

COVID-19 Primary Care Update No. 58

General Practice Liaison Network, Healthcare Improvement Unit

Thursday 28 May 2020

Dear colleagues,

Epidemiology

- There has been no new COVID-19 cases in Queensland in the last 24 hours (<https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/current-status/statistics>)
- A total of 184,039 tests have been performed so far in Queensland. SHECC and the IMT would like to see a *further increase* in the number of tests and encourage clinicians to have a very low threshold for testing.
- Thank you to the 154 Queensland GPs and GP registrars who provided expressions of interests to support the QH response to COVID-19. The EOI process is currently closed.

Practical tip

- We are receiving anecdotal reports of patients presenting with persistent and troublesome symptoms post COVID-19 infection, including fatigue, dyspnoea and arthralgia. The Qld = Infection Clinical Network is looking into this issue and working closely with their inter-state colleagues. Unsurprisingly, there is no evidence (yet) to inform the best management. A common sense approach is for patients to continue to consult with their GPs. Existing referral processes should be used as required and clinically indicated.
- The following article quantifies post-viral symptoms. While it is not about COVID-19, it may still be of interest: https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/32449782/?from_term=Long-term+clinical+outcomes+in+survivors+of+severe+acute+respiratory+syndrome+and+Middle+East+respiratory+syndrome+coronavirus+outbreaks+after+hospitalisation+or+ICU+admission%3A+A+systematic+review+and+meta-analysis&from_sort=date&from_pos=2

Resources

- The Cognitive Institute has developed a two-part webinar series of focussed insights and practical techniques to sustain physical and mental wellbeing over the many months ahead of this pandemic: https://www.cognitiveinstitute.org/covid-19/?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_content=COVID-19%3A+Wellbeing+webinars+for+your+leaders+and+workforce+-+New+free+Cognitive+Institute+programmes&utm_campaign=COVID-19%3A+Looking+After+Yourself+webinar+ALL+LEADERS+all+countries
- The Queensland Doctors' Health Programme has captured the experiences of Australian doctors during COVID-19 in a series of short videos: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uSs-XBfInf8> and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HgGohNoF_H4

Inspirational thought

- One of the things I have always enjoyed about working in healthcare is the diverse background and experiences of my colleagues. A friend who works in Trinidad send me the following link, illustrating that real life is more interesting and strange than fiction: <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/monkey-hospital-trinidad-tobago-port-spain-snake-video-a9531221.html>. It reminded me of an experience while working in South Africa when

a visitor discovered seven sheep heads in a bathtub during visiting hours. Do you have any animal encounters in healthcare to share?

Kind regards,
Carl

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About this Document:

- This document was an e-mail sent to a wide range of primary care staff and clinicians. The content is related to COVID-19 and the Queensland response and is intended for the free use and wide dissemination by the recipients or anyone else who access this webpage
- Every effort has been made to ensure the information is accurate and up-to-date. If you become aware of any issues, please notify us so we can amend our documents
- Please provide any feedback or contact us using our e-mail COVID19-PC@health.qld.gov.au. Please note that the inbox is not continuously monitored, and we may not be able to respond to every message.