



# COVID-19 UPDATE

COVID-19 Information from the SA Health GP Liaison

27 March 2020

## GP DAILY UPDATE

**Thank you for your ongoing feedback as we navigate these challenging times. Please let us know if there are specific updates you would like.**

### **Swabbing at risk patients**

If you are concerned about a potential COVID-19 case and not sure whether the patient or perhaps their close contacts should also be swabbed, please don't hesitate to discuss the case prior to swabbing with the CDCB on 1300 232 272 and press 2. The new guidelines have changed significantly and we understand this may have caused confusion, especially in the aged care and disability sector.

### **Upcoming webinar**

SA COVID-19 GP Update Webinar hosted by Adelaide PHN, in conjunction with SA Health, Country SA PHN, SA Pathology, RACGP SA/NT Faculty and AMA(SA), will be taking place at 6.30pm ACDT on Wednesday 1st April to update GPs, practice nurses and practice managers in South Australia on the state's response to COVID-19. A rolling and dedicated Q&A from participants will also be undertaken during the webinar and facilitated by Dr Emily Kirkpatrick.

Register here:

[https://adelaidephn.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_9OaUs50mQZO69wj1ooqg\\_Q](https://adelaidephn.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9OaUs50mQZO69wj1ooqg_Q)

### **Clinical Lead COVID-19 GP Assessment Service**

This is to introduce you to Dr Jenni Goold, who has been amazing in leading the telehealth process as part of the COVID GP Assessment Service. This team is contacted through the CDCB to determine whether patients are suitable for home isolation for their mild COVID-19 illness. We thought it might be great to share details with you about her role.

“My experience is that patients are really pleased to get the call. You can hear their anxiety settle as the consult progresses. Many have told their story a few times but if you explain you do not have the details they are happy to tell their tale. As you would in any consult, I raise mental health and that these are unprecedented times, so explore mental health, supports and raise awareness that these feelings might occur after they are well. Issues I have identified are elderly / disabled / no supports getting access to supplies and the supermarkets not delivering.” Wellbeing SA are helping to coordinate these additional supports.

“Immunocompromised patients as carers eg wife with renal transplant, another with recent aortic valve surgery and those with complex medical problems require additional measures and potential admissions. We need to contact the patients GPs to ensure close follow up. Return to work clearance testing if do not met criteria. Request for ‘proof’ they have tested positive.”

Jenni and the COVID-19 GP Assessment Service are here to help safely transition care to the usual GP, if appropriate. Jenni is happy to be emailed on [jenian@bigpond.net.au](mailto:jenian@bigpond.net.au).

### **COVID-19 gateway – new site**

A COVID-19 gateway, linking to relevant information on state and federal government websites, has also been established:

[www.sa.gov.au/covid-19](http://www.sa.gov.au/covid-19).

### **What should I do flowchart**

SA Health has created a [flowchart for patients](#) to understand when they need to get tested. This is a great resource to have on hand and is updated regularly with any changes in criteria.

### **Resources for people with dementia**

Dementia Australia has created factsheets to help people living with dementia, carers, families and friends. They can all be found on the [Dementia Australia website](#).

### **Links to note**

[This week’s COVID-19 SA GP update webinar recording](#)

[DoH webinar 26/03/20](#)

[Infection control training through DoH](#)

[WHO Hand washing video](#)

[CDC \(US\) Sequence for PPE](#)

**Dr Danny Byrne and Dr Emily Kirkpatrick**

SA Health COVID-19 GP Liaisons

Department for Health and Wellbeing

[www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/COVID2019](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/COVID2019)



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