

COVID-19 Primary Care Update No. 20

General Practice Liaison Network, Healthcare Improvement Unit

Thursday 26 March 2020

Dear Colleagues,

Epidemiology

- On 25 March 2020 there were 443 confirmed COVID-19 cases in Queensland;
- There is no evidence suggesting exponential growth at this time

Updates

- The Qld Clinical Senate and Networks published COVID-19 advice on 25 March 2020 including an explanation of isolation and safety for clinicians (attached).

Accreditation of general practices

- The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care confirmed that all general practice accreditation will be maintained during the COVID-19 pandemic, **taking effect immediately**: <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/primary-care/national-general-practice-accreditation-scheme> (useful FAQs)
- In practical terms, there will be no accreditation visits; and practices will continue to receive Practice Incentive Program and Workforce Incentive Program funding
- Practices do not have to 'do' something to enact the new arrangement, and not have to notify their accreditation agency

Resources

- Queensland Health has produced posters in relation to their strategy to reduce visits (attached). Is an adapted version potentially suitable for RACFs?
- Healthdirect released a free COVID-19 symptom checker that worked quite well when I put it to the test: <https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/>
- The Queensland Health Mental Health Commission Corona virus webpage lists a number of potential resources for mental health and wellbeing that may be of interest: <https://www.qmhc.qld.gov.au/awareness-promotion/prevention/coronavirus-and-mental-health> (thanks Louise)

Treatment of COVID-19 – summary of current evidence

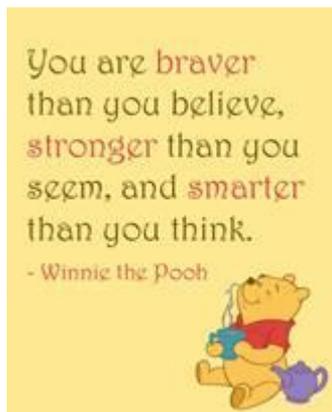
- A summary of the evidence for antivirals in the treatment of COVID-19 (attached); there is none
- A summary of the evidence for hydroxychloroquine in the treatment of COVID-19 (attached); there is none

Practical tips

- Our colleagues, Drs Kat and Wendy, published another fabulous blog yesterday: **'ditch the stubble and enact the bubble'** with lots of practical advice for healthcare professionals: <https://www.gps-can.com.au/covid19-blog/hcw-tips>

A message from Winnie the Pooh

One of my favourite books is 'The Tao of Pooh'. Like most profound ideas, Pooh's wisdom seems deceptively simple at first. This pep-talk for Piglet applies equally to us all...



Best Wishes,

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.