

Friday 17 December 2021

Dear Families,

I am writing to share a further update on the situation at Warabrook Centre.

Yesterday we remained in close contact with Hunter New England Health.

We have continued to test all staff as they attend for their shifts using Rapid Antigen Tests. As you probably know, these tests are quick to do, but they are not as accurate as the PCR swab tests that you will be familiar with. Hunter New England Health is organising for all residents and on-site staff to receive a PCR test today.

All staff not on-site today will be contacted and asked to get a PCR done today off-site.

This will give the health experts better information to help plan the way forward.

Results of these tests will come through over the course of the weekend, and for this reason, the home will remain closed. We will reassess this on Monday, in consultation with Hunter New England Health.

If any resident tests positive, the primary contacts will be notified. If you don't hear from us, please assume that the test result is negative.

Feedback we have received from the Hunter New England Health physician is that they are impressed with the current measures we have in place and our response to this situation. An infection control consultant from Hunter New England Health has been scheduled to visit the home today to assess the current measures we have in place.

We are continuing to monitor all residents for signs and symptoms, including twice-daily temperature checks. Please be assured we will also be making contact with families if we have any concerns about a resident, as per our usual practice.

I appreciate you may be feeling concerned about this situation. We are being incredibly cautious given the situation in the greater Newcastle region, and are deeply committed to the health and safety of your loved ones, and our staff.

We will be in contact again on Monday with a further update.

Please stay safe and well this weekend.

Allan



Allan Waters
General Manager, Residential Services and Retirement Living