

South Australia

Emergency Management (Appropriate Surgery During COVID-19 Pandemic) Direction 2020

under section 25 of the *Emergency Management Act 2004*

Preamble

- 1 On 22 March 2020 I, Grantley Stevens, Commissioner of Police, being State Co-ordinator for the State of South Australia pursuant to section 14 of the *Emergency Management Act 2004* (the *Act*), declared pursuant to section 23 of the Act that a Major Emergency is occurring in respect of the outbreak of the Human Disease named COVID-19 within South Australia.
- 2 Now I, Grantley Stevens, being of the opinion that this is necessary to achieve the purposes of the Act, give the following direction pursuant to section 25 of the Act.

1—Short title

This direction may be cited as the *Emergency Management (Appropriate Surgery During COVID-19 Pandemic) Direction 2020*.

2—Appropriate Surgery Direction

The only surgical treatment that may be performed in the State of South Australia is—

- (a) emergency surgery and procedures performed for conditions where failure to do so expediently and safely will lead to the following outcomes:
 - (i) loss of life; or
 - (ii) loss of limb; or
 - (iii) permanent disability;
- (b) non-emergency but urgent surgery and procedures performed for conditions where failure to do so in a clinically appropriate timeframe (within 30 days) will lead to a predictable and evidence based outcome as follows:
 - (i) loss of life where surgery or a procedure would otherwise have prevented this;
 - (ii) permanent disability where surgery or a procedure would otherwise have prevented this;
 - (iii) where clinical evidence supports an increased risk of a type referred to in subparagraph (i) or (ii) should surgery or a procedure be significantly delayed,

provided that no alternative, non-surgical or procedural intervention exists.

Note—

Procedures may, for example, include endoscopy, bronchoscopy, interventional radiology and cardiology.

3—Powers of authorised officers

Nothing in this direction derogates from the powers of authorised officers to exercise powers pursuant to the Act.

IMPORTANT— IT IS AN OFFENCE TO BREACH THIS DIRECTION

This direction operates from the 31st day of March 2020 at 2359 hours

SIGNED at ADELTAINE on this 31st day of March 2020
at 1245 hours


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GRANTLEY STEVENS
STATE CO-ORDINATOR