



IMPORTANT: COVID-19 Update – SA Emergency Management Direction and Changes to Elective Procedures

Date: 19 November 2020
To: All VMOs - South Australian Hospitals
From: Dr Tony Hobbs, Chief Medical Advisor | Sharon Kendall, Regional CEO - South Australia

As you will know, Premier Steven Marshall yesterday announced a suite of new emergency restrictions on the movement of people and the operation of businesses, effective 12:01am Thursday 19 November 2020.

The [Emergency Management \(Stay at Home\) \(COVID-19\) Direction 2020](#) includes a directive that no elective surgery except for urgent operations and cancer treatments are to be undertaken for the next six (6) days.

Consistent with the SA Government Directive, **effective 0001 hours 19 November 2020 to 2359 hours 24 November 2020**, the following requirements apply for all Calvary South Australian hospitals:

- Every booked procedure at a Calvary Adelaide Hospital, Calvary North Adelaide Hospital and Calvary Central Districts Hospital for the next six (6) days will be automatically cancelled.
- We request all VMOs to resubmit your request to undertake any procedure deemed to be Emergency Category 1 or Urgent Category 2 via our usual theatre booking processes.
- When booking, please ensure the category is noted on the information submitted regarding your proposed list, noting the best clinical judgement supporting this category has been documented.
- These requests will be reviewed against criteria outlined in the SA Government's Emergency Direction.
- It will be assumed that all cases on each list have been reviewed by the noted anaesthetist and that the anaesthetist is in agreement with the inclusion of these patients.

Please note that all lists will be reviewed by the appropriate Clinical Manager and Director of Clinical Services. Information about the categorisation of procedures can be found in the [National Surgery Categorisation Guide](#).

Should there be a query regarding the nominated category and clinical details associated with the case, this will be discussed with the requesting VMO. If the VMO requests the case is to continue, the case will be reviewed by the Medical Advisory Committee (MAC) and the relevant MAC speciality representative who will review the case category and confirm if the case is to continue. The MAC Chair will communicate the outcome of this review with the requesting medical practitioner.

We will continue to work closely with SA Health and keep VMOs informed of any development. Thank you for working with us to ensure the safety of everyone in our care at this challenging time.

VMO Support Centre

Communication emailed directly and also available at: <https://www.calvarycare.org.au/calvarysadoctors/>

Queries can be emailed to: sabd@calvarycare.org.au

For urgent matters please, phone:

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