Wednesday Feb 16, 2022

Yarrabah has peaked, focus is now on boosting community vaccination rates

Yarrabah’s increased vaccination level combined with a slowing of transmission through the community has resulted in a sharp decrease in the daily infection rates.

Daily infections continue to decrease with only 34 positive cases recorded in the past seven days, compared with 78 the previous week.

Gurriny Yealamucka Health Service Director of Clinical Services, Dr Jason King is confident the worst has passed for Yarrabah.

“With a steady decrease in daily cases, it is obvious we are now moving through the tail of this outbreak.

“This will be welcome news for our community, but it will allow our teams to ramp up our vaccination drive,” he said.

Vaccination levels in Yarrabah continue to rise and currently are sitting at more than 50% of the 16+ community fully boosted.

“We have come a long way from the low 20 percent levels in August last year, to where we are currently with more than 83 per cent of the community double vaccinated.

“Our focus is now to lift significantly our booster rates. With the change to the waiting time, down to 3 months, it’s critical that we increase our booster rollout and protect our community fully.

“The current outbreak has ripped through the community with more than 720 cases registered in the community. This figure could have been greater.

“As a community we were 70 per cent double vaccinated at the start of the outbreak earlier this year.
Gurriny Yealamucka Health Service

MEDIA STATEMENT

“This was a key factor in slowing the transmission rate and keeping our community safe from the devastating effects of COVID.”

The focus now has moved from testing to vaccination, with an increased focus on lifting the vaccination rates on community members from 5 years of age. Children ages 5 to 11 were eligible for vaccination in early January.

In the current outbreak 117 children have tested positive for COVID. Vaccination levels for children are steadily rising, with almost 50 per of children aged 12 to 15 have received their two vaccination doses.

“Two years ago, when COVID came to Australia, the two most venerable groups were the elderly and those with compromised immune systems.

“Statistically that is true, however COVID does not discriminate against age. With almost 120 positive cases recorded in children we are urging all parents to vaccinate their children.

“With the resumption of school along with weekend sporting activities, we have seen a spike in cases across the state. Being vaccinated will significantly reduce the effects and severity of COVID, and keep our community safe.”

Vaccinations are available in Yarrabah at Gurriny Yealamucka Health Services in Bukki Road along with their Workshop Road Clinic.

The Oceanic Health Group have two outreach members working in community this week with a focus upon members of the community due their booster shot.

An additional 6 positive cases have been identified in the past 24 hours in Yarrabah, bringing the total positive cases to 725 since the start of the outbreak in early January.

Currently there are 87 actives cases spread across 54 houses in the town.

The Fever Clinic is still operating in Yarrabah, attached to the Yarrabah ED in Bukki Road.

If residents have any COVID symptom they are advised to come to the clinic for urgent testing.
Vaccination rates continue to climb with 93.7 per cent of 16+ single vaccinated and 83.7 per cent double vaccinated. Booster rollout continues strongly with 50.1 per cent of 16+ receiving their booster shot.**

END

**QLD Health notification as at Midnight Saturday Feb 12

CAPTON: Yarrabah resident Anthony Brown-Sexton and Gurriny Yealamucka Health Service Community Care Team member Wendy Stafford.

For more information contact:

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