

Date: 3 July 2020

Increased access to COVID-19 testing for Tomaree locals

Tomaree locals will now have access to increased COVID-19 testing with a new testing clinic at Tomaree Community Hospital starting Monday 6 July 2020.

The COVID-19 testing clinic run by Lavery Pathology and Hunter New England Health aims to boost testing numbers in the community.

Public Health Physician Dr David Durrheim said although the District has been successful in suppressing COVID-19 so far, this new clinic will assist efforts to identify any reintroduction of COVID-19 in the community.

“With the cold and flu season in full swing, this is a great opportunity for those experiencing cold and flu symptoms to get tested.

“We don’t expect to find large numbers of cases at this point, but testing is the only way we will know for sure whether those winter sniffles are anything more sinister,” he said.

Anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms such as fever, sore throat, cough or shortness of breath, is urged to get tested.

Even those with mild symptoms such as fatigue, new muscle aches or pains, a change in taste or smell or a new runny nose are encouraged to arrange testing.

The clinic will operate from 8.30am to 3.30pm, Monday to Friday. It is preferable for patients to obtain a pathology referral from their own GP, although patients without a referral will be attended onsite prior to testing.

Lavery Pathology has extensive experience with COVID-19 testing and currently operates an extensive network of drive-through clinics and dedicated COVID-19 collection centres in NSW that complements facilities being rolled out across the country by Lavery’s sister pathology companies, including QML Pathology in Queensland, Dorevitch Pathology in Victoria and Western Diagnostic Pathology in Western Australia.