

South Australia

Emergency Management (Exposure Sites, Contacts and Diagnosis Requirements) (COVID-19) Direction 2021

under section 25 of the *Emergency Management Act 2004*

Preamble

- 1 On 22 March 2020 I, Grantley Stevens, Commissioner of Police, being the 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 directions pursuant to section 25 of the Act.
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1—Short title

This direction may be cited as the *Emergency Management (Exposure Sites, Contacts and Diagnosis Requirements) (COVID-19) Direction 2021*.

2—Revocation

- (1) The *Emergency Management (COVID-19) (Exposure Site Requirements No 2) Direction 2021* is revoked.
- (2) The *Emergency Management (COVID-19) (Isolation following Diagnosis or Close Contact) Direction 2021* is revoked.
- (3) This direction replaces the *Emergency Management (COVID-19) (Exposure site Requirements No 2) Direction 2021* and the *Emergency Management (COVID-19) (Isolation following Diagnosis or Close Contact) Direction 2021*.

3—Purpose of this direction

The purpose of this direction is to—

- (a) impose testing and quarantine requirements on people who have been present at an exposure site during an exposure period and on their household members; and
- (b) impose testing and quarantine requirements on people who have had casual contact or close contact with a COVID-19 case and on their household members; and
- (c) impose isolation requirements on people who have been diagnosed with COVID-19.

4—Application of this direction

- (1) This direction applies to any person who has been—
 - (a) present at an exposure site during an exposure period; or
 - (b) notified by SA Health they are casual or close contact of a COVID-19 case; or
 - (c) household members of persons referred to in subclause (1)(a) or (b); or
 - (d) notified that they have been diagnosed with COVID-19.
- (2) For the avoidance of doubt, this direction applies to a person whether or not they have received a notification in writing (including by SMS) from SA Health that they were at an exposure site during an exposure period.

5—Interpretation

- (1) In this direction, unless the contrary intention appears—

casual contact means a person who has been notified by SA Health that they are a casual contact with a COVID-19 case or who has been at a casual contact exposure site during the exposure period for that site.

casual contact site means a site listed on the SA Health website as a casual contact site;

close contact means a person who has been notified by SA Health that they are a close contact with a COVID-19 case or who has been at a close contact site during the exposure period for that site.

close contact site means a site listed on the SA Health website as a close contact site;

COVID Management Plan events means any gathering or event in respect of which a COVID Management Plan is required under another direction;

COVID-19 test means—

- (a) analysis of a combined oropharyngeal/nasal specimen taken by an appropriately trained and qualified health care worker to test for COVID-19 (also referred to as SARS-CoV-2) using Polymerase Chain Reaction; or
- (b) any other test for COVID-19 approved by the Chief Public Health Officer for the purposes of this direction;

COVID-19 vaccine means a COVID-19 vaccine approved or recognised by the Therapeutic Goods Administration;

Note—

Details of COVID-19 vaccines recognised by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (from time to time) are available at <https://www.tga.gov.au/covid-19-vaccines-not-registered-australia-current-international-use-tga-advice-recognition>.

exposure period, in relation to an exposure site, means the exposure period corresponding to that site specified on the SA Health website;

exposure site means a casual contact site or a close contact site;

health or other facility, in the case of a person who has been directed to remain in a medi-hotel, means the person's assigned room at the medi-hotel;

high risk setting has the same meaning as in the *Emergency Management (Arrivals No 2)(COVID-19) Direction 2021* or any direction replacing that direction;

household member of a person means any member of the household of a person, being a person regularly living in the household (or households if they live in more than one) of such a person;

isolated and segregated in relation to quarantine or isolation means isolated and segregated from other persons (including persons who usually live at the premises where the person is undertaking quarantine);

last exposure date, in relation to a person who was present at an exposure site during an exposure period, means the date on which they were last present at the site and, in relation to a person who is subject to this direction because their household member was present at an exposure site, means the date on which that person was last present at the site;

medi-hotel means a hotel operating in South Australia that has contracted with the State Government to provide supervised quarantine accommodation.

nominated residential premises means a residential premises nominated by a casual contact, close contact or a person diagnosed with COVID-19 to undertake a period of quarantine or isolation;

notified— see subclause (3);

SoNG means the *Series of National Guidelines—Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) CDNA National Guidelines for Public Health Units* published by the Australian Government Department of Health;

the SA Health website is:

<https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/conditions/infectious+diseases/covid-19/testing+and+tracing/contact+tracing>;

unvaccinated close contact means a person who is not vaccinated who has been notified by SA Health that they are a close contact with a COVID-19 case or who has been at a close contact exposure site during the exposure period for that site;

vaccinated—see subclause (2);

vaccinated close contact means a person who is vaccinated who has been notified by SA Health that they are a close contact with a COVID-19 case or who has been at a close contact exposure site during the exposure period for that site.

- (2) For the purposes of this direction a person is **vaccinated** if the person has completed the full course of a COVID-19 vaccine in accordance with a schedule recommended by ATAGI.
- (3) For the purposes determining the commencement of requirements in this direction, a person has been **notified** that they are a casual contact, a close contact or diagnosed with COVID-19 upon—
 - (a) receiving notice in writing (including by SMS) by SA Health; or
 - (b) receiving notice in writing (including by SMS) by SA Pathology; or
 - (c) the relevant exposure site being published on the SA Health website; or
 - (d) receiving telephone contact by SA Health;whichever is earlier.

6—Interpretative provision for counting days

For the purposes of this direction, if a person is required to do, or not to do, any specified act for a specified period of days after being present at an exposure site during an exposure period or after having close contact with a COVID-19 case, the day of exposure is not counted for the purpose of determining when the period expires but the person must comply with the requirement from the time of their exposure to COVID-19.

Note—

For a person who was present at an exposure site on 10 January 2022 and is required to quarantine for 14 days, the 14 day period of quarantine ends at 11:59 p.m. on 24 January 2022.

This provision would also apply, for example, to a requirement to not enter a high risk setting for a period of 14 days after being present at an exposure site.

7—Declared requirements—casual and close contacts

The table below sets out the requirements applying to a casual contact or a close contact.

	Casual contact	Vaccinated close contact	Unvaccinated close contact
Quarantine requirements	Quarantine Specified period: until first negative test result	Quarantine Specified period: 7 days from last exposure date (subject to negative test result on day 6) <i>Or if notified more than 7 days after last exposure date:</i> Quarantine Specified period: until first negative test result	Quarantine Specified period: 14 days from last exposure date (subject to negative test result on day 13) <i>Or if notified more than 14 days after last exposure date:</i> Quarantine Specified period: until first negative test result
Testing requirements	COVID-19 testing Specified times: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> immediately upon notification; and on the 6th day after exposure; and on the 13th day after exposure; and immediately upon developing symptoms 	COVID-19 testing Specified times: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> immediately upon notification; and on the 6th day after exposure; and on the 13th day after exposure; and immediately upon developing symptoms 	COVID-19 testing Specified times: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> immediately upon notification; and on the 6th day after exposure; and on the 13th day after exposure; and immediately upon developing symptoms
Other requirements	Wear surgical mask when around others at all times General precautions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid contact with vulnerable people (elderly, pregnant, people with chronic health conditions) Avoid non-essential activities where possible Avoid shared spaces and maintain physical distancing Specified period: 14 days after last exposure date	Wear surgical mask when around others at all times Do not attend COVID Management Plan events Do not enter a high risk setting (hospitals, aged care) except for essential reasons General precautions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid non-essential activities Avoid contact with vulnerable people (elderly, pregnant, people with chronic health conditions) Avoid shared spaces and maintain physical distancing Specified period: Between day 8-14 after last exposure date	

8—Declared requirements—household members of close contacts

The table below sets out the requirements applying to a household member of a vaccinated close contact or an unvaccinated close contact unless the close contact with whom they share a household is able to quarantine isolated and segregated.

Notes—

- (1) There are no requirements on household members of casual contacts.
- (2) If the close contact is able to quarantine isolated and segregated, the household member is not subject to any requirements under this direction.

	Vaccinated close contact	Unvaccinated close contact	Unvaccinated close contact under 12 years
Vaccinated household member	COVID-19 testing Specified times: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> immediately upon notification; and on the 6th day after exposure; and immediately upon developing symptoms 	Quarantine Specified period: 7 days from last exposure date (subject to negative test result on day 6) <i>Or if notified more than 7 days after last exposure date:</i> Quarantine Specified period: until first negative test result COVID-19 testing Specified times: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> immediately upon notification; and on the 6th day after exposure; and immediately upon developing symptoms 	COVID-19 testing Specified times: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> immediately upon notification; and on the 6th day after exposure; and immediately upon developing symptoms
Unvaccinated household member	same requirements as vaccinated close contact	same requirements as unvaccinated close contact	same requirements as unvaccinated close contact under 12 years

9—Declared requirements—diagnosed persons

- (1) A person who has been notified that they have been diagnosed with COVID-19 must—

- (a) isolate in a place, or places, as directed by an authorised officer for the duration directed by an authorised officer;

Notes—

- (1) A person may be directed to isolate at a nominated residential address or may be directed to isolate at a health facility.
- (2) A person may be directed to continue to isolate at a nominated residential address after discharge from a health facility.
- (3) A person directed to isolate in a health facility are subject to the requirements in the *Emergency Management (Supervised Quarantine No 11) (COVID-19) Direction 2021* or any direction that replaces that direction.

- (b) comply with any requirements for a period specified by a medical practitioner; or
- (c) if directed to remain in a health facility, remain in the health facility in accordance with that direction, and follow all reasonable directions from a treating medical practitioner, until a medical practitioner certifies that the person meets the criteria for discharge from a health facility in accordance with the SoNG.

- (2) If a person who has been notified that they have been diagnosed with COVID-19 is directed under subclause (1) to isolate at a nominated residential address, the person must—

- (a) travel by the most direct practical route and means to the nominated residential premises, if not already at those premises; and
- (b) reside and remain at the premises, isolated and segregated from other persons; and
- (c) remain at those premises, except—
- (i) for the purposes of obtaining urgent medical care; or
- (ii) in any other emergency situation; or
- (iii) for any reason approved in advance by the State Co-ordinator or his delegate or an authorised officer; or

during which times a mask must be worn at all times and, in the case of a person leaving the premises to obtain a COVID-19 test, the person must travel directly to the relevant site and inform the person performing the test of the reason for obtaining the test; and

- (d) take reasonable steps to ensure that no other person enters the premises unless that other person—
- (i) is also complying with a direction to isolate or quarantine; or
- (ii) is required to provide care and support to, or receive care and support from, the person to whom this direction applies at the place; or
- (iii) is required for medical or emergency purposes; and
- (e) follow all reasonable directions from a treating medical practitioner;

- (3) If—
- (a) a person is discharged from a health facility under subclause (1)(c); and
 - (b) at the time of discharge, the person is advised by a medical practitioner to continue to isolate or quarantine,
- the person must comply with the requirements under subclause (1)(b).

10—Quarantine requirements—close contacts and household members

- (1) A person required to comply with the **quarantine** requirement in this direction must, unless directed by an authorised officer to quarantine in a health facility—
- (a) travel by the most direct practical route and means to a nominated residential premises, if not already at those premises; and
 - (b) reside and remain at the premises for the remainder of the period specified in this direction commencing on the person's (or their household member's, as applicable), last exposure date; and:
 - (c) remain at those premises, except—
 - (i) for the purposes of obtaining medical care or medical supplies; or
 - (ii) in any other emergency situation; or
 - (iii) for any reason approved in advance by the State Co-ordinator or his delegate or an authorised officer; or
 - (iv) for the purpose of undergoing a COVID-19 test as specified in this direction;during which times a mask must be worn at all times and, in the case of a person leaving the premises to obtain a COVID-19 test, the person must travel directly to the relevant site and inform the person performing the test of the reason for obtaining the test; and
 - (d) take reasonable steps to ensure that no other person enters the premises unless that other person—
 - (i) usually lives at the premises; or
 - (ii) is also complying with a direction to isolate; or
 - (iii) is required to provide care and support to, or receive care and support from, the person to whom this direction applies at the place; or
 - (iv) is required for medical or emergency purposes; and
 - (e) follow all reasonable directions from a treating medical practitioner;
- (2) A person must comply with subclause (1) irrespective of whether the person receives a 'negative' result on a COVID-19 test within the period that they are required to reside and remain at a premises.

11—Testing requirement

- (1) The **COVID-19 test** requirement under this direction is the requirement that a person submit to a COVID-19 test at the time or times specified in this direction that fall after the person is notified that they are a casual or close contact, or is a household contact of a close contact.

Example—

A person who was notified that they were at an exposure site 7 days after their exposure is not required to have a day 6 test;

- (2) Despite the requirements in subclause (1)—
- (a) a person who obtained their day 1 test on the 4th or 5th day after their last exposure date is not required to obtain a day 6 test but must instead obtain a test on the 8th day after their last exposure date; and
 - (b) no person is required to obtain more than one test in a 48 hour period, unless symptoms of COVID-19 develop.

Examples—

- (a) A person who was notified that they were at an exposure site 5 days after their exposure must have a day 1 test, a day 8 test and a day 13 test but is not required to have a day 6 test;
 - (b) A person who was notified that they were at an exposure site 11 days after their exposure must have a day 1 test and is not required to have a day 13 test by virtue of subclause (2)(b).
- (3) If a person required to comply with the testing requirements in this direction displays symptoms of COVID-19, they must obtain further testing and immediately notify SA Health of those symptoms
- (4) A person required to submit to a COVID-19 test under this direction must not refuse or fail to comply with a reasonable requirement or direction of a person in relation to the conduct of the COVID-19 test.
- (5) If a person subject to a quarantine requirement of a kind referred to this direction refuses to submit to a COVID-19 test—
- (a) the person; and
 - (b) any other person required to remain quarantined together with that person at the place (whether or not the other person or persons have submitted to testing),

must reside and remain at that place, quarantined and segregated from other persons, for an additional period determined by an authorised officer commencing on the conclusion of the quarantine period that applied to the person.

12—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 22nd day of December 2021 at 1645 hours

SIGNED at ADELAIDE on this 22nd day of December 2021
at 1645 hours


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GRANTLEY STEVENS
STATE CO-ORDINATOR