

Caboolture, Kilcoy, Woodford Directorate staff

COVID-19 daily update for Thursday, 20 January 2022

IMT COVID-19 UPDATE – IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Queensland Health released the new Hospital Entry Direction (No. 9) today, which contains tighter visitor restrictions for several departments, including ED, Maternity (pregnancy, birth and special care nursery), Paediatrics and Theatres. The changes took effect from 11:00am today (20/01). Please familiarise yourself with the changes as a priority to ensure your department complies with the new directions.
- Fit testing for staff working in clinical areas remains high priority. Any Clinical Staff or Clinical Support staff that have not been fit tested can call the CKW fit testing service on 2422 to make a priority appointment.
- Due to limited supplies, staff that have been fit tested for a Proshield N95 mask (small or medium) or the 1860 mask need to get fit tested for an alternative mask type.
- CKW successfully transferred 2 new patients to Caboolture Private Hospital yesterday (19/01). Planning is underway to transfer an additional 2 patients to the Private Hospital today (20/01).
- Changes to testing protocols and the Isolation Directive are expected to be announced soon. Information will be shared with staff as soon as available.

Wednesday IMT Update – new information highlighted in *italics*

Incident Controller update

- *MN now has 160 ward patients, 14 in ICU (6 ventilated) and a total of 1370 patients in care.*
- *CKW has 17 inpatients, including 1 patient in the Caboolture Hospital ICU (not currently ventilated)*
- *The new Hospital Entry Direction (No. 9) contains new information on visitor restrictions regarding pregnancy and birth. MN will continue to support the exemption process for partners that are COVID positive or are a close contact that wish to attend the birth (birth suite or operating theatre). Staff that require further clarity around this are encouraged to contact the CKW EOC or read the link attached.*
- *There are no changes to the non-urgent planned care directive. All non-urgent planned care will remain postponed until after Monday, 31 January 2022. Refer to the Elective care section below for further details.*
- *The concierge service remains in place and unchanged.*
- Escalate any roster shortfalls ASAP via line management and via EOC.
- 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:**
 - Development of the model of care for the second COVID ward
 - Private hospital transfers
- Evidence supports the benefits of a third dose of COVID vaccine. CKW staff who have had both doses of their primary course of a COVID-19 vaccine at least 4 months ago are strongly encouraged to get their booster vaccination.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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. Please fit check every time you put on your mask. 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 Virtual ward
 - 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.