offers:

- Free sterile injecting equipment and used needle disposal options
- Education and support around substance use, overdose, safe injecting practices, blood-borne viruses and sexual health
- Free naloxone
- Free hepatitis C testing and treatment
- Free testing for HIV and syphilis
- Counselling services
- Therapeutic groups

Contact QuIHN on 1800 172 076 or quihn@quihn.org.

Please note that to access some services, you will be asked for your name and date of birth, but will not be required to provide identification. QuIHN services everyone, including people not eligible for Medicare or uninsured people.

QCGP+ Inclusive Chosen Families General Practice

Situated 4.8km from the IAS 2023 venue, QCGP+ is a community-led inclusive chosen family's general practice in downtown Brisbane. Its nurses and doctors offer peer-based confidential consultations and provide an inclusive, non-judgemental, knowledgeable and caring approach to healthcare provision. The practice is unable to see people without a valid Medicare card. Please ring if you do not have a valid Medicare card to discuss alternate services.

The closest train station is: Fortitude Valley Station, Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley

Telephone +61 7 3017 1777

Email: qcgp@qc.org.au

Services provided:

Testing and treatment for sexually transmissible infections, blood and swab collection for testing (including blood-borne viruses, such as HIV, hepatitis, herpes and HPV), advice and education, post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) and pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)*, vaccinations; prescription and administration of vaccines (both private and provided under the National Immunisation Program Schedule), sexual health check, Certificate of Attendance for sex industry workers, healthcare for persons living with HIV, trans and gender-diverse healthcare



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Please call +61 7 3017 1777 or visit [QCGP+](#).

*NB: Clients need a Medicare card to access PrEP through QCGP+.

All harm reduction services at the facilities listed are free, anonymous, confidential and readily accessible for all conference delegates, regardless of healthcare insurance.

Directory of consumer equipment access centres

The following harm reduction organizations provide paraphernalia, such as injection material, sterile equipment, smoking equipment, containers for safe disposal of injecting equipment, and condoms.

Consumer equipment access centres closest to IAS 2023:

Who	Where	When	Contact
QuIHN Services everyone, including people not eligible for Medicare or uninsured people	1 Hamilton Place Bowen Hills QLD 4006	Monday to Friday 09:00-19:00 (excl. public holidays)	+61 7 3620 8111
QCGP+ Supplies condoms with water-based lubrication sachets. Internal condoms and dental dams	16/421 Brunswick St Fortitude Valley QLD 4006	Monday to Friday 09:00-17:00	+61 7 3017 1777
RAPID point-of-care HIV and STI testing Supplies needle and syringe packs, condoms with water-based lubrication sachets. Internal condoms and dams	Level 1/725 Ann St Fortitude Valley QLD 4006	Tuesday to Friday 14:30-20:00 Saturday 12:00-17:00	+61 7 3013 5566
Queensland Needle and Syringe Program – Biala Provision of sterile injecting equipment;	270 Roma Street Brisbane QLD 4000	Monday to Sunday 07:00-23:00	+61 7 3837 5613



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after-hours dispensing
machine available
For people who inject
drugs

Directory of services for sex workers

The following organizations deliver educational services and activities, provide support and advice, and promote sexual, mental, physical and social health.

Services for sex workers closest to IAS 2023:

Who	Where	When	Contact
Respect Inc Brisbane Office Only available for Medicare cardholders	1/76 Wickham St Fortitude Valley QLD 4006	Opening hours Monday - Thursday 12:00-17:00	+61 7 3835 1111

Where to find naloxone in Brisbane

Australia has a National Take Home Naloxone programme, which makes naloxone available for free for people who are vulnerable to, or who may witness, an opioid overdose or adverse reaction (such as friends, family and community members). There is no cost to individuals, nor prescription required. Naloxone is a life-saving, fast-acting, temporary opioid antagonist (that is, it inhibits the action of opioids). Under the Take Home Naloxone programme, free naloxone is available from participating pharmacies, Needle and Syringe Programs, alcohol and other drug treatment services and other social services. A list of sites where naloxone can be accessed for free (in limited quantities) is available here:

<https://www.ppaonline.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Registered-sites-for-Take-Home-Naloxone.pdf> (search via postcode 4101 and 4000).

Sites for the provision of naloxone closest to IAS 2023:

Who	Where	When	Contact
QuIHN	1 Hamilton Place Bowen Hills QLD 4006	Monday to Friday 9:00-19:00 (excl. public holidays)	+61 7 3620 8111



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Queensland Needle and Syringe Program – Biala 270 Roma Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

Monday to Sunday
07:00-23:00

+61 7 3837 5613

All pharmacies should supply free naloxone kits and should not ask for your ID or medical card. For more information, visit <https://www.health.gov.au/our-work/take-home-naloxone-program>

Recommended pharmacies

If you need prescriptions filled for opioid dependence treatment (ODT), such as methadone or buprenorphine, while in Brisbane, please contact your local doctor before travelling to Brisbane. Please note that dispensing medications must be paid for directly at the pharmacy.

Pharmacies closest to IAS 2023

For general medical needs:

- Terry White Chemmart South Brisbane
 - 271 Grey Street, South Brisbane

For methadone or buprenorphine:

- Terry White Chemmart West End
 - 154 Boundary Street, West End
- West End Discount Drug Store
 - Shop 10, 69-79 Boundary Street, West End
- Chemist Warehouse, Woolloongabba
 - 68 Ipswich Road, Woolloongabba
- Priceline Pharmacy South City Square
 - 4/148 Logan Road, Woolloongabba
- Ramsay Pharmacy Taylor Centre
 - 40 Annerley Road, Woolloongabba
- Mater Pharmacy South Brisbane
 - 301 Vulture Street, South Brisbane
- Chemist Warehouse Annerley
 - Tenancy 4 and 5, 493 Ipswich Road, Annerley
- Gladstone Road Pharmacy
 - Shop 3, 30-34 Gladstone Rd, Highgate Hill

Please carry your prescriptions for any medicines with you. If you are travelling with medicines, ensure that what you are carrying complies with the restrictions by the Australia Department of Home Affairs and the Therapeutic Goods Administration regarding rules for bringing medicines into Australia, including limitations on liquids.

For more information on travelling with medication, please refer to <https://www.tga.gov.au/entering-australia>.



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Information about the use of drugs while in Brisbane

According to 2022-23 data collected through Needle and Syringe Programs, the most popular drugs for injecting are crystal methamphetamine, PIED-AAS (anabolic-androgenic steroids), heroin and pharmaceutical opioids, such as morphine and oxycodone.

As of April 2023, drug testing services are not widely available in Brisbane.

For current drug alerts, visit <https://community.theknow.org.au/>.

In case of an overdose, call 000 and tell them there has been an overdose. If you have naloxone, administer it before the ambulance arrives. The ambulance service in Queensland is free.

Don't use alone

Carry naloxone

Useful information links:

- [Alcohol and other drug support information](#) – Inform yourself about the effects and risks of the drugs you plan to use. The Adis 24/7 alcohol and other drug support service is available by phone or online at [Adis QLD Homepage | ADIS \(health.qld.gov.au\)](#). Adis is a free and confidential service; it can provide information and resources on alcohol and other drugs and treatment options, including advice for friends, family and carers.
- [Drug use: support and treatment](#)
- [Ice use: support and treatment](#)

Drug policies in Brisbane

Possession of illicit drugs in Queensland carries criminal penalties, which vary depending on the circumstances. For information regarding your rights when interacting with police, visit Legal Aid Queensland's website at [Talking to the police – Legal Aid Queensland](#).