#### SA Health

# South Australian Notifiable Conditions or Related Death: Information for Health Professionals

#### What is notification?

Under the <u>South Australian Public Health Act 2011</u> (the Act), medical practitioners and pathology services in South Australia (SA) are required to notify SA Health of cases suspected of having or diagnosed with specified infections or diseases. In addition, medical practitioners, pharmacists, and persons authorised to vaccinate under the <u>Vaccine Administration Code</u> (including nurses, midwives and Aboriginal Health Practitioners) are required to notify notifiable adverse events following immunisation (AEFI).

These infections, diseases and notifiable AEFIs are commonly referred to as 'notifiable conditions'.

Notification is also required if a notifiable condition has caused or contributed to the death of a person, even if the condition has already been notified.

All notifiable conditions are specified in the South Australian Public Health (Notifiable and Controlled Notifiable Conditions) Regulations 2025 under the Act (see <a href="www.legislation.sa.gov.au/">www.legislation.sa.gov.au/</a>). These new Regulations replace the South Australian Public Health (Notifiable and Controlled Notifiable Conditions) Regulations 2012. The full list of notifiable conditions is also available at <a href="www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/NotifiableDiseaseReporting">www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/NotifiableDiseaseReporting</a>.

The Act absolves the reporting medical practitioner and pathology service from any legal liability concerning consent to release the required information. However, it is recommended to inform the patient (or their care giver) that reporting is mandatory, and that SA Health may be in contact with the patient to obtain further information.

Notification is a confidential process. The Act requires SA Health 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 may only be disclosed without consent by or under law or by court order.

# What changes have been made to notifiable condition reporting in 2025?

There have been important updates to notifiable and controlled notifiable conditions in South Australia (SA) in the <u>South Australian Public Health (Notifiable and Controlled Notifiable Conditions) Regulations 2025</u>. The changes came into effect on 26 June 2025 and are summarised in the table below.



## Changes to notifiable condition reporting in 2025

Changes to notifiable and controlled notifiable conditions	Professional groups required to notify	Was this condition previously notifiable in South Australia?	Reason for change
Acute post-streptococcal glomerulonephritis (APGN)	Medical practitioners     Pathology services	No	APSGN is preventable and an important risk factor for chronic kidney disease. There is limited data on APSGN in SA. Better understanding of disease epidemiology is required to help prevent APSGN and its consequences.
Chlamydia trachomatis	<ul> <li>Medical practitioners are now required to notify all cases of Chlamydia trachomatis that occur in persons aged 16 years or younger (not limited to sexually transmitted infections).</li> <li>Medical practitioners are required to notify where they suspect a person has died from the condition or where a point of care test has returned a positive result, which is not also reported by a pathology service.</li> <li>Pathology services are required to notify all cases of Chlamydia trachomatis infections (all ages).</li> </ul>	Yes, however medical practitioners were previously only required to notify Chlamydia trachomatis (sexually transmitted infections) in persons aged 16 years or younger. Now, all cases of Chlamydia trachomatis in persons aged 16 years or younger must be notified by medical practitioners (not limited to sexually transmitted infections).	Infection with strains of Chlamydia trachomatis bacteria can cause genital chlamydia and trachoma. Genital chlamydia in pregnancy can cause pneumonia and conjunctivitis in infants. Trachoma can lead to blindness. Expanding notification requirements beyond sexually transmitted cases will help SA meet its national reporting obligations.
Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) and prion diseases not otherwise specified	<ul><li>Medical practitioners</li><li>Pathology services.</li></ul>	Yes, however previously only CJD disease was notifiable; now all prion diseases are notifiable.	While non-CJD prion diseases are extremely rare, they still pose a risk of transmission, for example through surgical instruments. Therefore, it is important that all prion diseases are notifiable.
Meningococcal disease	<ul><li>Medical practitioners</li><li>Pathology services.</li></ul>	Yes, however previously only invasive infections were notifiable; now all cases of meningococcal disease are notifiable (not limited to invasive infections).	Both invasive and non-invasive meningococcal infections have potential public health implications including risk of transmission to others. Notifying both invasive and non-invasive infections will support public health responses to meningococcal disease including early outbreak detection, monitoring transmission patterns, and preventive strategies such as vaccination and antibiotic prophylaxis.
Monkeypox virus infection (mpox)	<ul><li>Medical practitioners</li><li>Pathology services.</li></ul>	Yes. Previously, monkeypox virus infection was notifiable. Now, both monkeypox virus infection and mpox are notifiable conditions.	Mpox is now the official name of the disease caused by monkeypox virus.

## Changes to notifiable condition reporting in 2025

Changes to notifiable and controlled notifiable conditions	Professional groups required to notify	Was this condition previously notifiable in South Australia?	Reason for change
Syphilis	<ul><li>Medical practitioners</li><li>Pathology services.</li></ul>	Yes. Syphilis is a notifiable condition and has now been added to the list of controlled notifiable conditions.	Syphilis is now a controlled notifiable condition. This gives the Chief Public Health Officer additional powers including examination, testing, counselling, and directions to minimise the spread of syphilis, if the action is reasonably necessary in the interests of public health.
Thrombotic thrombocytopaenic purpura (TTP)	TTP is no longer notifiable.	Yes. TTP has now been removed from the list of notifiable conditions.	TTP has limited public health impact as it is not usually precipitated by an infectious disease, and notification does not inform any public health intervention.
Rotavirus and varicella- zoster virus	<ul> <li>Medical practitioners only need to notify cases when they suspect a person has died from rotavirus or varicella-zoster virus infection</li> <li>Pathology services are required to notify all rotavirus and varicella-zoster virus infections.</li> </ul>	Yes. Previously, medical practitioners were required to notify all cases. Now, medical practitioners are only required to notify when they suspect a person has died from either virus.	Rotavirus and varicella-zoster virus infections are routinely notified by pathology services, and vaccination data is available through the Australian Immunisation Register. In most cases, the information provided by medical practitioners offers limited additional public health benefit and adds unnecessary reporting burden. Medical practitioners are still required to notify deaths, which although rare, may warrant public health investigation.
Notifiable adverse event following immunisation (AEFI)	<ul> <li>Medical practitioners</li> <li>Pharmacists authorised to vaccinate as per the Controlled Substances (Poisons) Regulations 2011.</li> <li>Registered nurses, midwives and Aboriginal health practitioners authorised to vaccinate under the Vaccine Administration Code.</li> </ul>	Yes. Medical practitioners, pharmacists, and persons authorised to vaccinate under the Vaccine Administration Code remain required to notify all notifiable AEFIs.	The legislation allowing pharmacists to administer vaccines was changed in January 2025; as a result, pharmacists were removed from the Vaccine Administration Code. The SA Public Health (Notifiable and Controlled Notifiable Conditions) Regulations 2025 ensure that pharmacists remain required to notify notifiable AEFIs. No changes have been made to the requirement for medical practitioners to notify notifiable AEFIs.

#### Who notifies?

Both medical practitioners and pathology services must report a notifiable condition. In addition, persons authorised to vaccinate under the <u>Controlled Substances (Poisons) Regulations 2011</u> are required to notify notifiable adverse events following immunisation; this includes pharmacists and persons authorised to vaccinate under the <u>Vaccine Administration Code</u>. 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. It is also used to monitor immunisation programs.

#### How to notify

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

Conditions which should be notified urgently by telephone on 1300 232 272 (24 hours/7 days) are designated by a telephone icon  $\mathbf{a}$  on the notification form and the SA Health website.

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 below.

Category	Agency	Form to use	Contact details
Turgent conditions (all conditions indicated as telephone notifiable)	CDCB	Urgent telephone notification only	Phone: 1300 232 272 24 hours/7days Fax and post: N/A
Mycobacterial disease (including tuberculosis)	SA TB Services	Report of Notifiable Conditions or Related Death	Phone: (08) 7117 2983 Fax: (08) 7074 6248 Post: N/A
Chancroid Donovanosis Chlamydia Gonorrhoea	CDCB	Report of Notifiable Conditions Sexually Transmitted Infections or Related Death	Phone: 1300 232 272 Fax: (08) 7425 6696 Post: Reply Paid 6 GPO Box 6 Rundle Mall Adelaide SA 5000
Syphilis	CDCB	Report of Notifiable Condition Syphilis Infection or Related Death	
Hepatitis B	CDCB	Report of Notifiable Condition Hepatitis B Virus or Related Death	
Hepatitis C	CDCB	Report of Notifiable Condition Hepatitis C Virus or Related Death	

Category	Agency	Form to use	Contact details
Hepatitis D Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)	CDCB	Requesting doctor will be telephoned by the CDCB. Notify by phone.	Phone: 1300 232 272
Notifiable adverse event following immunisation (AEFI)*.  Notifiable AEFI includes all AEFI except for AEFI that are considered very common or common.	CDCB	Vaccine Reaction Report Form	Electronic form: https://extapps2.sahealth.sa.gov.au/SAVSS/ OR CDCB Immunisation Section 8.30am-5.00pm on business days Phone: 1300 232 272
All other notifiable conditions	CDCB	Report of Notifiable Conditions or Related Death	Electronic form: https://extapps2.sahealth.sa.gov.au/CDCB- Notify/ Phone: 1300 232 272 Fax: (08) 7425 6696 Post: Reply Paid 6 GPO Box 6 Rundle Mall Adelaide SA 5000

\*All notifiable AEFIs need to be reported to SA Health. AEFI reports received by SA Health are deidentified and sent to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). If an AEFI has been reported to SA Health, then there is no requirement to also report this to the TGA.

CDCB: Communicable Disease Control Branch

SA TB Services: South Australian Tuberculosis Services

AEFI: adverse event following immunisation TGA: Therapeutic Goods Administration

#### **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.

For clinical resources on management of infectious diseases visit:

www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/InfectiousDiseaseControl.

For information on adverse event following immunisation visit:

www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/immunisationprovider.

For information for patients on notifiable conditions visit: <a href="www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/YouveGotWhat">www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/YouveGotWhat</a>.







For more information

#### **Communicable Disease Control Branch**

Telephone: 1300 232 272 www.sahealth.sa.gov.au

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