

## **NSW Health Coronavirus response Information for members**

Dear Member,

I am writing to you again in relation to NSW Health's response to the risk of coronavirus outbreak.

As advised in our [last newsletter](#) sent on 29 January, the HSU has continued to seek up to date advice from the Ministry of Health in relation to this issue so that we can provide that advice to members. Attached to this newsletter is the latest advice received from the Ministry.

In unity,



Gerard Hayes  
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD

**From:** Benjamin Stirling (Ministry of Health) <[Benjamin.Stirling@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Benjamin.Stirling@health.nsw.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Thursday, 30 January 2020 5:13 PM

**To:** Brendan Edghill <[brendan.edghill@hsu.asn.au](mailto:brendan.edghill@hsu.asn.au)>; [REDACTED];

[REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED];  
**Cc:** Elizabeth Allen (Ministry of Health) <[Elizabeth.Allen1@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Elizabeth.Allen1@health.nsw.gov.au)>; Melissa Collins (Ministry of Health) <[Melissa.Collins@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Melissa.Collins@health.nsw.gov.au)>; Sue Atkinson (Ministry of Health) <[Sue.Atkinson@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Sue.Atkinson@health.nsw.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Information for health sector unions on staff protection from infection at work

For health sector unions to communicate to members

### **Coronavirus - staff protection from infection at work**

Clinical and support staff who work in clinical settings have existing knowledge about standard, contact and airborne transmission precautions as part of training for their role.

Where additional precautions are in place for a particular bed/ room, such precautions are signposted at the entry and associated Personal Protective Equipment provided.

Local District and Network based internal Infection Prevention & Control team should be approached for practical advice in the first instance; as such advice will consider the general requirements and the situational specific requirements (unique to patient cohort, treatment location etc). As the Coronavirus situation continues to develop this is subject to ongoing change.

Infection control information is available in existing resources:

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/alerts/Documents/2020/novel-coronavirus-clinicians-update-20200128.pdf> (accessible through our main NCoV webpage:

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/diseases/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>).

The Clinical Excellence Commission also has some useful infection control information:

<http://www.cec.health.nsw.gov.au/patient-safety-programs/infection-prevention-and-control/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov>

**Benjamin Stirling**  
**Director | Industrial Relations and Change**

**Workplace Relations Branch**  
**NSW Ministry of Health**  
Tel 02 9461 7205  
[benjamin.stirling@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:benjamin.stirling@health.nsw.gov.au)

**(At Level 3, 100 Christie Street, St Leonards NSW 2065 from 10 May 2019)**