



IMPORTANT: COVID-19 Update – Recommendation of non-urgent procedures from 22 November 2020

Date: 21 November 2020
To: All Employees, 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 today announced a lifting of the current restrictions on non-urgent surgical procedures as directed in the [Emergency Management \(Stay at Home\) \(COVID-19\) Direction 2020](#).

Calvary has today received formal confirmation from the SA Government (as per [Emergency Management \(Stay at Home No.3\) \(Revocation\) Direction 2020](#)) advising that restrictions on non-urgent elective procedures will be lifted at 0001 hours 22 November 2020. Accordingly, Calvary is ready to proceed with all procedures at Calvary Adelaide Hospital, Calvary North Adelaide Hospital and Calvary Central Districts Hospital from Monday 23 November 2020.

PLEASE NOTE: This communication makes redundant the advice outlined in [Calvary's COVID-19 Update – SA Emergency Management Direction and Changes to Elective Procedures](#), sent to VMOs on 19 November 2020.

In the interest of protecting the health and wellbeing of our patients, our staff and our VMO partners, special restrictions introduced on 15 November 2020 will remain in place across all Calvary sites until further notice.

- **Face masks will need to be worn by every staff member and VMO at all times while on site; and**
- **No visitors will be permitted to enter a Calvary South Australia facility until further notice.** Special exceptions are in place for obstetrics and paediatrics patients, as well as for people who are receiving palliative care or who are at end of life.

Screening and Temperature Checks

Screening of all staff, VMOs will remain in place:

- **All staff, VMOs and Contractors** should be vetted with screening questions based on the existing documents and questions (clinical and travel - based on COVID-19 case definition).
- **All Staff, VMOs, Contractors and Visitors** should have a daily temperature check on entry to the building or facility. Protocol for handling a reading of 37.5 degrees Celsius or greater is outlined below.

If temperature reading is equal to or greater than 37.5 degrees Celsius, the following actions must be taken:

- **For Visitors, Contractors and VMOs:** Provide the person with an information sheet ([Temperature Advice Card - VMO, Contractor, Visitor](#)) and request they leave the building.
- **For All Staff:** Provide the person with an information sheet ([Temperature Advice Card - All Staff](#)), and request they leave the building and go on [Special Covid Leave](#) for up to 3 days. If the staff member is determined not fit for work after 3 days, personal or carers leave should be used.

Know the symptoms of COVID-19



The latest developments are a timely reminder for all, that if you are unwell, and are showing signs or symptoms of COVID-19, respiratory illness, gastroenteritis, as below, you should not present to work.

To protect each other, and the people in our care, we must remember to:

- **Stay at home if you are feeling sick or unwell.** If you are unwell and are showing signs or symptoms of COVID-19, respiratory illness, gastroenteritis, as below, you should not present to work.
 - fever;
 - respiratory symptoms; including:
 - coughing;
 - sore throat; and/or
 - shortness of breath.

Other symptoms include headache, sore throat, fatigue, shortness of breath, myalgia, anosmia, dysgeusia, rhinorrhoea, chills and vomiting. Atypical symptoms of COVID-19 may also occur including chest pain, diarrhoea and conjunctivitis.

- **Exercise good hand hygiene.** Please continue to wash your hands well and regularly and in accordance with our infection prevention protocols.
- **Maintain social/physical distancing.** Social/physical distancing of 1.5 metres separation and 1 person per 4 square metres greatly reduces the risk of infection.
- **Use good cough and sneeze etiquette.** Cough into your elbow and cover your nose and mouth when sneezing. If you have a new persistent cough, you should not be at work.
- **Wear your Calvary reusable mask when commuting.** Calvary will be issuing every employee with reusable face masks next week. Using a face mask while using public transport or in other public places where social/physical distancing is not possible reduces the risk of infection.

These measures are in place to reduce the risk of potential COVID-19 transmission to other members of staff, our VMO partners and the vulnerable people in our care.

Please do the right thing and stay home if you are unwell.

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:

Simone Hogarth: 0448 133 823 | Sarah Hyde: 0447 075 350