

South Australia

Emergency Management (Appropriate Surgery During COVID-19 Pandemic No 3) 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 No 3) Direction 2020*.

2—Revocation of previous direction

- (1) This direction replaces the *Emergency Management (Appropriate Surgery During COVID-19 Pandemic No 2) Direction 2020*.
- (2) The *Emergency Management (Appropriate Surgery During COVID-19 Pandemic No 2) Direction 2020* is revoked.

3—Appropriate Surgery Direction

- (1) Subject to subclause (2), 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 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.

- (2) Subclause (1) does not prevent the performance of the following:
 - (a) procedures undertaken in a community setting utilising local anaesthetic by primary health and allied health practitioners within their scope of practice;
 - (b) procedures and surgical treatments undertaken by dentists in the management of—
 - (i) patients with acute dental pain (for example, endodontic treatment under rubber dam, or extraction); or
 - (ii) significantly damaged upper front teeth (for example, due to trauma, with restorative treatment provided under rubber dam or soft tissue pathology (e.g. ulcers)); or
 - (iii) complex medically compromised patients with dental concerns which may compromise their systemic disease; or
 - (iv) those at a higher risk of rapid progression of dental disease due to socioeconomic or cultural factors; or
 - (v) patients referred by a medical practitioner for medically necessary dental care;
 - (c) procedures to complete—
 - (i) any cycle of IVF treatment that a patient has commenced before the commencement of this direction; or
 - (ii) any procedure required for the preservation of eggs for future IVF where required health treatment will render eggs non-viable;
 - (d) surgical termination of pregnancy.
- (3) To avoid doubt, nothing in subclause (2) is to be taken to allow the performance of cosmetic surgery.

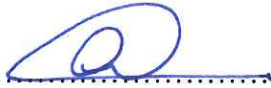
4—Powers of authorised officers

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 3rd day of April 2020 at 0001 hours

SIGNED at ADELAIDE on this 2nd day of April 2020
at 1845 hours


.....

GRANTLEY STEVENS
STATE CO-ORDINATOR