



IMPORTANT: SA lockdown – information for VMOs

Date: 27 July 2021
To: Calvary SA All staff and VMOs – All hospital sites
Effective: Immediately
From: Sharon Kendall, Regional CEO - SA

As per the State Government announcement today, the Emergency Management (Activities – Associated Direction No 4) (COVID-19) Direction 2021 has been revoked and replaced with the revised Emergency Management (Activities – Associated Direction No 5) (COVID-19) Direction 2021 followed by the [Emergency Management \(Activities – Associated Direction No 6\) \(COVID-19\) Direction 2021](#) effective from 5:30pm Tuesday 27 July 2021.

As per the direction, the State is currently subject to Level 3 restrictions.

I am pleased to provide the following update -

Elective Surgery

Restrictions placed on elective surgery have been lifted so we are able to re-commence elective surgery in line with our business as usual practice.

Preadmission Testing Clinic

Whilst we enter the next phase of this stepped lockdown, we will continue to manage the risk of COVID-19 infection and protect the health of patients and staff, by requesting that patients continue to undertake a COVID-19 test as part of their Calvary pre-admission procedure for the remainder of this week.

Given the high testing demand, we will request that patients present to the clinic for their COVID screen 72 hours prior to their admission date. The preadmission team will continue to make contact with all patients booked for surgery to arrange a suitable appointment time.

Eased Visitor restrictions (Hospital and Consulting suites)

We are pleased to advise an easing of visitor restrictions. General patients will now be allowed to receive up to one (1) adult visitor per patient at a time.

Please note exceptions for obstetrics, paediatrics, and palliative care, or where a care and support role is provided by a visitor apply. Please speak with the clinical manager to discuss arrangements.

One (1) adult visitor is also permitted to accompany a patient to an appointment.



Use of masks

All Calvary hospitals and residential care facilities are deemed high risk sites. We must continue to wear a mask at all times. This includes all VMOs, staff, visitors and contractors.

As per our current practice, hospital masks will be provided at screening.

All patients should wear a mask when transiting between their room and anywhere else within the hospital. Patients are not required to wear masks when in their room.

Some exceptions may apply for children and those that cannot tolerate masks.

All masks must be a hospital issued mask. Please do not wear personal masks from home.

Clinical meetings / gatherings

Social distancing is a key part of slowing COVID-19 so all gatherings of clinicians and staff must be considered;

- All non-essential meetings should be held using alternate methods including teleconferencing, WebEx, Zoom, etc. This includes craft group meetings, MDT, senior leader meetings;
- Where a face-to-face meeting is essential to manage the ongoing care of current patients as well as clinical handover, the following should be considered to minimize the risk to staff: size of the room, number of people.

Volunteers

In order to keep this group safe, volunteers will not yet return to supporting our services and providing assistance to patients and staff.

Exposure sites

We ask that you remain up to date and follow any [SA Health advice regarding exposure locations or isolation / quarantine requirements](#).

If you have any further queries please contact your General Manager directly.

We thank you for your ongoing support at this time.

Sharon Kendall
SA Regional CEO