

Caboolture, Kilcoy, Woodford Directorate staff

COVID-19 daily update for Tuesday, 25 January 2022

IMT COVID-19 UPDATE – IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- MN continues to prioritise fit testing. CKW staff working in priority high risk areas, staff can call the CKW fit testing service on 2422 to make a priority appointment if they haven't been tested.
- CKW reports on critical staff shortages to MN at the start of each day. Where possible, Service Line leads should be reporting staffing shortages and roster shortfalls to the CKW EOC. Early visibility of our staff shortages gives us the best chance to mitigate shortfalls and ensure safe staffing levels across all departments.
- All non-urgent planned care will remain postponed until after Monday, 31 January 2022. We anticipate this will be extended to mid-February so recommend postponing all non-urgent planned care that is scheduled for the week commencing 31/01. An updated directive is expected to be released within the coming days.
- MN is urgently seeking more fit testers. Training is available this weekend for staff that can be supported to take-up a fit testing role, noting that clinical care remains the priority and staff may be recalled to their department as required. Speak with your Line Manager if you are interested in this opportunity.
- 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.

Wednesday IMT Update – new information highlighted in *italics*

Incident Controller update

- *MN now has 168 ward patients, 12 in ICU (2 ventilated), 1367 in the virtual ward.*
- *CKW has 13 inpatients, including 1 patient in the Caboolture Hospital ICU (not currently ventilated)*
- 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.
- 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.
- Notify EOC of all redeployable staff as early as possible - call 5014 or email EOC-CabKilcoy@health.qld.gov.au

CKW Exec Director and Director of Operations Update

• **FOCUS AREAS:**

- Fit testing staff working in priority high risk areas.
 - Escalation of critical staffing shortages as soon as possible to ensure MN can support shortfalls
 - Supporting staff that are required to wear PPE for long periods of time and ensure they receive information on how to prevent adverse effects and reactions of PPE.
 - Supporting the Woodford Corrections Health team with the rise in the number of COVID positive prisoners
 - Development of the model of care for the second COVID ward
- MN is offering COVID-19 booster vaccinations three months after people have received their second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

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.

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 a formal Direction will follow but plan for at least one more week until confirmation. 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.