

COVID-19 update

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 –

Afterhours COVID-19 and Flu Vaccination Service

Adelaide PHN has commissioned [Northern Afterhours Clinic](#) to deliver free COVID-19 and flu vaccinations. Walk in 7 days a week between 6.00PM and 11.00PM and get your free COVID-19 and flu vaccine. No appointment necessary.

For more information, please visit Northern Afterhours Clinic at 5 Kylie Cr, Ingle Farm or call the clinic on 1800 114 114.

COVID-19 Update for Primary Health Care Providers Webinar

SA PHNs in conjunction with SA Health are providing a COVID-19 Referral Pathways for General Practice for Anti-viral Medication Prescribing webinar at **6.30PM Wednesday 13 July**.

This webinar will cover:

- The new model of care and Healthdirect secure messaging changes for anti-virals
- Tips, tricks and practical advice on how to safely prescribe oral anti-virals for your patients
- A case-based discussion with our expert, experience panel with resources to make this a safe, efficient and practical process for community GPs

This webinar has been accredited for MIGA points. [Please register in advance here](#) and you will receive an email with instructions on how to join the webinar.



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COVID-19 Update Webinar Recording

SA PHNs in conjunction with SA Health provided a COVID-19 Referral Pathways for General Practice for Antiviral Medication Prescribing, Management, Guidelines and Clinical Decisions Update webinar on Thursday 30 June 2022.

The Webinar was facilitated by Dr Emily Kirkpatrick, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, SA Health and Dr Melanie Smith, Medical Lead COVID Response Care Team, SA Health.

The webinar recording is now available on [Adelaide PHN's YouTube channel](#).

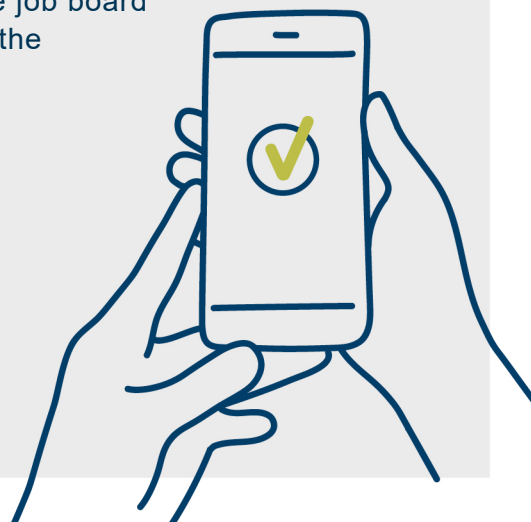
Temporary Health Surge Workforce: Advertising Nurse Vacancies

Australian Government Department of Health has introduced a surge workforce program to assist health care services to meet their workforce needs. Retired, semi-retired and unemployed nurses have been invited to register for the temporary surge workforce.

Primary health care settings can access the temporary surge workforce by advertising available roles through the Recruiting, Consulting and Staffing Association's (RCSA) job board. The job board is a weekly email sent to the temporary surge workforce outlining vacancy opportunities. If you would like to advertise a vacancy through the RCSA job board, please email the following information to healthcandidates@rcsa.com.au:

- Job title
- Location
- Environment (e.g. aged care)
- Hourly rate
- Description
- The role
- Requirements
- Link to apply or contact person

Submit your vacancy by 3.00PM each Friday for inclusion in the job board sent the following Monday. For further information, please visit the [Department of Health website](#).



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Referrals required for private pathology COVID-19 PCR testing

COVID-19 PCR swab testing, along with multiplex respiratory panel testing at Clinpath and Australian Clinical Labs sites (including drive through sites) now require a referral form to access testing. Patients will no longer be able to arrive and receive a swab without a request, as part of the SA Health agreement.

SA Health is still offering access to non-referred COVID testing at its drive through SA Pathology sites.

Clinpath have developed a respiratory viral PCR swab self-collection kit to increase access to testing for COVID-19, Influenza A & B, RSV and 8 other respiratory viruses. These kits can be delivered to practices on request to your local area Clinpath liaison and contain instructions for patients on how to correctly perform the swab. Completed swabs can be handed back at any collection centre by the patient/their representative but must be accompanied by a GP referral/request form.

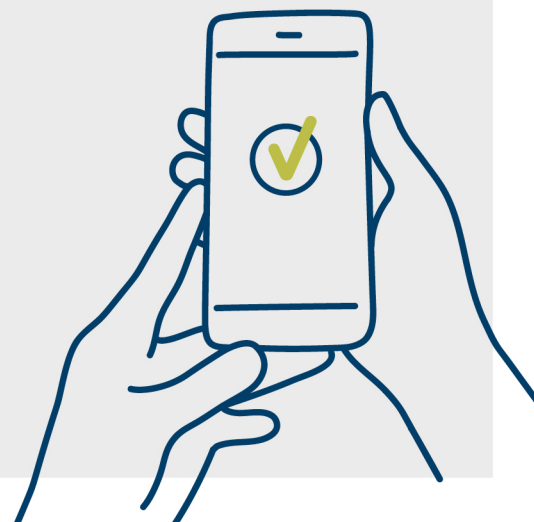
Both ACL and Clinpath have easy to use processes to facilitate electronic requests to support GPs seeing patients via telehealth.

Care Planning for COVID and Influenza

Early treatment of COVID-19 and influenza with antiviral medication can reduce disease severity. More information is available:

- [Oseltamivir \(Tamiflu\) in residential aged care facilities](#)

General Practitioners and Residential Aged Care Facility staff are encouraged to discuss with all residents, or their substitute decision makers, their wishes and consent for antiviral treatment (including wishes for prophylaxis in the influenza outbreak setting), should they become infected with COVID-19 or influenza in the future.



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[The Clinical Care Plan \(COVID and Influenza\) for residents of South Australian aged care facilities template](#) may be used to guide these discussions and document treatment eligibility and consent ahead of time, to facilitate timely access to treatment in the event of infection or outbreak.

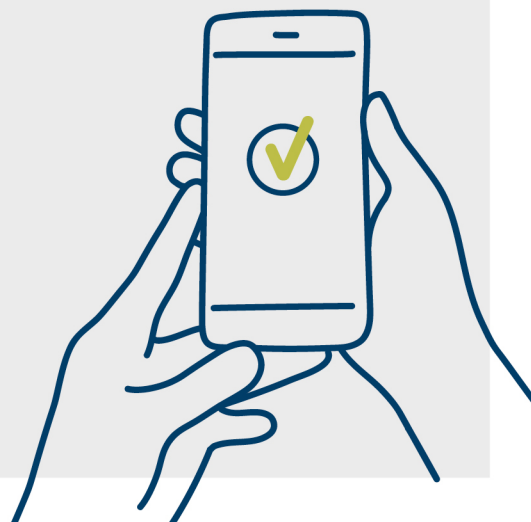
COVID Kids

COVIDKids is a dedicated virtual service providing specialist support for infants, children and young people diagnosed with COVID-19 aged 0-18 years.

COVIDKids team virtually assess infants, children and young people with COVID-19 and offer support and medical advice to families in their own home. By receiving care and treatment at home, children can remain in isolation and avoid the stress that can sometimes be associated with visiting a hospital. COVIDKids is a referral service; referral is by clinician only.

The COVIDKids team will monitor children through either a daily or twice daily phone call or video call. The service may recommend a face-to-face assessment at our dedicated COVIDKids clinic, located at the Women's and Children's Hospital. For children in regional or rural areas, the COVIDKids team will coordinate their care with the most appropriate local service.

In uncommon cases, a child may need to be admitted to hospital and the COVIDKids team will arrange this. Once they are discharged from hospital, the COVIDKids team will provide support.



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The COVIDKids team includes:

- Paediatricians
- GPs
- Paediatric Nurses
- Social Worker to support families with isolation concerns
- Aboriginal Social and Emotional Wellbeing Support Worker to provide cultural support for Aboriginal families with COVID
- Child and Family Health Nurses to provide ongoing support to infants and children 0-5 years
- Administration team to support families with COVIDKids appointment bookings

South Australian GPs can refer infants, children and young people to the COVIDKids service via email referral to DL.HealthWCHNCovidKidsStaff@sa.gov.au or, for more urgent referrals, by ringing the COVIDKids duty consultant on 8161 9502 (clinicians only).

