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Behalf Of Michael DiRienzo (Hunter New England LHD)

Sent: Friday, 8 May 2020 3:15 PM

To: @HNELHD-AllStaff <HNELHD-ALLStaff@health.nsw.gov.au>

Subject: Important information from the Chief Executive - Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) -

Update no. 62

Important information from the CE



COVID-19 UPDATE 62: Friday, 8 May 2020 3:15pm

Dear Staff

As part of our ongoing commitment to keep you updated, here is the latest information on confirmed COVID-19 cases across the District.

As of next week, we will be providing twice-weekly updates on the COVID-19 situation of a Tuesday and Thursday. Because of the stabilisation of case numbers there is now less urgency for daily updates, however, any critical information will still be communicated to all staff as needed.

According to our latest situation report, the total number of confirmed COVID cases in Hunter New England remains at 278.

Table 1: Confirmed cases by sex and age group				
Age	Female	Male	Total	
0-9	1	1	2	
10-19	9	4	13	
20-29	31	19	50	
30-39	17	17	34	
40-49	8	8	16	
50-59	28	17	45	
60-69	34	21	55	
70-79	24	22	46	
80-89	10	7	17	
90-100	0	0	0	

Total 16	2 116	278
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Table 2: Confirmed cases by source of infection		
Overseas travel	208	
Locally Acquired (within Australia), contact with a confirmed case	40	
Locally Acquired (within Australia), no contact identified	30	
Total	278	

I am pleased to say there are no longer any patients receiving care for COVID-19 in our hospitals.

Currently six patients are receiving care from Hospital in the Home services.

Across the District, 265 people have completed isolation requirements.

You may observe that the data provided in the staff update can differ slightly from the information released publically to the media and via our Facebook page. This is because the public data is reported at a particular point in time and aligned with the release of the NSW Ministry of Health state wide data on their website. Case numbers can also change as they undergo further investigation and review.

Stadium clinic opens

The drive-through clinic at McDonald Jones Stadium opened this morning and we are already seeing a steady stream of vehicles rolling through.

The call centre team based at HMRI has logged hundreds of bookings for the clinic, which has capacity to test 900 people each day.

The clinic is by appointment only and will operate 8am to 4.30pm from Friday 8 May to Sunday 17 May. Those wishing to be tested can phone 4964 7497 to arrange an appointment.

Test results

NSW Health Pathology has advised that due to the increase in COVID-19 testing in our District, there will now be a minimum turnaround time of 72 hours from collection for people awaiting results.

I offer my thanks to the team at NSW Health Pathology for their work during this pandemic. Please ensure they continue to receive your respect and support during this busy time.

Together Not Alone

I'd like to share a fantastic story from Hunter business Ampcontrol, which has won a NSW Government contract to build pilot ventilators that may be used for COVID-19 treatment

overseus.

The Ampcontrol team, which includes HNE Health staff in an advisory capacity, designed and delivered a prototype ventilator for the John Hunter Hospital simulation unit for testing in just 18 days.

The company aims to have capacity to rapidly produce 600 ventilators to supply should the need arise.

You can watch a video on the work Ampcontrol is doing <u>here</u>.

Stay updated

Stay up to date with our latest developments via the <u>HNE Health Facebook page</u> and the <u>HNE Health YouTube channel</u>, as well as <u>Patientinfo.org.au</u>.

This information can be shared with your networks, families and friends to help us spread these important messages to our wider communities.

Clinician-specific information related to COVID-19 is available at COVID-19 Clinical Guidelines.

To view information on COVID-19 and other conditions, which is available to the primary care sector through collaboration with the HNECCPHN, please visit HNE Community
HealthPathways.

Kind regards

Michael DiRienzo

Chief Executive | Hunter New England Local Health District

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