

Question on Notice

No. 1074

Asked on 15 September 2021

MR D CRISAFULLI ASKED THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON Y D'ATH)—

QUESTION

With reference to COVID-19 preparedness and the 'Management of Respiratory Failure in the response to COVID-19' joint statement by QEDSAP/SICCN/SWAPNET—

Will the Minister advise (a) the number of ventilators available at Queensland Health facilities as at 1 September 2021, (b) the number of ventilators available at Queensland Health facilities as at 1 January 2020, (c) the number of ventilators procured by Queensland Health that are not yet available for use, and (d) when the most recent order to procure ventilation equipment was made, and the number of ventilators purchased in that order?

ANSWER

I have received the below advice from the Department of Health to respond to the Member's questions.

(a) The number of ventilators available at Queensland Health (QH) facilities as at 1 September 2021

As at 1 September 2021, there were a total of 1,539 ventilators capable of performing invasive ventilation available for use across Queensland Health.

In addition, a further 483 anaesthetic machines have been identified as being suitable for use as an invasive ventilator in an intensive care setting after assessment and upgrades, if required.

(b) The number of ventilators available at Queensland Health facilities as at 1 January 2020

As at 1 January 2020, there were a total of 932 ventilators capable of performing invasive ventilation available for use across Queensland Health.

In addition, a further 452 anaesthetic machines across Queensland Health were identified as potentially being suitable for use as an invasive ventilator in an intensive care setting if required, pending further assessment.

(c) The number of ventilators procured by Queensland Health that are not yet available for use

All ventilators purchased by Queensland Health are either operationally deployed across Queensland public hospitals or currently in warehouse storage and can be made available for immediate use if required. Ventilators in storage are provided with regular preventative maintenance to ensure they remain in good working order.

(d) When was the most recent order to procure ventilation equipment made, and the number of ventilators purchased in that order?

The procurement of additional ventilators for the State's central reserve occurred across 2019-20 and has been guided by clinical experts from the Statewide Intensive Care Clinical Network (SICCN), Queensland Health, to ensure an adequate supply.

The SICCN continues to actively monitor the situation and liaise with Intensive Care Units and Hospital and Health Services to ensure an adequate supply of ventilators.