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COVID - 27 MARCH 2020

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Coronavirus: Virus suspected of being dormant in Ruby Princess passenger for 10 weeks

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Lawyers looking to sue the owners of the Covid-19-infected Ruby Princess cruise ship say compensation could run into the millions of dollars.

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Covid-19 may have been dormant in a [Ruby Princess cruise ship](#) passenger for 10 weeks.

The woman, who tested positive for the virus in Cairns in the Australian state of Queensland, was a passenger on the cruise ship that visited New Zealand in March.

Queensland Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk told reporters on Tuesday they were trying to work out if the new case was "directly related to the Ruby Princess or if it was acquired in some other way".

A previous test performed on the woman returned a negative result, and a spokesperson for the health minister told AAP it wasn't possible she was contagious after disembarking the ship on March 19.



The Ruby Princess cluster has been linked to hundreds of infections and over 20 deaths.

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She is one of 1057 confirmed Covid-19 cases in the Australian state.

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The cruise ship cluster was linked to more than 20 coronavirus deaths and over 600 infections - 24 of which were located in Hawke's Bay and had since recovered.

There were reports there were cases on board as it travelled to New Zealand.

Coronavirus outbreak — confirmed cases

New Zealand

TOTAL	CONFIRMED	PROBABLE
2040	1684	356
+1*	+1*	
ACTIVE	DEATHS	RECOVERED
60	25	1955
+1*		

Worldwide

CONFIRMED	DEATHS
59,481,313	1,404,542
+580,766*	+11,237*

Source: World Health Organisation, Ministry of Health

Data reflects cases as of November 26, 2020 NZDT and is updated daily

*since yesterday

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A [health declaration from the ship](#), obtained by *Stuff*, explained staff were aware of a passenger on board with an undiagnosed "influenza like illness" when it docked in New Zealand. This passenger was not

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isolated.

Another passenger said [they developed a sore throat before the ship arrived in New Zealand](#).

Cruise ships are required to report to health authorities about the health conditions of passengers on board before docking.

The ship visited New Zealand between March 11 and March 15. It shortened its itinerary and returned to Sydney early.

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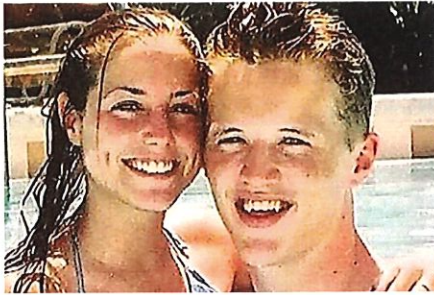
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