What is notification?

Under the South Australian Public Health Act 2011, medical practitioners and diagnostic laboratories are required to notify SA Health of cases suspected of having or diagnosed with specified infections or diseases. Notification is also required if a notifiable infection or disease has caused or contributed to the death of a person – even if the condition has already been notified. These infections or diseases are commonly referred to as ‘notifiable conditions’.

The conditions which are notifiable are specified in the Regulations under the Act (see www.legislation.sa.gov.au). The full list of notifiable conditions is also available at www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/NotifiableDiseaseReporting.

The Act absolves the reporting medical practitioner and pathology service from any legal liability concerning consent to release the required information. However, it is wise to inform the patient (or their care giver) that a report must be provided and the Department may be in contact with the patient in relation to notification.

Notification is a confidential process. The Act requires the Department to protect the confidentiality of this information, and prevents release of identified data to any person not involved in data collection, investigation, public health action or treatment and care of that person. Notification data with personal details without consent can only be disclosed by or under law or by court order.

Who notifies?

Both medical practitioners and pathology services must report a notifiable condition. The maximum penalty for failure to notify is $10 000.

Why notify?

In South Australia, notification data is used to monitor, investigate and control infectious diseases, including vaccine preventable disease and outbreaks.

Information from both medical practitioners and pathology services provide different and complementary information about an infection.

Medical practitioners supply clinical information including clinical condition, time of onset of illness, likely risk factors and the occurrence of related cases.

Pathology services provide information on the infectious agent including further typing and characterisation that may be used to detect possible outbreaks not recognised by individual medical practitioners.

How to notify?

Notifications are made to the Communicable Disease Control Branch (CDCB) of the Department except for reports of tuberculosis and other mycobacterial infections which are made to the South Australian Tuberculosis Services (SA TB Services) of the Department.

Conditions which should be notified urgently by telephone on 1300 232 272 (24 hours/7 days) are designated by ☎ on the notification form.

All other conditions should be notified as soon as practicable and, in any event, within 3 days.

The required method of notification depends on the condition, for further details, see the table overleaf.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Form to use</th>
<th>Contact details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urgent conditions</td>
<td>CDCB</td>
<td>Urgent telephone notification only</td>
<td>Telephone: 1300 232 272 24 hours / 7 days Fax and post: N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mycobacterial disease (including tuberculosis)</td>
<td>SA TB Services</td>
<td>Report of Notifiable Condition or Related Death</td>
<td>Phone: 08 8222 5483 Fax: 08 8222 5398 Post: N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chancroid, donovanosis, genital chlamydia, gonorrhoea, syphilis</td>
<td>CDCB</td>
<td>Report of Notifiable Condition Sexually Transmitted Infections or Related Death</td>
<td>Phone: 1300 232 272 Fax: 8226 7187 Post: Reply Paid 6 GPO Box 6 Rundle Mall Adelaide SA 5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis B</td>
<td>CDCB</td>
<td>Report of Notifiable Condition Hepatitis B Virus or Related Death</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis C</td>
<td>CDCB</td>
<td>Report of Notifiable Condition Hepatitis C Virus or Related Death</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis D, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)</td>
<td>CDCB</td>
<td>Requesting doctor will be telephoned by the CDCB</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other notifiable conditions (notified as soon as practicable and, in any event, within 3 days)</td>
<td>CDCB</td>
<td>Report of Notifiable Condition or Related Death</td>
<td>Electronic form: <a href="https://extapps.health.sa.gov.au/cdcb-notify">https://extapps.health.sa.gov.au/cdcb-notify</a> Phone: 1300 232 272 Fax: 08 8226 7187 Post: Reply Paid 6 GPO Box 6 Rundle Mall Adelaide SA 5000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CDCB: Communicable Disease Control Branch; SA TB Services: South Australian Tuberculosis Services

Further information
To download a copy of notification forms, to obtain more information on notification or summary data on notified conditions visit: [www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/NotifiableDiseaseReporting](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/NotifiableDiseaseReporting)

For clinical resources on management of infectious diseases visit: [www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/InfectiousDiseaseControl](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/InfectiousDiseaseControl)


For more information
Communicable Disease Control Branch
System Performance and Service Delivery
11 Hindmarsh Square, Adelaide SA 5000
Telephone: 1300 232 272
www.sahealth.sa.gov.au

Public 11 - A1
Version 3.0 (Feb 2019)
© Department for Health and Wellbeing, Government of South Australia. All rights reserved. FS: 18023.1. February 2019.

https://creativecommons.org/licenses