



**17 May 2022**

Dear colleagues,

- Current situation
- Visitors

### **Current situation**

Metro North remains in [Tier 3](#) of our COVID response plan. Today we have 410 staff out of the workplace as close contacts or with COVID.

Metro North is still in the high risk PPE category.

The number of confirmed influenza cases in Metro North catchment have increased and we are seeing inpatients as well. Dr Andrew Redmond and I held a vidcast today to talk about Metro North's acute respiratory plan, which includes COVID, influenza and other respiratory diseases. Thank you for everyone who tuned in and asked questions.

If you haven't had your flu vaccine yet this year, now is the time!

### **Visitors**

There's been some confusion about the rules for visitors.

Patients in the emergency department are allowed one support person. In most other areas two visitors (or more if approved by the hospital ED) are allowed.

Visitors are an important part of the patient experience while in hospital and provide support and comfort. As an organisation, our position is to be compassionate and flexible as much as possible to allow visitors.

Unvaccinated visitor exemptions can be done through your local EOC.

Regards,  
Louise O'Riordan

Metro North Health Incident Controller

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**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	Total in-patients			Patients managed by HHS		Fever clinics	
	88	ICU patients		Virtual ward/ HITH/ similar	Deaths**	No. of clinics	Presentations
ICU not ventilated		ICU ventilated	Yesterday				
MN total	2	2	399	82	3	162	
Norfolk Island total	Total in-patients			HITH /Home monitored	Total cases including recovered	Deaths	Close Contacts in quarantine
	1	ICU Not ventilated	ICU ventilated				
5	0	0	61	521	0	14	

Data as at 17/05/2022

\*\*Metro North Health has 82 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