



## COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Metro North Hospital and Health Service *Putting people first*



### Message from the Executive Director

MEDICAL SERVICES

Dr Elizabeth Rushbrook

**19 November 2020**

Dear colleagues,

I have a few updates on our COVID-19 response to share with you.

#### **Declaration of Adelaide as a hotspot**

On Monday the Chief Health Officer formally declared [20 Local Government Areas within Adelaide](#) as COVID-19 hotspots. The hotspot declaration means that anyone who arrived after 11.59pm Monday night is required to undergo mandatory hotel quarantine for 14 days at their own expense.

Additionally, the Chief Health Officer requires that anyone who has entered Queensland prior to Monday night and has been in Adelaide since 9 November to get tested and self-isolate at home for 14 days after leaving Adelaide. The Public Health Incident Controller has issued COVID-19 Public Health Alert No.19 to support this testing requirement.

We are aware that around 7000 people arrived in Queensland from Adelaide between the 9<sup>th</sup> and Monday and estimate that a large number are currently staying within in our catchment. We have flexed up the resources and operating hours of our fever clinics to support the required testing this week.

Thank you to the team who went to the airport on Monday to screen and provide information to incoming passengers prior to the direction coming into effect, and to our fever clinic and emergency department teams for stepping up our testing.

The cluster in South Australia is a reminder of how quickly the COVID-19 situation can change. We continue to do important work to strengthen and mature our support to the airport.

#### **Introduction of quarantine hotel worker screening program**

This week, the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee updated recommendations to support and protect the wellbeing of quarantine workers and the wider Australian community. Specifically, regular testing of workers in quarantine and isolation settings is recommended.

We are working with Directorates who care for COVID-19 positive cases in isolation and our quarantine hotel partners to develop and implement a sustainable testing regime as soon as practicable.

Thank you all for keeping up your hand washing, covering your coughs and sneezes, and maintaining physical distancing (I'm happy to demonstrate 1.5m with my "Pool Noodle of Reminder" at any time!).

Regards,  
 Dr Liz Rushbrook  
 Metro North Incident Controller

**Current MN Response Tier Activated – Tier 0**

**Metro North HHS – overview of cases\***

HHS	Patients being managed by HHS					FEVER Clinics				
	Total In-patients			Virtual Ward / HITH / or similar	Deaths **	Total cases managed by HHS (including recovered) ***	# of clinics	Presentations		
	ICU Pts		ICU-NOT Ventilated					ICU-Ventilated	Last 24hrs	TOTAL ^
	ICU-NOT Ventilated	ICU-Ventilated								
MN TOTAL	5	0	0	0	3	358	5	298	107763	

\*With effect 19 November 2020, 1000

\*\*Metro North has three recorded deaths (one person a return traveller into NSW, who passed away in NSW)

\*\*\* These numbers reflect the cases being managed by Metro North.