SA Health

South Australian Notifiable Conditions or Related Death: Information for Health Professionals

What is notification?

Under the *South Australian Public Health Act 2011*, medical practitioners and pathology services are required to notify SA Health of cases suspected of having or diagnosed with specified infections or diseases. In addition, healthcare providers authorised to vaccinate under the Vaccine Administration Code are required to notify notifiable adverse event following immunisation.

These infections or diseases are commonly referred to as 'notifiable conditions'.

Notification is also required if a notifiable infection or disease has caused or contributed to the death of a person – even if the condition has already been notified.

The conditions which are notifiable are specified in the South Australian Public Health (Notifiable and Controlled Notifiable Conditions) Regulations 2012 (the Regulations) under the Act (see legislation.sa.gov.au). The full list of notifiable conditions is also available at sahealth.sa.gov.au/NotifiableDiseaseReporting

The Act absolves the reporting medical practitioner and pathology service from any legal liability concerning consent to release the required information. However, it is wise to inform the patient (or their care giver) that a report must be provided and the Department may be in contact with the patient in relation to notification.

Notification is a confidential process. The Act requires the Department to protect the confidentiality of this information, and prevents release of identified data to any person not involved in data collection, investigation, public health action or treatment and care of that person. Notification data with personal details without consent can only be disclosed by or under law or by court order.

What changes have been made to notifiable condition reporting in October 2021?

In October 2021, a number of changes were made to the South Australian Public Health (Notifiable and Controlled Notifiable Conditions) Regulations 2012 including adding new conditions to the list of notifiable conditions and adding professional groups required to notify notifiable adverse event following immunisation.

These changes are summarised in the table below.

New condition requiring notification to SA Health	Professional Groups required to notify	Was this condition previously notifiable in South Australia?
Notifiable adverse event following immunisation (AEFI) An AEFI is any untoward medical occurrence that follows immunisation. It does not necessarily have a causal relationship with the vaccine. Notifiable AEFI is defined as an AEFI that is not a very common or common AEFI. This means **all AEFI need to be notified except for very common or common AEFI.** A notifiable AEFI after any vaccine requires notification. For further detail on what is considered a very common or common AEFI refer to the Australian Immunisation Handbook (including the table in the handbook entitled "Common side effects following immunisation for vaccines used in the National Immunisation Program schedule") or Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation clinical advice. All notifiable AEFIs need to be reported to SA Health. AEFI reports received by SA Health are deidentified and sent to the Therapeutic Goods Administration. If an AEFI has been reported to SA Health, then there is no requirement to also report this to the (TGA).	> Medical practitioners > Pathology services > Registered nurses, midwives and pharmacists who are authorised to vaccinate independently as per the Vaccine Administration Code Health practitioners will be exempt from notifying AEFI if they know or reasonably believe a report has already been made by another health practitioner who has a requirement to notify AEFI.	Prior to April 2021, the Department collected data on AEFI from immunisation providers and the general public on a voluntary basis. In April 2021, AEFI became a notifiable condition in South Australia on a temporary basis by notice in the *South Australian Government Gazette*. Regulation change in October 2021 means notifiable AEFI will be a notifiable condition on an ongoing basis. Other healthcare providers and the general public will still be able to report AEFI to SA Health on a voluntary basis (a report by the general public does not remove the requirement for a health practitioner to also notify).

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)	> **Medical practitioners** only need to notify cases where they suspect **a person has died from RSV.** > **Pathology services** are required to notify **all RSV** infections.	No
Invasive group A streptococcal disease (iGAS)	> Medical practitioners > Pathology services	No
Candida auris	> Medical practitioners > Pathology services	No
Lyssavirus infection (including rabies, Australian bat lyssavirus and other lyssavirus infections)	> Medical practitioners > Pathology services	Yes, this is replacing rabies and Australian bat lyssavirus infection in the Regulations.
West Nile virus infection (including Kunjin variant)	> Medical practitioners > Pathology services	Yes, this is replacing Kunjin virus infection in the Regulations.

Who notifies?

Both medical practitioners and pathology services must report a notifiable condition. In addition, healthcare providers authorised to vaccinate under the Vaccine Administration Code are required to notify notifiable adverse event following immunisation. The maximum penalty for failure to notify is $10 000.

Why notify?

In South Australia, notification data is used to monitor, investigate and control infectious diseases, including vaccine preventable disease and outbreaks. It is also used to monitor immunisation programs.

How to notify?

Notifications are made to the Communicable Disease Control Branch (CDCB) of the Department except for reports of tuberculosis and other mycobacterial infections which are made to the South Australian Tuberculosis Services (SA TB Services) of the Department.

Conditions which should be notified urgently by telephone on **1300 232 272** (**24 hours/7 days**) are designated by ☎ on the notification form.

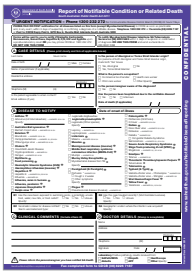
All other conditions should be notified as soon as practicable and, in any event, within 3 days.

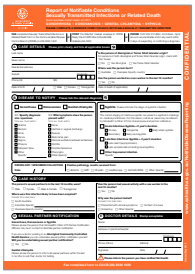
The required method of notification depends on the condition, for further details, see the table overleaf.

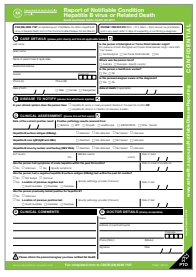
Category	Agency	Form to use	Contact details
☎ Urgent conditions	CDCB	**Urgent telephone notification only**	**Telephone: 1300 232 272 24 hours / 7 days Fax and post: N/A**
Mycobacterial disease (including tuberculosis)	SA TB Services	Report of Notifiable Conditions or Related Death	Phone: 08 7074 1090 Fax: 08 7074 6248 Post: N/A
Chancroid, donovanosis, genital chlamydia, gonorrhoea, syphilis	CDCB	Report of Notifiable Conditions Sexually Transmitted Infections or Related Death	Phone: 1300 232 272 Fax: 8226 7187 Post: Reply Paid 6 GPO Box 6 Rundle Mall Adelaide SA 5000
Hepatitis B	CDCB	Report of Notifiable Condition Hepatitis B Virus or Related Death	
Hepatitis C	CDCB	Report of Notifiable Condition Hepatitis C Virus or Related Death	
Hepatitis D, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)	CDCB	Requesting doctor will be telephoned by the CDCB	N/A
Notifiable adverse event following immunisation* (notify as soon as practicable and, in any event, within 3 days) Notifiable AEFI includes all AEFI except for AEFI that are considered very common or common	CDCB	Vaccine Reaction Report Form	Electronic form: https://extapps2.sahealth.sa.gov.au/SAVSS/ OR Phone CDCB immunisation section 8.30am–5.00pm Monday to Friday on 1300 232 272.
All other notifiable conditions (notified as soon as practicable and, in any event, within 3 days)	CDCB	Report of Notifiable Condition or Related Death	Electronic form: https://extapps.health.sa.gov.au/cdcb-notify/ Phone: 1300 232 272 Fax: 08 7425 6696 Post: Reply Paid 6 GPO Box 6 Rundle Mall Adelaide SA 5000

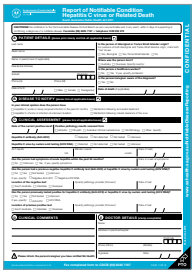
*All notifiable AEFIs need to be reported to SA Health. AEFI reports received by SA Health are deidentified and sent to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). If an AEFI has been reported to SA Health, then there is no requirement to also report this to the TGA.

CDCB: Communicable Disease Control Branch;
SA TB Services: South Australian Tuberculosis Services
AEFI: adverse event following immunisation;
TGA: Therapeutic Goods Administration









Further information

To download a copy of notification forms, to obtain more information on notification or summary data on notified conditions visit:
www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/NotifiableDiseaseReporting

For clinical resources on management of infectious diseases visit:
www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/InfectiousDiseaseControl

For information on adverse event following immunisation visit:
www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/immunisationprovider

For information for patients on notifiable conditions visit:
www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/YouveGotWhat

For more information

Communicable Disease Control Branch
Telephone: 1300 232 272
www.sahealth.sa.gov.au

Interpreter

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