



**20 December 2021**

Dear colleagues,

Today there are another 49 new locally acquired COVID-19 cases, nine interstate acquired cases and one overseas acquired case. We expect to see these numbers increasing into Christmas and the new year, with numbers doubling roughly every 48 hours.

The [contact tracing website](#) is being updated multiple times a day. Please continue to check the [website](#) and follow testing requirements accordingly if you have been to an exposure venue.

### **Tier 2 (minus)**

We remain at [Tier 2](#) (minus). The 'minus' means that we are executing all elements of the Tier 2 response except for the reductions in 'Service Operations'. All planned care is continuing at this time.

From today, 20 December, staff who can safely and productively work from home will be supported to do so until 4 January. Please note that staff must remain available to be recalled to site if required. Staff movements should also be minimised between wards and across facilities.

We remain on moderate PPE risk as per the [Queensland Health risk matrix](#). This means that at a minimum all staff are required to wear a flat surgical mask while on campus, even when in non-clinical areas. You are only permitted to remove your mask if you are working alone in your office with the door closed or when you are eating and drinking.

### **COVID-19 screening tool**

The updated COVID-19 clinical screening assessment tool is available [here](#). It can also be found on the COVID-19 extranet site [here](#).

On a final note, if you have any symptoms at all, it's likely to be COVID so please get tested and isolate as soon as your symptoms appear.

Regards,

**Louise O'Riordan**  
**Metro North Health Incident Controller**

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## Helpful links

- [How to add other people's vaccination certificates to your Check In Qld app](#)
- [Upload evidence of your vaccine](#)
- [Qld Health contact tracing list](#)
- [Register for your vaccine](#)
- [Qld Health general COVID-19 page](#)
- [Metro North COVID-19 extranet](#)
- [COVID vidcast recordings on QHEPS](#)

## Metro North Health – overview of cases\*

HHS	Patients managed by HHS					Fever clinics			
	Total in-patients			Virtual ward/ HITH/ similar	Deaths**	Total cases (inc. recovered) ***	No. of clinics	Presentations	
	30	ICU patients						Yesterday	Total^
MN total		ICU not ventilated	ICU ventilated	6	4	877	3	969	264,149

\*As at 20/12/21

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

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