

COVID-19 News

Adelaide PHN continues to keep general practices and providers up to date with the latest COVID-19 information by providing relevant resources, support, and updates as they become available. Most recent updates include –

SA COVID-Ready Plan

The state government has released its COVID-Ready Plan outlining the safe easing of restrictions and how COVID-19 will be managed in SA. The plan details easing restrictions once vaccination milestones are reached. For more information and to view the plan, please visit the SA Health website.

Vaccine Booster Doses

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) has provisionally approved the Pfizer vaccine as a booster for individuals aged 18+ years. The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) will consider the regulatory approval and provide recommendations on boosters in the coming days. Further advice will be provided on the implementation of boosters once the government has had the opportunity to consider ATAGI's recommendations.

Please note, COVID-19 vaccination efforts should focus on unvaccinated populations including vulnerable populations before booster doses.

Mandatory Vaccination for Additional Health Care Workers

SA Health has released a new public health direction placing COVID-19 vaccination requirements on people attending the following health care settings for the purpose of work:

- Primary community health care facilities (general practice clinics, dental clinics, private nurse offices)
- Pharmacies
- Specialist outpatient facilities (including consulting suites of private medical specialists, including reproductive services, and any setting provided by allied health and scientific professionals)
- Private pathology centres
- Private radiology centres (including breast screening centre)
- Defence health settings (including Garrison health centres, deployed and exercise health support and clinical health training)
- Facilities for the collection, manufacture and distribution of blood and biological products
- Aboriginal community-controlled health services
- The Department for Health and Wellbeing, the Commission on Excellence and Innovation in Health and Wellbeing SA

People attending the above settings for the purpose of work must have received one dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine by **8 November** and the second dose must be completed within the interval recommended by the ATAGI.

For further information, please visit the **SA Health website**.

COVID-19 Vaccination Training Updates

Significant updates have occurred in the COVID-19 vaccination training program on Friday 22 October. Training applicants are expected to login and view the new information. For more information, please <u>login</u> and view the COVID-19 Training Announcement Board.

RACGP Webinar: Risk Assessment in a Pandemic

Presented by GP Dr Jennifer Neil, a family violence worker, and a family violence survivor, this webinar will discuss the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on abuse and violence presentations in general practice. The webinar will be held at 6.30PM – 8.00PM on Tuesday 9 November. Register here.

In-reach Practice Incentive Payment Claims

To support primary care vaccination providers to conduct in-reach COVID-19 vaccination clinics, additional funding was made available to primary care vaccination providers who administer an in-reach clinic in a residential aged care or disability care setting from 29 April 2021 until 31 October 2021.

The additional payment is permitted to be backdated to 29 April 2021 where sufficient evidence of in-reach vaccination clinics can be provided to support the claim. Payments can be claimed until 31 October 2021.

Providers who are yet to claim MBS payments for in-reach clinics in line with the Departments guidelines found here will need to submit the relevant information in CVAS by COB 7 November 2021.

Pop-up Vaccination Clinics

Roll Up for Our Mob

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people and their families are invited to a family friendly COVID-19 vaccine event on Wednesday 10 November 11.00AM – 3.00PM at Sonder Edinburgh North. Enjoy free lunch, live entertainment, and get your COVID vaccine at this free community event. Click here for more information and to register.

Australian Refugee Association's (ARA) Pfizer Clinic

Pfizer vaccination appointments are available at the ARA office in Salisbury. The clinic will open Saturday mornings 9.00AM – 1.00PM from October 30 for a limited time. Translators, female medical staff, and private vaccination rooms are available. Bookings are essential. Please call 08 8354 2961 to make an appointment.

Webinar Recordings

Addressing COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy

A recording of the Addressing COVID-19 Vaccine Hesitancy Training Webinar is now available on <u>Adelaide PHN's YouTube channel</u>. This webinar was designed for GPs and health professionals and covers the evidence-based way to have conservations to reduce vaccine hesitancy (as opposed to strengthening the hesitancy position). Hosted by Dr Emily Kirkpatrick - Deputy Chief Medical Officer, SA Health and presented by Professor Katina D'Onise - Executive Director, Prevention and Population Heath, Wellbeing SA.

COVID-19 Update

Adelaide PHN, SA Health and SA Pathology presented a COVID-19 update on 19 October. The webinar recording is available on <u>Adelaide PHN's YouTube Channel</u>.

Super Walk-in Weekend Wrap Up

Adelaide PHN supported three Commonwealth Vaccination Clinics and one general practice to participate in SA Health's Super Weekend on 23 and 24 October. People were able to walk-in to these clinics, receive their COVID-19 vaccination and enjoy a free coffee at an onsite coffee van. The weekend was a huge success. Stay tuned for the full story in our upcoming quarterly magazine Connect.

More Information and Contact

Please visit our <u>COVID-19 provider update webpage</u> or contact our team via <u>covid19@adelaidephn.com.au</u> or the COVID-19 line on 8314 3698 for more information and/or support.