

## UPDATE FROM THE COVID-19 HEALTH INCIDENT CONTROLLER

Metro North Health

**15 February 2022**

Dear colleagues,

- Health and wellbeing
- Check In Qld app
- Employee leave options due to COVID-19
- Fit testing
- Your nearest staff PCR and RAT services
- Vaccination boosters

Today there were 5286 reported new COVID cases in Queensland. Of these, 1587 cases recorded today were in school aged children (5-17).

### Health and wellbeing

While we may be through the peak in Queensland, our response to COVID may continue for some time to come. This is why it's important to look after our personal health and wellbeing.

**Staff Psychology Open Door sessions** are continuing across our facilities and directorates. These interactive group Teams sessions provide an opportunity for staff to take a moment for themselves and have a conversation with colleagues and a Metro North Psychologist to explore coping strategies for wellbeing.

Session	Date/Times	Teams Link
STARS	Monday 2:30 – 3:15pm	<a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>
CABOOLTURE	Monday 2:30 – 3:15pm	<a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>
REDCLIFFE	Tuesday 2:30 – 3:15pm	<a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>
COH	Thursday 2:30 – 3:15pm	<a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>
TPCH	Thursday 2:30 – 3:15pm	<a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>
PUBLIC HEALTH	Friday 2:30 – 3:15pm	<a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>

<b>METRO NORTH *</b>	Friday 2:30 – 3:15pm	<a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>
<b>RBWH</b>	Thursday 12:30 – 1:15pm	<a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>

The **Metro North Culture and Wellbeing** team are also delivering weekly 20-minute support sessions for staff. These sessions introduce ideas on how to support yourself and others by building a culture of resilience and wellbeing during challenging times. Make sure you read the Incident Controller messages to get the details on upcoming sessions.

The [Staff Wellbeing Portal](#) also has a range of resources and tips for eating well, managing anxiety, money management, parenting and much more. Please take the time to explore this helpful website.

### Check In Qld app

Staff and visitors are still required to check in at work with the Check In Qld app, as vaccination is a requirement for entry. There may be some confusion about this with visitors due to some other venues no longer requiring check in, so please politely remind them of the requirement.

### Employee leave options due to COVID-19

Please see the [Queensland Health leave entitlement flowcharts](#) to determine what type of leave you can access if you are out of the workplace due to COVID-19.

If you are still unsure about your entitlements or need clinical advice about returning to work, please visit the [COVID-19 extranet site](#) or call the HR hotline 07 3646 5500.

### Fit testing

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

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.

You can record your fit test in TMS by using the add completed course option.

### Your nearest staff PCR and RAT services

For the latest opening staff testing hours and locations please visit the [Metro North extranet](#). Please bring your staff ID and Medicare cards.

A full list of alternate COVID-19 testing services open to the public is updated daily and can be found on the [Queensland Health fever clinic site](#). Staff can also visit any of these sites.

### Vaccination boosters

The best time to get your booster is now. If you received your second vaccination three or more months ago, you are eligible to get your booster at any of Metro North's COVID vaccine clinics, or by making an appointment with your GP or local pharmacy.

Don't forget to register booster by following the [instructions on the extranet](#).

Regards,

Mark Butterworth  
Metro North Health Incident Controller

**Current Metro North Health tier activated – [Tier 3](#)**

**Helpful links**

- [Register your positive RAT result](#)
- [Upload evidence of your vaccine or booster](#)
- [Qld Health contact tracing list](#)
- [Vaccination locations](#)
- [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				
57	ICU not ventilated	ICU ventilated					
MN total	6	3	320	35	6	289	
Norfolk Island total ****	Total in-patients			HITH /Home monitored	Total cases including recovered	Deaths	Close Contacts in quarantine
	ICU Not ventilated		ICU ventilated				
	0	0	0	10	94	0	9

Data as at 15/02/2022

\*\*Metro North Health has 35 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.