

Caboolture, Kilcoy, Woodford Directorate staff

COVID-19 daily update for Monday, 24 January 2022

IMT COVID-19 UPDATE – IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- MN hospital admissions due to COVID-19 appear to be stabilising, which **may** indicate that Metro Queensland has reached its peak. More certainty will be known once hospitalisations start to decrease four days running. We will continue to monitor.
- Staff COVID-19 Testing clinics will remain open on the Public Holiday (26/01).
- If any staff member arrives at work and is unable to access their fit tested mask immediately raise the issue with their Line Manager or Team leader, and if the issue is unable to be resolved, escalate to the service line Nursing Director and the CKW EOC.
- Fit testing for MN staff 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.
- CKW has successfully transferred 12 patients to Caboolture Private Hospital.

Wednesday IMT Update – new information highlighted in *italics*

Incident Controller update

- *MN now has 178 ward patients, 11 in ICU (2 ventilated), 1327 in the virtual ward.*
- *CKW has 18 inpatients, including 1 patient in the Caboolture Hospital ICU (not currently ventilated)*
- MN is awaiting information around whether we will receive the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine. Staff who have questions around this are encouraged to contact the MN Staff COVID-19 hotline on 3646 5500.
- 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:**
 - Fit testing staff working in priority high risk areas.
 - Development of the model of care for the 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.

- Please be aware of the difference between special discretionary leave and pandemic leave and the delegations to approve.

PPE

- See new PPE tips below.
- Metro North PPE stocks are good; however, some mask types are limited.
- All staff must be wearing a N95 mask and eyewear on entering the hospital or relevant areas at Kilcoy and Woodford.
- 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.

PPE TIPS

Hospital supplied operating theatre scrubs

- MN staff have no reason to avoid normal uniform use. Uniforms should be laundered in hot water and either tumble dried, hung outside to dry or ironed. The recommendation to change out of uniforms before travelling home or visiting public spaces (e.g., shopping centres) is based on public perception of virus transmissibility rather than real risk. It's worth being mindful that there have been reports of healthcare workers receiving adverse reactions from members of the public when seen wearing uniforms in public places.

Washable or single use headwear

- There is no evidence that hair can become contaminate with, or transmit, COVID-19. Healthcare workers should neatly contain their hair off their collar as per the standard MN uniform policy. Headwear may it interferes with the placement and integrity of face mask straps and/or eyewear and runs the risk of PPE breach. Use of headwear is therefore strongly discouraged in settings outside of the operating theatre.

Shoe covers

- Shoe covers are not to be worn. Footwear in clinical areas must be enclosed, non-slip and be impervious.

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 and discharge likely = no test
- Kilcoy Hospital testing clinic 0900-1200h.

Staff testing

- A staff COVID-19 Testing clinic is operational in the Caboolture Hospital Staff Car Park. Operational from 7:30 – 15:30 every day. PCR and RAT testing is available
- 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)

Testing requirements

- Refer to the COVID-19 Testing Guide for CKW Staff (sent to CKW Staff on 18/01)
- **Fit testing** call 2422 for prioritised bookings. 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. Please fit check your mask every time you put it on. Fit testing cannot be accessed by students or 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 on M/W/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.
- **Concierge** N95 mask and eyewear for all Concierge staff. All staff must wear a N95 masks and eyewear before entering and while inside the hospital. Concierge to complete a questionnaire screening form for patients; Visitors to be asked questions but screening form not required.
- **Visitors** As per the new Hospital Entry Direction (No. 9) released on 20/01/22.
- **Elective care** All non-urgent planned care will remain postponed until after Monday, 31 January 2022. 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** All deaths of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples with COVID need to be reported to the MN EOC and Sherry Holzapfel, Executive Director, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, regardless of if it was primary diagnosis or not so we can support the community. Mob-link for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander 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.