

Caboolture, Kilcoy, Woodford Directorate staff

COVID-19 daily update for Wednesday, 19 January 2022

IMT COVID-19 UPDATE – IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- The CKW fit testing service will prioritise all clinical staff. Call 2422 for prioritised bookings.
- CKW successfully transferred 4 patients to Caboolture Private Hospital yesterday (18/01). Planning is underway to transfer an additional 2 patients to the Private Hospital today (19/01).
- If for any reason a staff member is unable to access their correct fit tested mask on arrival at work, the issue needs to be escalated to their line manager immediately and through the service line leads. If a correct mask cannot be sourced, until it can, the staff member should be redeployed to work outside a clinical area- please liaise with your relevant executive for this arrangement.
- The CKW Staff Vaccination Clinic (including the booster vaccine) remains open in the Caboolture Hospital library. Days and hours of operation will reduce on-site from next week but the Caboolture Hub will remain available every day for staff drop-in.
- Booster doses are available to all CKW staff who are 18 years and over and who have had both doses of their primary course of a COVID-19 vaccine at least 4 months ago.
- All COVID-19 deaths must be reported via EOC regardless of if it was primary diagnosis or not. Email EOC-CabKilcoy@health.qld.gov.au
- The January Public Holiday (26/01) remains unchanged. MN to advise of any changes on Friday (21/01).

FACE MASK REMINDERS

- Remove and discard facemasks only when definitely required
- Ensure to be diligent when donning and doffing PPE, including a correct fit check of facemasks every time a new mask is used.
- Patients must wear masks, unless they are unable. Visitors must wear masks at all times.

Wednesday IMT Update – new information highlighted in *italics*

Incident Controller update

- *MN now has 156 ward patients, 13 in ICU (including 1 at Caboolture Hospital) and a total of 1150 patients in care.*
- *MN hospital entry directive regarding maternity services – partners that are COVID positive or are a close contact that wish to attend the birth can seek an exemption to enter the facility via MNEOC through to the CHO. The exemption can be sought for either mode of birth (birth suite or operating theatre). Staff that require further clarity around this directive are encouraged to contact the CKW EOC.*
- *The Department of Health is exploring options to allow staff with facial hair to apply an under-mask beard cover or 'beard wrap' under their fit tested mask. Testing is underway to ensure the seal on tight-fitting respirator face masks (e.g., N95) is not compromised full protection is maintained during the test. If successful, the department will seek a work safe exemption in relation to the beard cover which will be shared with Metro North. Until then there is no change to the current direction.*

- CKW has 18 inpatients
- Escalate any roster shortfalls ASAP via line management and via EOC.
- All non-urgent planned care postponed until after Monday, 31 January 2022.
- If your activity is down, the expectation is that a similar proportion of staff are offered daily for redeployment.
- Notify EOC of all redeployable staff as early as possible - call 5014 or email EOC-CabKilcoy@health.qld.gov.au
- Priority areas for redeployment are testing clinic, booster clinics, Emergency Department and acute admissions, and the MN Virtual Ward.

CKW Exec Director and Director of Operations Update

- **FOCUS AREAS:**
 - Private hospital transfers
 - Planning for second covid ward
- Contact RADAR if you experience any issues with admissions or return of patients to RACFs. RADAR will support the discharge process.

Facilities management

- A MN staff testing clinic is located in the Staff Carpark.
- The Chapel and adjacent outdoor gardens are dedicated areas for staff breaks.

HR Staff

- The updated COVID leave remuneration flowchart has been circulated to staff.
- Staff can work in different healthcare facilities; however, should try and limit movement between facilities if they can.
- Please be aware of the difference between special discretionary leave and pandemic leave and the delegations to approve.

PPE

- Metro North PPE stocks are good, however, some mask lines are limited. More Trident masks have been ordered.
- N95 masks and eyewear must be worn before entering a clinical service area.
- Gown and gloves are required if you are with a high-risk patient or undertaking an aerosolising procedure.
- Masks must be worn over the nose and mouth and eyewear must be worn over eyes.

Patient testing

- The ED does not provide a COVID testing service.
- Birthing women and OT cases without symptoms + low risk ward admissions = RAT test.
- RAT tests required for all new Kilcoy ward admissions and all ED discharges to RACF/Disability homes/Prison/Private Hospitals.
- High risk admissions = Genexpert (PCR).
- Discharged patients = PCR (24hrs) only if symptoms or >4h with an active positive case.
- No symptoms or epi risk factors & discharge likely = no test
- Kilcoy Hospital testing clinic 0900-1200h.

Staff testing

- A Metro North staff COVID-19 Testing clinic is operational in the Caboolture Hospital Staff Car Park. Operational from 7:30 – 15:30 every day.
- Some home RAT kits are being distributed from the staff testing clinic, in selective situations.
- To access the staff testing service, you must be a MN staff member with a MN ID or a family member (of the same residence) accompanied by a MN staff member.

- The staff testing clinic is also available to all Emergency Services personnel (QAS, QPS, QCS, QFES)
- PCR and RAT testing is available

Testing requirements

- Refer to the *COVID-19 Testing Guide for CKW Staff* (sent to all CKW Staff on 18/01)
- **Fit testing** call 2422 for prioritised bookings. Staff who have not been fit tested, are safe to work as long as they have fit checked the mask. Please fit check every time a mask is applied. Cannot be accessed by students or other non-MN staff, until all MN staff have been fit tested.
- **Staff test positive** Managers > see the 'CKW Outbreak Management Guide' + 'COVID Return to work' guideline.
- **Booster clinic** The CKW Staff booster clinic in the library will operate from M-F 0800-1530h; bookings can be made via CKWVaccinations@health.qld.gov.au or simply walk-in.
- **Patients** Need to wear masks, unless really unable to. Please encourage patients to wear their masks.
- **COVID positive admissions**
 - Well = admit via Health Direct
 - Unwell but can be cared for at home = MN Virtual Ward
 - Unwell = Caboolture Hospital
 - Very unwell = discuss with ICU.
- **Concierge** Questionnaire screening form for patients only, ask questions for visitors (but no form needed), no temperature scanning, N95 mask & eyewear for all Concierge staff while in roles. ALL staff to have N95 masks on before entering & while in the Clinical Services building.
- **Visitors** Limit of 2 visitors per patient at a time; no overcrowding; visitors must wear a mask at all time.
- **Elective care** OT = Cat 1 & urgent Cat 2, Scopes = Cat 4 & urgent 5, SOPD = time urgent care only, AH-OPD = time urgent care only.
- **Community** QAS activity very high. COVID spreading in many NHs, contact RADAR for NH related clinical issues.
- **Breaks and use of tearooms** staff are encouraged to eat outdoors; if you are eating indoors, please ensure you are socially distanced, minimise mask off time and wipe down hard surfaces when you are finished.

Issues to raise, by exception, + roster holes in the next 48hrs (only those with updates included)

- **ED/Woodford/Kilcoy WP** Woodford staff working through current outbreak with QCS
- **SICU** supporting other SL
- **MOPS** nursing shortfalls being managed and monitored
- **WCF** SCN and maternity nursing tight
- **AH/Pharmacy** Call 8153 for AH discharge help
- **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health** Mob-link for A&TSI referral and access for support if diagnosed or isolated with COVID <https://www.iuih.org.au/our-services/mob-link-connecting-with-mob-during-covid/>

If you are displaying any symptoms of COVID-19, get tested and immediately isolate.