

COVID-19 UPDATE

COVID-19 Information from the SA Health GP Liaison

3 July 2020

Thank you for all that you're doing. I hope you all managed some time off over the weekend. Please email if you have any concerns or comments, happy to assist!

Second Wave Survey

Thank you to the responses so far, over 100! It would be great to have as many responses as possible, with the survey closing at 1201am on the 6th of July. SA Health is very keen to know what capacity there is in general practice in preparation for further cases. It would be most appreciative if you could please complete the [Preparing for a Second Wave](#) survey, to help with our planning. Additional pop up testing locations are currently being considered so that extra resources can be mobilised as required.



Serology Update

SA Pathology will soon begin undertaking serology testing for patients looking at inactive and active infections. I know many of you have emailed about this over the past week. Clinpath are also now undertaking serology testing.

Self-collected swabs

The CDNA SoNG was updated to include a section on self-collected swabs - "A self-collected oropharyngeal and bilateral deep nasal swab may in some circumstances be an appropriate method of specimen collection. However, where possible, health care worker supervision of the collection is encouraged." SA Health does not currently encourage self-collected swabs due to the risk of poor collection technique. It is preferred that testing is undertaken by a trained collector, to ensure a good sample is collected.

Workforce Opportunities

Due to COVID-19 there are now additional positions for General Practitioners and GP Trainees to work at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Certainly, an exciting opportunity. See details below.

There are several opportunities for full or part-time, and casual appointments for Medical staff working in the Emergency Departments at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and The Queen Elizabeth Hospitals. Working alongside Consultant Emergency Physicians to hone your acute medical, surgical, resuscitation and trauma skills, with exposure to the specialist Toxicology Service, Ultrasound and other procedural skills.

GP Trainees are encouraged to consider applying to complete their Extended Skills Term. There are several accredited GP supervisors available. The ED can also support interested trainee to obtaining their Emergency Medicine Certificate from the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine.

Additionally, there is an opportunity to join the highly respected “EDGE team”. This is a Consultant Geriatrician led Multi-disciplinary team, who offer a 7 day a week service based at the RAH ED and Acute Assessment Unit to frail and elderly patients requiring admission, with strong links to the RAH Community Geriatrics team. This is a great learning opportunity for GPs and GP trainees with an interest in Geriatric Medicine.

Please contact Dr Megan Brooks, Medical Lead, Acute & Urgent Care RAH for further information megan.brooks@health.sa.gov.au

SA Health Website

The [Health Professionals COVID-19 resources](#)

Telephone numbers

SA COVID-19 Information line: 1800 253 787

SA COVID-19 Social and non-clinical support: 1300 705 336

SA COVID-19 Mental health support: 1800 632 753

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Department for Health and Wellbeing

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