



4 April 2022

Dear colleagues,

- Current Tier 3 situation
- Influenza vaccination
- Close contacts
- Record your booster

There are 7707 new COVID cases reported in Queensland.

Current Tier 3 situation

Metro North has 901 staff currently out of the workplace due to COVID.

We are seeing an increase in people with COVID in our care, with 79 current inpatients including 6 in ICU. Our Virtual Ward is caring for the majority of people in our care.

Metro North remains on [Tier 3](#) of our COVID-19 response plan. This means a significant reduction in planned care and the suspension of face to face meetings. Please review the Tier 3 plan for more details.

Current modelling predicts we will continue to see a slow increase in COVID positive cases over the next 2-3 weeks, with ongoing demand and staffing pressures.

Influenza vaccination

The Metro North annual influenza vaccination campaign is due to start on Tuesday 26 April. There will be information coming about how and where you can get your flu jab.

Current Queensland Health advice is the preferred minimum interval between a dose of COVID-19 vaccine and any other vaccine is 7 days, however same day vaccination is possible.

Close contacts

The quarantine period for close contacts starts with Day 0 – the day your contact tests positive – and continues for 7 full days.

This means if someone in your household tests positive at 10am on Monday, you must quarantine for the rest of Monday plus 7 full days.

Under the [Critically Essential Worker requirements](#), more than 100 staff have been able to return to work while close contacts. This is done with strict conditions and staff must meet specific criteria as a critically essential worker.

If you would like to be considered, please speak to your line manager or EOC about the [criteria](#) and [process](#) for returning to work while in quarantine.

Record your booster

Booster vaccinations are mandatory for all staff, volunteers and contractors entering a residential aged care facility. This includes any Metro North staff who don't usually work in but may attend Coinda and Gannet House.

Evidence of your booster must be uploaded to the Queensland Health COVID-19 Vaccination Hub. This is quick and easy:

- Download your COVID digital certificate from your myGov account
- Go to the [COVID-19 Vaccination Hub](#)
- Choose the +Booster Vaccination option
- Add your booster details
- Upload or drag and drop your certificate
- Save

Boosters are highly recommended for all staff. There will be pop up vaccination clinics throughout the school holidays, so you can take the whole family along. Find your nearest clinic on the [Queensland Health website](#).

Regards,

Louise O'Riordan
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](#)
- [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
	79	ICU patients					Yesterday
MN total		ICU not ventilated	ICU ventilated	722	55	3	224
	4	2					
Norfolk Island total ****	Total in-patients			HITH /Home monitored	Total cases including recovered	Deaths	Close Contacts in quarantine
	0	ICU Not ventilated	ICU ventilated				
		0	0	26	157	0	17

Data as at 04/4/2022

**Metro North Health has 55 recorded deaths (one person a return traveller into NSW, who passed away in NSW)

*** 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