

New GP-led COVID-19 Respiratory Clinic Opens in Windsor

The region's third GP-led COVID-19 Respiratory Clinic opens in Windsor on **Wednesday 24 June**.

Like the Respiratory Clinics in both Penrith and Hazelbrook, this service will assess people with mild to moderate respiratory symptoms such as a sore throat, fever, cough or shortness of breath and offer testing for COVID-19.

Wentworth Healthcare, provider of the Nepean Blue Mountains Primary Health Network, has worked closely with Myhealth Kable Street Medical Centre to establish the Windsor Clinic, which is one of 100 federally funded clinics being rolled out across the country.

Lizz Reay, CEO of Wentworth Healthcare said, "The GP-led COVID-19 Respiratory Clinic will be helpful to both patients and general practices in the area by redirecting people with respiratory symptoms, therefore allowing other patients to safely attend their own general practice."

"This new Clinic will also help reduce pressure on hospital testing services and emergency departments, which are seeing an increase in other respiratory illnesses with the onset of winter," added Ms Reay.

Senator for Western Sydney, Senator the Hon Marise Payne, said the establishment of the clinic was a key part of the Morrison Government's response to COVID-19.

"The expert medical advice has stressed the importance of having a robust testing regime, so I strongly encourage anyone in our community to contact the Clinic if they are experiencing respiratory symptoms," Senator Payne said.

Senator Payne said another key part of the government's testing regime was the COVIDSafe app.

"To help support our local GPs and healthcare personnel who are on the frontline, Blue Mountains residents should download the COVIDSafe app," Senator Payne said.

"It's an invaluable tool for health officials in finding and containing local outbreaks. It will help save lives."

Testing at the Clinic is by appointment only and bookings are made online. There is no need for a referral and the service is free however, patients should consult with their regular GP before booking.

The Clinic is located next door to **Myhealth Medical Centre at 6 Kable Street, Windsor** and is open **Monday to Friday, 8.30am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 5.30pm.**

"It is vital that anyone in the Hawkesbury area experiencing respiratory symptoms is assessed and tested. Only through widespread testing can we detect new cases of community transmission and prevent a possible second wave of the disease," said Ms Reay.

Appointments can be made (from Wednesday) by visiting www.nbmphn.com.au/GPCOVIDClinics. Patients will receive their test results via phone or SMS and will be referred back to their usual GP for ongoing management.

For more information go to www.nbmphn.com.au/GPCOVIDClinics.