

COVID-19 Public Health Alert No 19 / 16 Nov 2020

South Australia (SA) has reported a significant increase in cases of COVID-19 related to an outbreak in Adelaide.

Testing for people from Adelaide

The Chief Health Officer has asked that anyone who has arrived from Adelaide on or since Monday 9 November 2020, immediately get tested, regardless of symptoms, as some may already be infected. These people are also being asked to voluntarily self-quarantine in their current accommodation until 14 days since they left Adelaide.

The risk for transmission to Queensland has increased and GPs, hospitals and fever clinics need to have heightened awareness for cases.

Anyone presenting with any symptoms, no matter how mild, needs to be tested.

Clinicians are reminded that symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, loss of smell or taste, fatigue, runny nose, muscle pain, joint pain, diarrhea **, nausea/vomiting, and loss of appetite (CDNA National Guidelines for Public Health Units Version 3.10 28 October 2020).

Clinicians should have a high level of suspicion for COVID-19 in the general population, and a low threshold for testing.

It is anticipated that there will be an increased demand on testing across all sectors.

From 11.59pm Monday 16 November 2020, Adelaide has been declared a hotspot.

The list of hotspots is available at:

<https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/current-status/hotspots-covid-19>

More information will be provided as it becomes available.

**There is currently an increase in occurrence of gastroenteritis, particularly in young children in childcare centres in South East Queensland. Testing centres/fever clinics are advised to review their processes to minimise the risk of transmission of gastroenteritis in staff and patients.

Approved by Public Health Incident Controller, Communicable Diseases Branch Incident Management Team