



IMPORTANT: COVID-19 Update – Wellness for Work

Date: 15 November 2020
Effective: IMMEDIATELY
To: All VMO's, All South Australian Hospitals
From: Sharon Kendall, Regional CEO - South Australia

The COVID-19 situation in South Australia is evolving. For the first time in six months, the Chief Public Health Officer announced four new cases of community transmission in Adelaide.

In the interest of protecting the health and wellbeing of our patients, our staff and our VMO partners, Calvary is introducing a series of new safety measures, effective today.

- **Face masks will need to be worn by all staff members at all times while on site; and**
- **No visitors will be permitted to enter a Calvary South Australia facility until further notice.**

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.

The latest developments are 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.

We understand and greatly appreciate your conscientiousness, work ethic, and desire 'not to let your team members down' but in this instance, **attending your shift, if you are showing any of the above symptoms, poses a grave risk to your colleagues, those we care for and the whole community.**

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.