



Sunday, 4 May 2020

**Clinical Practice During the Easing of Restrictions:  
Recommendations from the Australian Family Care Covid-19 Response Team:**

The number of new cases of COVID-19 in SA has dropped to zero despite a surge in testing and widened testing criteria. There currently appears to be no community transmission.

In SA, 423 of 428 cases (almost 97%) are reported as recovered.

**Last week our practices 'opened our doors' and maintained social distancing practices.**

As of Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May we are recommending the following.

Patient Screening: Pre-appointment

**1 Making an appointment.**

- Prior to an appointment, patients' COVID-19 risk profile should still be determined:  
Do they have cold and/or flu-like symptoms (i.e., sore throat, cough, fever, fatigue, loss of smell or altered taste)?
  - If 'no'? They are offered either face to face or phone consults. Face to face is encouraged.
  - If 'yes'?
    - The choices are to be seen at a respiratory clinic or to be seen by one of our staff in the patient's car using appropriate PPE.
    - We would recommend the respiratory clinic at RFC and the somewhat similar service at McIntyre Medical Centre.
- Safety measures in the clinic:
  - Take temperature on arrival.
  - If apyrexial to wait for a consult as per normal patient care.

- If pyrexial to be ushered to a private room and to be seen as soon as possible.

## 2 Seeing patients in the practice.

- Physical Distancing and Hygiene
  - Patients should be seated in such a way that we can ensure 1.5m of social distance.
  - Hand sanitiser should be available at every workstation and be made available to patients.
  - All clinics have a supply of plastic chairs.
    - Chairs, medical equipment, and workstations should be cleaned frequently.
    - We do not feel that there is a need to wear a surgical mask in normal work settings, but employees may wear one if they wish and stocks are adequate.