



## Heatwave conditions and potential storms through the week

Dear staff,

There is a significant number of community members in the Moreton Bay Regional Council area, including our staff, without power as a result of the storm yesterday. A number of Metro North Health facilities have also been impacted. Thankyou to our staff who have done an incredible job supporting community members and patients. If you have been impacted by the storms, please speak to your line manger in relation to support you may require.

The Bureau of Meteorology has issued a [severe heatwave warning](#) for South East Queensland this week starting from today. In line with our disaster arrangements, Metro North Health has activated our [Heatwave Response Sub-Plan](#) to lean forward to ensure our facilities, services and staff are prepared.

### What is happening?

South East Queensland is experiencing a severe weather event with a [severe heatwave](#) expected to affect our region. The Bureau expects severe heatwave conditions will remain until the weekend.

There is also the potential for further severe storms throughout the week.

Metro North facilities are working to ensure our readiness for any potential impacts to our services or infrastructure, and we are also working with health and disaster management partners, to support community awareness and preparedness.

Metro North provides essential services to the community and all of us, clinical, operational, support and administrative staff play a vital role in ensuring our patients receive all the care they need whatever the weather event.

### What do I need to do?

- Ensure you have a plan if severe storms and heatwave conditions impact your work.
- Regularly check weather warnings and alerts via the [Bureau's website](#).
- If you work in the community or outside, make sure you have discussed your plan with your line manager.
- Check on [patients and neighbours who may require extra support](#), including people with disabilities, children and babies, people who are pregnant or breastfeeding, people with mental health conditions, people on certain medications, older people, and people with chronic illnesses.
- Advise BEMS of any damage to facilities so repairs can be done as soon as possible.

- Visit the [Queensland Health website](#) for information on heatwave precautions and:
  - [Keep cool and stay hydrated](#) by drinking 2-3L of water a day
  - Stay out of the sun and in the shade
  - [Slip, slop, slap, seek and slide](#) when outside, such as walking to and from your vehicle.
  - Watch out for early signs of [heat related illness](#)
- Remember if it's flooded, forget it.
- If you have children at school, check the [Department of Education school closures](#) website to see if your children's school is affected.
- Plan your travel to and from work and make sure you always have enough fuel in case power outages affect local businesses.

### Where can I find out more?

Metro North Health has created an extranet site to keep staff across our [emergency and disaster response activities](#). The site also includes links to useful resources and advice if you are unable to attend your normal place of work due to severe weather.

For updates on fires, heatwaves, storms, and flooding in your area, download the BOM alerts app on your phone and turn on the warning notifications.

For general information about preparing your home and family for extreme weather and natural disaster events, visit [Get Ready Queensland](#).

To see where there are electricity outages, check the [Energex Outage Finder](#).

Please share this information with colleagues who may not have email access.



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Metro North Health acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land, and pays respect to Elders, past, present and future.



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