



13 May 2022

Dear GP Practice Teams

As you are probably already aware, the Southern Adelaide Local Health Network (SALHN), and the broader health system, is currently experiencing high levels of demand for emergency services and are working extremely hard to provide timely and high-quality care in this COVID environment.

Improving access to SALHN services and reducing demand requires a whole of network response, not just the Emergency Department. SALHN is focused on improving the patient journey through their services from end to end and have a number of initiatives underway to address this.

Your continued support during this time is sincerely appreciated. If you could help by ensuring Emergency Department referrals are for patients requiring management of acute health episodes that would be very much appreciated. If clinically appropriate, other avenues for care should be considered. A list of some alternative urgent care services can be found [here](#).

Please be reassured that when you do need to refer your patients to SALHN Emergency Departments, staff will continue to provide high quality care and are dedicated to doing this each and every day. Patients will continue to be triaged according to clinical priority when presenting, and every effort is made to ensure patients are seen as quickly as possible.

We are grateful to have your assistance as we work together to provide the southern community with access to the care they need, when they need it.

Thank you for all the great work you continue to do for the southern community.

Kind regards,

The SALHN GP Integration Unit

Please contact us at Health.GPIntegrationUnit@sa.gov.au to be added/removed to our mailing list or with any other enquiries. We welcome your feedback.

We acknowledge the Kurna people are the traditional custodians of the Adelaide Plains and pay respects to Elders past, present and future. I recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. I acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kurna people living today

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