



thebreastcentre.com.au

IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL PATIENTS 17.3.20

THE BREAST CENTRE UPDATED COVID 19 PRECAUTIONS

In line with public health recommendations to minimise all non-essential contact, for the safety of patients and staff, The Breast Centre will be implementing the following policies, effective immediately. These policies apply to patients attending for review appointments, not to those who are attending with a new/recent breast cancer diagnosis or for postoperative review.

- All review appointments to see Miss Jane O'Brien will be indefinitely suspended /cancelled until further notice.
- For those who have undergone or are to undergo breast imaging in preparation for their routine review, we will be happy under these extraordinary circumstances to communicate the result by telephone/email/letter.
- If you are scheduled for routine review, please go ahead and undergo your breast imaging as requested, and we will notify you of the result, and provide further information at that stage.
- We request that any review patients who are to be seen attend alone. Accompanying persons will not be permitted in either the waiting or consultation room.
- We also ask that in order to minimise the number of people in the waiting room that you arrive at the time of your scheduled appointment and not before.
- Patients will not be seen if any of the conditions listed below apply.
- Individuals with the following: fever, sore throat, cough, shortness of breath (temperatures will be checked on arrival)
- If you have had contact with anyone diagnosed with corona virus
- If you, or anyone with whom you have been in contact, has returned from overseas within the last 14 days.

We appreciate that these precautions are inconvenient, however patient safety and care is paramount. There may be patients in the waiting room whose immune systems are compromised, secondary to current or recent chemotherapy and patients who are scheduled for breast cancer surgery in the near future, for whom exposure to the virus has serious repercussions.

Finally, inadvertent exposure of myself and my staff to the virus would lead to the unnecessary postponing of breast cancer operations, and we therefore ask for your support during this difficult time. The public health advice is changing rapidly, and these precautions may need to be altered/escalated over time as required.

We will aim to notify patients of any updates by phone, email or SMS, and any changes to the policy outlined above will be posted on our website www.thebreastcentre.com.au and social media www.facebook.com/DrJaneOBrien and www.instagram.com/DrJaneOBrien

We thank you for your understanding.

Jane O'Brien

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