



4 September 2020

Good evening everyone. No active cases currently in SA!! But... we are still seeing cases in Eastern Australia. Despite the borders in place, it's important not to become complacent. Please continue to test symptomatic individuals and refer for testing if you aren't equipped at your practice. Thank you for your ongoing support and care to your patients.

Any issues, email me at Health.COVID-19GPLiaison@sa.gov.au

Update to COVID-19 restrictions

From Saturday 5 September, the maximum number of people able to attend a wedding or funeral will increase to 150 people. Consumption of food and alcohol can resume for people seated at a bar. However, food preparation and production cannot occur at the same bar. More information, including a new Public Activities Direction, will be available on the www.covid-19.sa.gov.au website shortly.

An infographic with a blue header and a white body. The header contains the text "Update to COVID-19 restrictions in SA" and "From midnight 4 September". The body is divided into four sections, each with an icon and text. The first section is "Weddings & funerals" with an icon of three people, stating that weddings and funerals can have up to 150 people. The second section is "Hospitality" with a fork and knife icon, stating that people can eat and drink while seated at a bar provided no food preparation or production occurs at or near the bar (i.e. the bar is not a kitchen bar). The third section is "Adelaide Oval AFL crowds" with an icon of a crowd, stating that AFL football crowds can be up to 15,000 with gradual increases to crowds up to 25,000 (50% capacity), phased in over the coming weeks pending health advice at the time. The fourth section is "Work from home" with a house icon, stating that working from home is no longer necessary, provided the company you work for has measures in place to protect the health of its workforce. At the bottom, there is a black bar with white text: "SA.GOV.AU | 1800 253 787", "KEEPING SA SAFE & STRONG", and the Government of South Australia logo.

Testing facility update

The COVID-19 drive-through testing facility at Hampstead Rehabilitation Centre will be closed on Saturday 5 September due to planned maintenance by SA Power Networks. There are a range of metropolitan and regional testing options available, including the respiratory clinics. Find more information about testing options at www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/covidtesting.

Exemptions via Portal

People seeking essential traveller status for compassionate grounds, providing health services, or urgent medical, dental or health treatment require written approval from SA Health before submitting a Cross Border Travel application. The [Health Exemption application](#) can now be [completed online](#). More information, including updated frequently asked questions, can be found at www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/restrictions-and-responsibilities/travel-restrictions

PPE for GPs when Swabbing

Infection Control SA Health Advice

The previous advice for primary care has not changed – minimum mask PPE is a surgical mask for taking a COVID swab as per the National recommendations. Noting these are considered a minimum and clinicians can and do undertake a risk assessment re use of PFRs.

The use of PFRs in primary health can be problematic as GPs have limited access to fit testing, and generally can only perform a fit check. A fit checked PFR may offer GPs a greater sense of protection than a surgical mask that may not always fit as closely to the face. GPs electing to wear PFRs should also undergo training in the correct use to ensure they know how to perform a fit check each time they don a P2/N95 and also how to avoid self-contamination when doffing. PFRs have been recommended for COVID and Respiratory clinics and pharmacy clinics based on discussion relating to high patient volumes, walk-in / drive up nature of presentations and limited pre swabbing clinical assessment opportunities.

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www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/COVID2019



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