



# COVID-19 UPDATE

COVID-19 Information from the SA Health GP Liaison

## OFFICIAL

### 25 November 2020

Good evening everyone. There are currently 39 active cases of COVID-19 in South Australia. Check out the [dashboard](#) for further details. Thank you for your ongoing support and care to your patients. Any issues, please email me at [Health.COVID-19GPLiaison@sa.gov.au](mailto:Health.COVID-19GPLiaison@sa.gov.au)

### Parafield Cluster

Yesterday's positive case was a man in his 20s who is a close contact of a previously confirmed case. He remains in a medi-hotel. Genomics test results have returned this afternoon linked yesterday's cases and another to the Parafield cluster. Both these people were previously believed to have overseas-acquired COVID-19 infections.

There is no additional risk to the public as the cases are linked to a medi-hotel staff member who has previously tested positive for COVID-19 and contact tracing has already been undertaken. As a precaution, we are undertaking additional testing at one of our medi-hotels for all staff and guests yesterday.

### SA GP Update Webinar – Parafield Cluster TODAY

Adelaide PHN, in conjunction with SA Health, SA Pathology, the RACGP SA/NT Faculty and AMA(SA), will be hosting a live webinar at 6pm (ACDT) on this evening (25 November 2020) to update all GPs in South Australia on the state's response to COVID-19 and to discuss pertinent issues in general practice, including an update on the Parafield Cluster. A rolling Q&A from participants will be undertaken during the webinar and facilitated by myself (Dr Emily Kirkpatrick). Register in advance for this webinar:

[adelaidephn-au.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_DwSnagDMSNOOdRbZPIEUqg](https://adelaidephn-au.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DwSnagDMSNOOdRbZPIEUqg)

### Testing update

Due to the hot weather forecast the Victoria Park/Pakapakanthi COVID-19 drive-through testing site has changed operating hours:

- Tuesday 24 Nov 8am to 8pm
- Wednesday 25 Nov 8am to midnight
- Thursday 26 Nov 8am to midnight
- Friday 27 Nov 6.30am to 11am, 8pm to midnight
- Saturday 28 Nov 6.30am to 11am, 8pm to midnight
- Sunday 29 Nov 8am to 8pm

For other site testing hours, visit [www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/covidtesting](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/covidtesting)

Waiting times have reduced significantly across all testing sites. However, due to hot weather and increased testing wait times are expected to increase today and tomorrow, but not to the levels experienced last week.

Command are investigating the opening of an indoor air-conditioned testing site during this hot weather period.

Please encourage testing for patients as ongoing high levels of testing is one of the most effective methods we have at combating this cluster. All South Australians should get tested for COVID-19 immediately if:

- Have any symptoms of COVID-19, even if mild, as soon as symptoms appear.
- Have been asked by SA Health to get a test

### **Black Friday Sales**

Black Friday shopping sale is happening tomorrow. Prof Spurrier is extremely concerned about large groups of people congregating indoors at shops and shopping centres. She is strongly encouraging everyone is wear a mask and social distance when shopping tomorrow.

### **Unmasked: A comparative analysis of the physician's ethical and legal duty to treat during a pandemic**

I thought I would draw your attention to a recent article published in the Medical Law International Journal authored by South Australians Dr Cristina Pelkas and Matthew Boisseau.

*Abstract:* For the first time in over a hundred years, the world faces a devastating pandemic. Millions have been infected with the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)-CoV-2 virus and thousands have died. Unprecedented global shortages of protective equipment have resulted in the infection and death of healthcare workers. The legal and ethical duty of a doctor to treat during a pandemic has evolved over time, shaped by legislation and ethical guidance following SARS and the September 11 terrorism attacks. A positive ethical obligation to treat is arguably outweighed by the inability to meet occupational safety standards and high risk of personal harm, in addition to a physician's competing duties to future patients, their families and colleagues. Nevertheless, individuals who continue working should be acknowledged by society with accessible worker's compensation, alternative accommodation, hazard pay and student debt forgiveness so that healthcare workers continue to serve patients, answering far beyond the call of duty.

Click [here](#) to read.

### **Bushfires and COVID-19**

People in self-quarantine or self-isolation due to COVID-19 can leave their home in an emergency or if their home is unsafe – but must try to get back home as soon as it can be done safely.

During an emergency, people who need to attend an emergency relief centre or a Bushfire Last Resort Refuge should to stay outside, alert emergency services (e.g. SAPOL, relief authorities at the location) and follow instructions. They must advise emergency services that they have left self-quarantine or self-isolation due to COVID-19. Review your [Bushfire Survival Plan](#).

### **South Australia COVID-19 Update**

- 2 new case
- 39 active COVID-19 cases
- 6,822 tests yesterday
- 683,103 tests in total
- 558 confirmed cases in total
- 514 people have recovered from COVID-19
- 1 patient in hospital
- 0 patients in ICU
- 4 COVID-19 related deaths

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Department for Health and Wellbeing

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



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