

3 November 2021



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We are working daily to keep our clients, staff and community safe. We are strongly guided by the directions of the Government in managing the many risks of the COVID-19 pandemic. This strategy will continue as we navigate the next phase, the roadmap to COVID-19 recovery.

Recently, as a part of the SA Government Emergency Management Direction: *Emergency Management (Healthcare Setting Works Vaccination No 2) (COVID-19) Direction 2021*, (which we have to follow) all persons who perform duties in either a Phase 1 or Phase 2 Healthcare setting, are required to have at least one dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine by the dates set out below:

From Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2021 Phase 1 Healthcare settings	From Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> November 2021 Phase 2 Healthcare settings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Public hospitals</li><li>• Private hospitals</li><li>• Ambulance services</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Primary community healthcare facilities (GP clinics, dental clinics, private nurse offices)</li><li>• Pharmacies</li><li>• Specialist outpatient facilities</li><li>• Private pathology and radiology centres (including breast screening centres)</li><li>• Defence health settings</li><li>• Facilities for the collection, manufacture and distribution of blood and biological products</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aboriginal community controlled health services</li> <li>• Any location where the Department for Health and Wellbeing, the Commission on Excellence and Innovation in Health and Wellbeing SA carries out any business or undertaking</li> </ul>
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This Direction applies to disability support staff. If your support worker attends one of these healthcare settings when they are supporting you, they are required to have at least one dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine. Attending a Healthcare setting may be a planned (booked appointment) or unplanned (an emergency or sudden illness) so it is important that you are aware of this Direction and how it may impact the supports you receive.

#### **Phase 1 Healthcare setting example**

“Mary” trips and falls while out in the community with her support worker “Ann”. An ambulance is called because she has hurt her leg and cannot walk. The ambulance officers decide that Mary needs to go to the hospital in the ambulance. Ann will only be able to support Mary in the ambulance (and at the hospital) if she has been vaccinated with at least one dose against COVID-19. The ambulance officers and the hospital may ask Ann to show proof that she has had the vaccination. Mary will receive the medical help she needs whether she is vaccinated or not.

#### **Phase 2 Healthcare setting example**

“Fred” has an appointment scheduled with her podiatrist. He requires a support worker to assist him with this visit. Only a support worker who has received at least one dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine can accompany Fred to his appointment. The support worker may be asked to show proof of vaccination when they arrive at the podiatrist. Fred will not need to disclose his vaccination status.

Our staff have been informed of the Directive. An extract from the communication is attached to this letter. We have encouraged all staff to let us know if they have had a COVID-19 vaccination so that we can allocate vaccinated staff to support you to visit Healthcare settings in line with the Directive.

From the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November 2021 the COVID-ready plan will be implemented in South Australia. This is when it is expected that 80% of South Australians will be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. COVID safe practices will be more important than ever, these include; getting tested for COVID-19 with any symptoms, physical distancing, hand hygiene and staying home when sick.

You may be required from this date to show evidence of your COVID vaccination. You can obtain proof of your COVID-19 vaccination in a number of ways:

- Medicare Online Account through myGov
- Express plus Medicare mobile app on your phone
- Contact or provide verbal confirmation for a Team Leader to contact the Australia Immunisation Register on your behalf. To do this you will need your Medicare number and confirmation of name, date of birth and address

We will continue to keep our clients, families and staff updated on any further Directives that impact disability support services. If you have any questions in relation to this information and how it may affect your services, please contact your Team Leader in the first instance.

Thank you for working with us to continue to keep our communities safe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Mark Kulinski".

Mark Kulinski  
Chief Executive

## **Extract of Communication sent to all staff**

*Hi All,*

*As part of the Emergency Management (Healthcare Setting Works Vaccination No 2) (COVID-19) Direction 2021– It is a requirement that all persons who perform duties in a **Phase 1 healthcare setting from 1 November 2021** or **Phase 2 healthcare setting from 8 November 2021**, has received at least one dose of a TGA approved COVID-19 vaccine and the person has received or has evidence of a booking to receive a second dose of a TGA approved COVID-19 vaccine within the interval after the first dose recommended by ATAGI for that COVID-19 vaccine.*

*It is also a requirement for persons subject to subclause (1) must provide the operator of the healthcare setting with proof of their vaccination status upon request.*

*We understand a further directive from Government which will be inclusive of Disability Services is imminent. We will keep you updated on this directive. In the meantime it is a requirement that we adhere to the Emergency Management (Healthcare Setting Works Vaccination No 2) (COVID-19) Direction 2021*

### **Phase 1 healthcare settings are:**

- *Public hospitals, private hospitals and ambulance services.*

### **Phase 2 healthcare settings are:**

- *Primary community healthcare facilities (GP clinics, dental clinics, private nurse offices)*
- *Pharmacies*
- *Specialist outpatient facilities*
- *Private pathology and radiology centres (including breast screening centres)*

- *Defence health settings*
- *Facilities for the collection, manufacture and distribution of blood and biological products*
- *Aboriginal community controlled health services*
- *Any location where the Department for Health and Wellbeing, the Commission on Excellence and Innovation in Health and Wellbeing SA carries out any business or undertaking*

*Please see attached FAQs or link to the full Direction above for further information*

*In order for us to comply with this Government Direction, we are requesting that if you have been vaccinated (1<sup>st</sup> or both doses) and are yet to provide us with this evidence, that you email this through to [clacovid@claut.com.au](mailto:clacovid@claut.com.au) **no later than 7 November 2021**.*

*If you have already provided us with your full vaccination certificate, thank you. You are not required to submit this information again.*

*Please contact your Team Leader or Rostering if you have any queries about a rostered shift that you may not be able to attend under this Directive due to your vaccination status.*

*These are challenging times for all. If you need support please reach out to your Line Manager or utilise our EAP confidential counselling service through ACCESS Programs on 1300 66 77 00.*