



## UPDATE FROM THE COVID-19 HEALTH INCIDENT CONTROLLER

Metro North Health

**6 February 2022**

Dear colleagues,

- Boosters
- Fit testing and fit checking

Today there are 5,746 reported new cases of COVID-19 in Queensland. The Chief Health Officer also reported that there has been a substantial reduction in COVID-19 hospitalisations since yesterday which is good news.

### **Boosters**

Staff are encouraged to get their boosters when eligible to do so, as they play an important role in reducing the severity of COVID. Boosters are available at all [Metro North vaccination clinics](#).

This week [ATAGI](#) recommended COVID boosters for 16 and 17 year olds three months after their second dose. In response to this, we hosted some pop up clinics at Moreton Downs State School and Undurba State School this weekend in the lead up to school starting back tomorrow. A big thanks to the staff who supported the delivery of these clinics.

We will be setting up some Saturday pop ups at high schools in the coming weeks to help get this cohort boosted.

Find the details of your nearest [vaccination centre](#) at the Queensland Health vaccination locations page.

Steps for recording your booster are available on the [extranet](#).

### **Fit testing and fit checking**

Metro North Health continues to prioritise fit testing for all our frontline staff. Please check the [fit testing schedule on the extranet](#) for local information.

The [National Guideline](#), referenced in the [Queensland Health guideline](#), recommends that you do a fit check every time you don an N95 mask to ensure you have a good seal. In an emergent

situation, if your fitted mask cannot be located, please escalate to your team leader/hospital coordinator. A fit checked P2/N95 can be worn, as a last resort, until you are fit tested. You should not participate in aerosol generating procedures if you are not wearing a fit tested mask.

Have you been fit tested at a different HHS to where you currently work? You might not need to be fit tested again, if:

- you have your fit testing report
- you were fit tested in the past 12 months
- your facial features have not changed significantly
- you were fit tested to a mask available in your current HHS.

You can show your line manager a copy of your fit test report and have this information recorded in the system. You don't need to have another fit test.

If you have any concerns about fit testing, you can submit them via the [fit testing feedback portal](#). Urgent issues should be escalated to your supervisor and local EOC for resolution.

Regards,

Sam Betros  
Metro North Health Incident Controller

**Current Metro North Health tier activated – [Tier 4](#)**

**Helpful links**

- [Register your positive RAT result](#)
- [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**	No. of clinics	Presentations
	ICU patients		Yesterday				
119	ICU not ventilated	ICU ventilated					
MN total	2	2	579	19	7	679	

		Total in-patients		HITH /Home monitored	Total cases including recovered	Deaths	Close Contacts in quarantine
		ICU Not ventilated	ICU ventilated				
Norfolk Island total ****	1	0	0	1	77	0	1

As at 06/02/2022

\*\*Metro North Health has 19 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.

\*\*\*\* As part of an Intergovernmental Agreement, from 1 January 2022 Metro North Health is providing a number of health support services to Norfolk Island. This includes advice and support to staff on island in terms of managing COVID patients. The numbers in this section of the table refer to COVID patients who remain on Norfolk Island and are receiving direct care by staff on Norfolk Island.