

Westmead Coronavirus Update

Dear Member,

Since the outbreak of Coronavirus, we have received many calls about what this means for staff who may have had contact with patients suspected of carrying the virus.

Health experts have provided advice on how to treat and stop the spread of this virus. Nevertheless, members' safety is paramount to the Union, and the employer must ensure there are systems in place to protect you at work.

Your Organiser Brendan Roberts has been raising members' concerns with Westmead management and has been provided the below response via email from the Acting Director of Corporate Services and Allied Health:

I confirm that Westmead Hospital continues to provide information and advice regarding Coronavirus to staff (including Environmental Services and Orderlies) through all staff emails, broadcasts, intranet and Newsletters. The General Service team has held several meetings with supervisors and team leaders to provide updates and resources have been printed and displayed on the General Services' noticeboards. The Infection Control Team have delivered information sessions to staff which have included a refresher on the use of Personal Protective Equipment, the requirements for cleaning following the discharge or transfer of a patient with suspected coronavirus and opportunities for staff to ask questions.

All General Services staff and Orderlies complete training on personal protective equipment annually which is mandatory for these staff. If the Hospital has a patient with suspected coronavirus, signage will be displayed in line with the Infection Control guidelines alerting staff to airborne and contact precautions and Personal Protective Equipment to be worn.

Staff are encouraged to discuss any issues with their line manager or the Infection Control team on 88907501.

We encourage all members to follow whatever protections or precautions are in place to help prevent you from being unnecessarily exposed to further risk.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact your Organiser Brendan Roberts via email brendan.roberts@hsu.asn.au or 0425 181 361.

In unity,



Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD