

Covid 19 coronavirus: New cases are two women, flew from UK and took car to Wellington

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Two women who have tested positive for Covid-19 got lost on their drive from Auckland to Wellington and required help - giving the person a "kiss and a cuddle", Parliament has been told.



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The new Covid-19 cases in New Zealand are two Kiwi women who flew in from the United Kingdom and travelled to Wellington to grieve the sudden passing of their parent, director general of health Ashley Bloomfield says.

They were allowed to leave their managed isolation at the Novotel Ellerslie in Auckland without being tested on the condition that they were tested in Wellington, which returned positive results.

One of the woman had mild symptoms before being tested, but it was put down to a pre-existing condition.

Bloomfield said their conditions might have been picked up if the daily health check in managed isolation had been done properly, including asking them about every individual Covid-19 symptom.

"My understanding is the person who had the symptoms was asked, 'Are you okay?' ... The protocol is to go through each individual symptom.

"It may well have been that that would have elicited specific symptoms that may have led to suspicion."

Bloomfield said they had only been in contact with one family member in Wellington, who had also been staying at home.

He wasn't nervous that there would be a sudden outbreak because the close contacts - including people at the Novotel Ellerslie in Auckland and on the Brisbane flight - were all being traced.

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