

# Navigating OSC Through COVID!

Living with COVID

Facing Challenging Times

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✓connect ✓care ✓innovate

## *Acknowledgement of Country*

I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the lands from where each of us is joining this webinar today.

I wish to pay my respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

# GP Obstetric Shared Care Team

## GP Partners Australia | Program Staff:

- **Leanne March**

GP Obstetric Shared Care Program Manager and Midwife

- **Naomi Pointon**

GP Obstetric Shared Care Program Support Officer

## GP Partners Australia | GP Advisor:

- **Dr Jenni Goold**



# GP Obstetric Shared Care

Impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

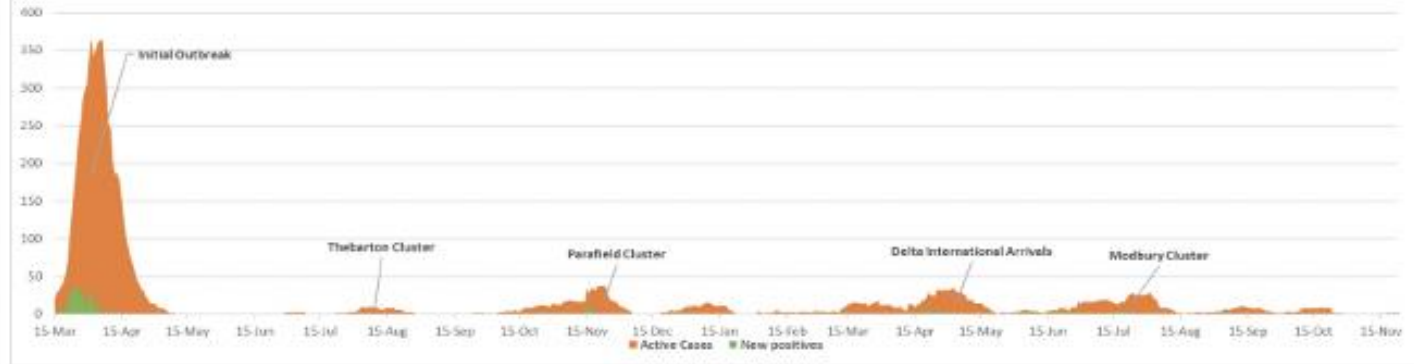


# GP Obstetric Shared Care – Learning Outcomes

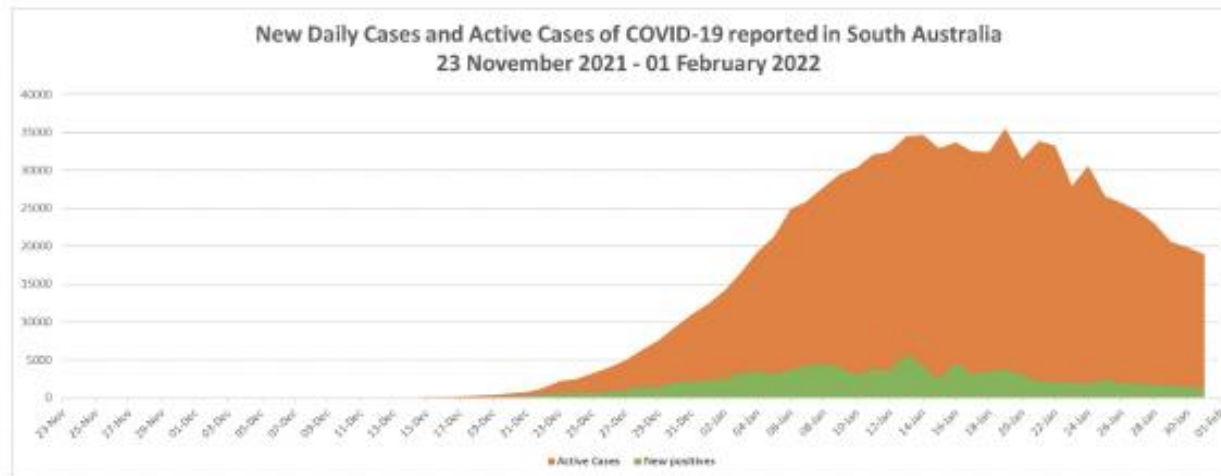
- Overview of current COVID-19 in SA
- Impact on SA GP OSC Program
- Manage a low-risk pregnancy (OSC pregnancy) at all stage of gestation in COVID environment:
  - COVID positive
  - sCOVID
  - nonCovid
- Identify and manage key risk factors encountered in COVID community spread in low-risk pregnancies
- Looking forward – living with COVID



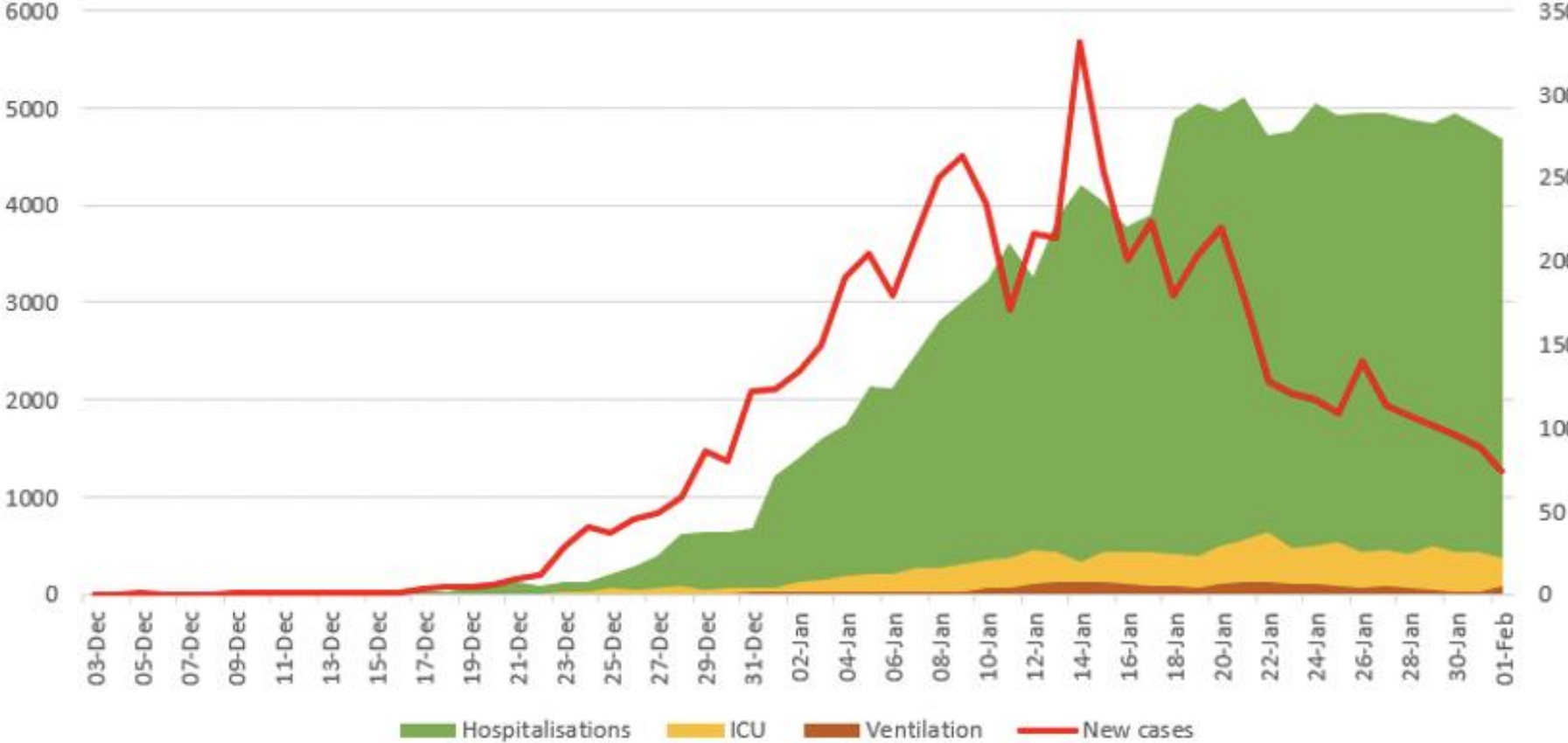
**New Daily Cases and Active Cases of COVID-19 reported in South Australia  
15 March 2020 - 23 November 2021**



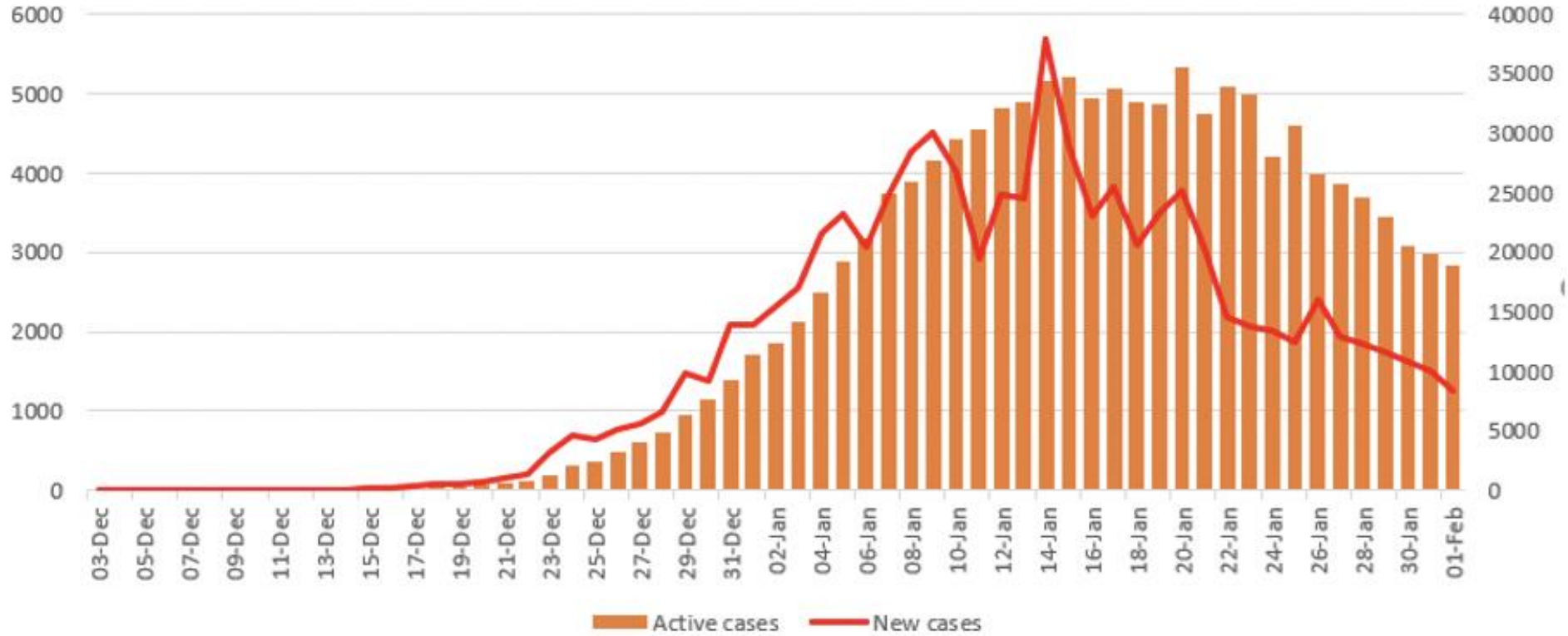
**New Daily Cases and Active Cases of COVID-19 reported in South Australia  
23 November 2021 - 01 February 2022**



### New Daily Cases Numbers vs Hospitalisation

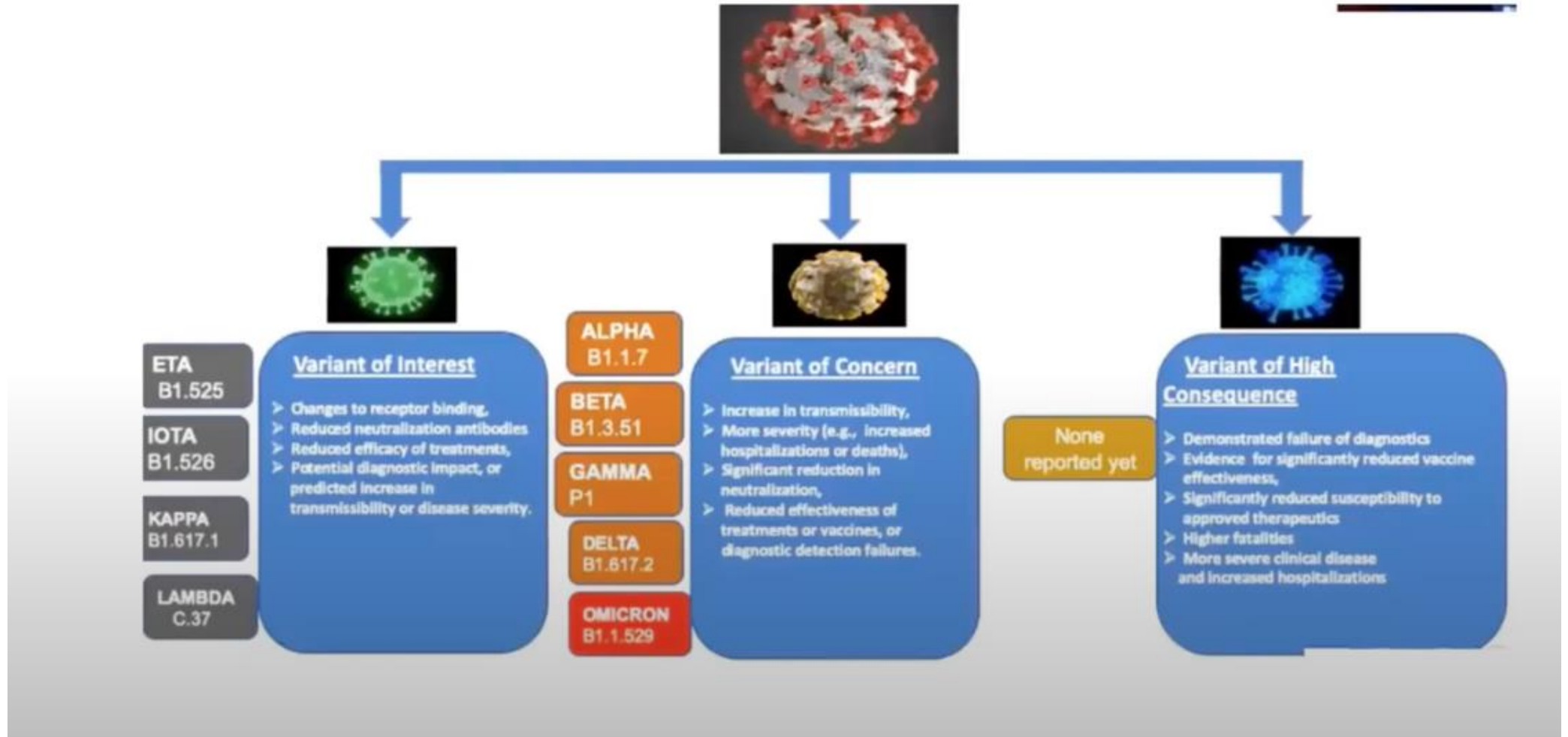


### SA Daily New Cases vs Active Cases





# COVID-19



# OMICRON

Not more infective but more immuno-evasive, so greater spread  
Hence why efficacy of vax decreased and importance of booster  
Variant identification by Genome sequencing of all hospitalised patients  
only 1 delta in recent times - all omicron or subvariant

# SA Health's COVID-19 Omicron health response

Prediction from evidence and experience

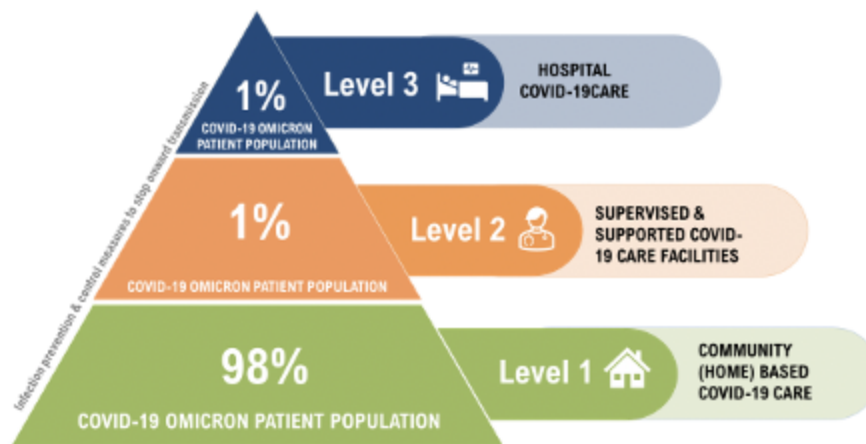
- 98% of COVID-19 Omicron cases can be safely managed through home-based care

Under Delta planning, SA Health anticipated approximately 300 COVID-19 positive cases in hospital.

In adapting to Omicron, SA Health planned to manage up to 500 cases in hospital.

Updated Omicron modelling predicted peak cases to be between 6,000 and 10,000 per day assuming current public health measures remained in place

**NOTE:**  
Modelling continues to be updated in real time based on real data.



# Role of GP in supporting SA Health system response

## Health system response pathway



**LOW RISK – HOME PATHWAY**

**COMMUNITY (HOME) BASED COVID-19 CARE**

Patient advised on **SELF MANAGEMENT** at home and to contact:

- Healthdirect for care information, advice & escalation
- USUAL GP for medical care (COVID & non-COVID)
- CRCT 1800 272 872 for logistics and support services

- continue to support patients with non-COVID-19 health needs (either in person or via telehealth where the opportunity arises to minimise the need for patients to always attend appointments in person)
- continue to offer preventative healthcare and vaccinations (including COVID-19 vaccination)
- perform COVID-19 tests in their clinic, if it is safe and appropriate to do so, including taking a swab test outside while the patient remains in their car, or they may send patient to a [drive-through testing clinic](#)
- support patients who are COVID-19 asymptomatic or have mild disease and symptoms (low and medium risk) of COVID-19
- escalate patients who deteriorate to moderate and severe disease (high / very high risk) ensuring those involved are aware of patient's status as COVID-19 positive and their risk factors for deterioration
- liaise with SA Health GP Assessment Team (GPAT) and COVID Response Care Team (CRCT) for a patient's COVID-19 care and existing co-morbidities including in acute and post-acute illness (for IV infusion referrals).

SA Health has developed pathways to facilitate direct referral from community-based clinicians for monoclonal antibody infusions for immunocompromised and unvaccinated, at-risk patients who develop COVID-19. Work is underway to expand the pathway based on recently approved oral therapies, expected to be available in the first quarter of 2022.

Healthy Profession,  
Healthy Australia.

# Care pathways for adults who test positive for COVID-19



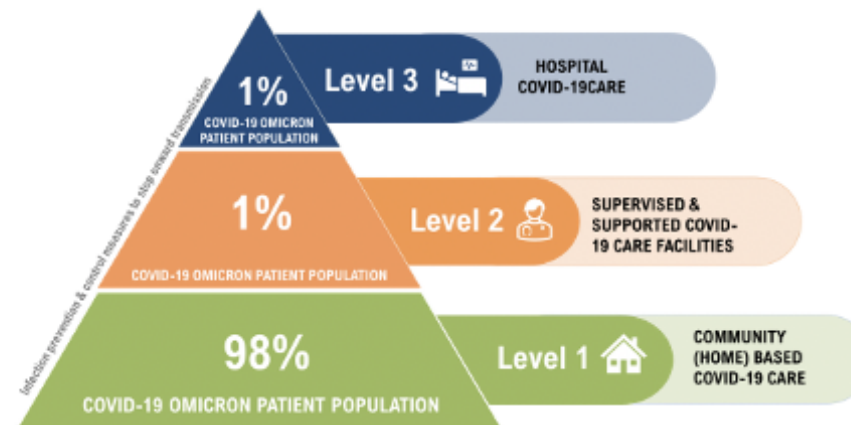
# State-wide community COVID-19 Omicron Patient Care Model

## LOW RISK – HOME PATHWAY

### COMMUNITY (HOME) BASED COVID-19 CARE

Patient advised on **SELF MANAGEMENT** at home and to contact:

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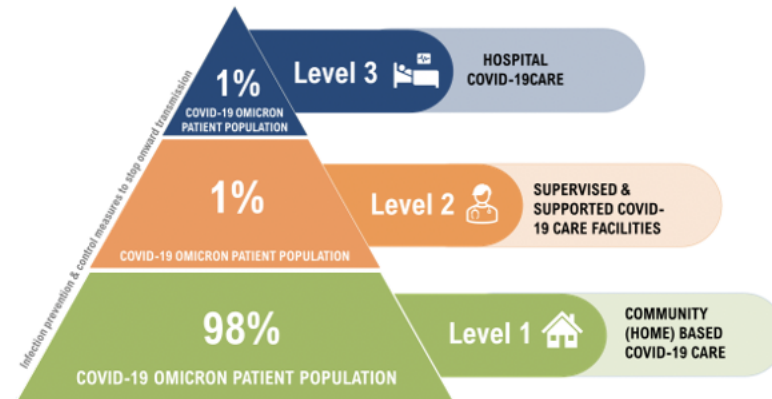


# State-wide community COVID-19 Omicron Patient Care Model

## MEDIUM RISK – SUPPORTED PATHWAY

### CLINICAL MONITORING & CARE AT HOME OR SUPPORTED COVID-19 CARE FACILITY

- CRCT / GPAT monitoring and care
- COVID Hospital in the Hotel
- Supervised Regional Care Facilities

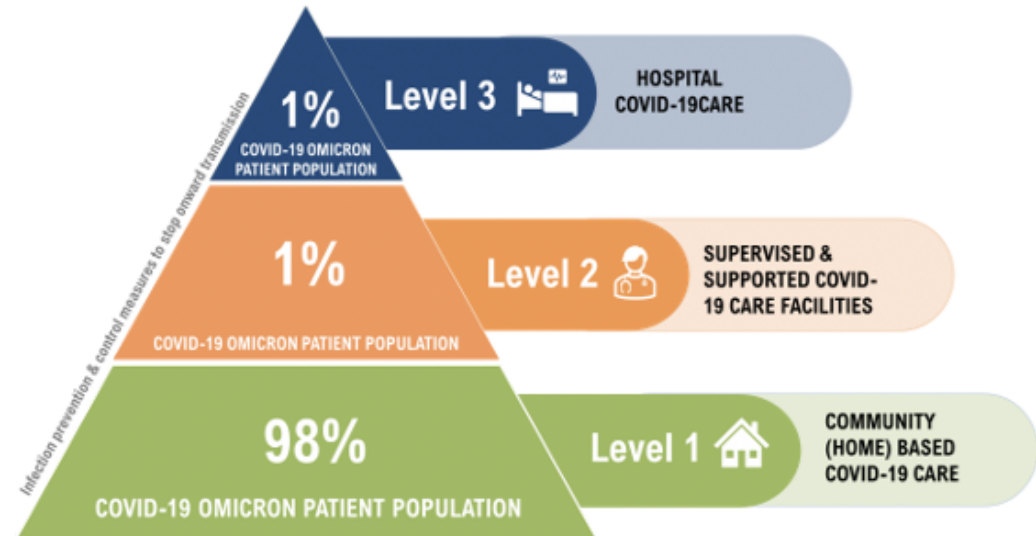


# State-wide community COVID-19 Omicron Patient Care Model

## HIGH RISK – HOSPITAL PATHWAY

### ACUTE AND HOSPITAL COVID-19 CARE

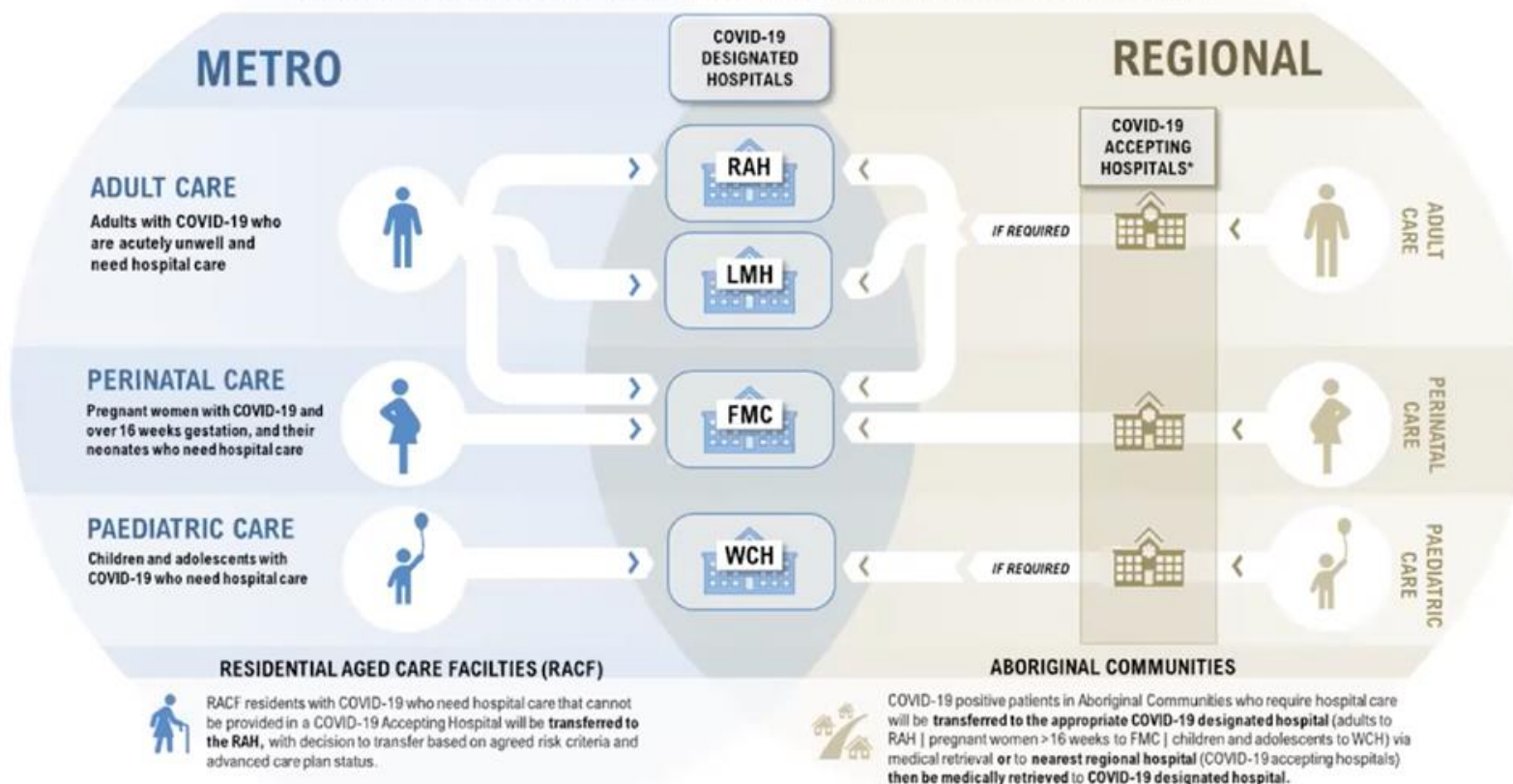
- COVID Care Centre
- Intensive Care Unit
- Hospital Admission
- Emergency Department





# High risk – hospital pathway

## OMICRON HOSPITAL RESPONSE ACUTE FLOWS FOR COVID-19 POSITIVE PATIENTS REQUIRING HOSPITAL CARE



PATIENTS WHO ARE SUSPECTED COVID-19 POSITIVE AND ACUTELY UNWELL REQUIRING HOSPITAL CARE MAY BE MEDICALLY TRANSFERRED/RETRIEVED DIRECTLY TO COVID-19 DESIGNATED HOSPITALS

\* An acute facility that can safely care for a COVID-19 positive patient with respiratory intervention, without compromising the ability to deliver non-COVID-19 health care. The COVID-19 accepting hospital needs to be able to stabilise patients and escalate retrieval protocols to ensure that tertiary care can be accessed, as required.

# Resources for GPs

Telehealth

Video calls

Covid Care kits/ Remote monitoring devices

Virtual Care service

Health direct

Pathways- pregnancy SALHN, Children- WCH & COVIDkids,  
Adults RAH , Mental health RAH, CRCT, GP Assessment  
Team, Medihotels, COVID Care Centre's, ED, local facilities  
for isolation- Ceduna, Port Augusta, Park 23, Edan hills

# COVID-19 & GP Obstetric Shared Care

- GPs essential in Covid space & especially in pregnancy care
- Vaccinate, encourage following of restriction, Covid testing if CC/ symptoms, Mental health, usual healthcare needs & pregnancy care

Perfect time to keep women out of tertiary centres & in GP rooms-

how to do this safely?- PPE, <15min F2F, min companions

- Protocols- impact of COVID
- Booking visits; phone and phone consults available
- Guidelines- management of COVID-19 in pregnancy in SA
- COVID-19 vaccination in pregnancy, post partum
- Additional treatments/ at risk groups- MAB? Oral antivirals? VTE?
- f/u post clearance, baby care, vax schedule
- Mental health
- Support for GPs to care for pregnant/post partum + women in community & their babies

*Management of  
COVID-19 in  
Pregnancy in  
South Australia*

Management of  
COVID-19 in Pregnancy  
in South Australia

v7.2 03/02/2022

# GP Obstetric Shared Care- Hospital Bookings Routine Process (not covid +)

Metro:

LMHS- OSC F2F in community clinic (MW - Siobhan Lucas)

WCH- phone triage visit (MW - Sarah Clark)

-other visits can be F2F or women can opt for phone

FMC- OSC F2F (MW - Lisa Walker)

**(Covid +)**

notify birthing/ booking hospital for addition to covid clinic (weekly phone call)

T/H for support over COVID illness

# GP Obstetric Shared Care - OSC Suggested Visit Schedule

business as usual

	GESTATION	LOCATION
<b>1<sup>st</sup> visit</b>	Diagnosis	GP
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> visit</b>	10-12 weeks	GP or Hospital
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> visit</b>	22 weeks	GP (if the woman has been seen at the participating hospital, otherwise visit at participating hospital)
<b>4<sup>th</sup> visit</b>	28 weeks	GP
<b>5<sup>th</sup> visit</b>	32 weeks	GP
<b>6<sup>th</sup> visit</b>	34 weeks	GP
<b>7<sup>th</sup> visit</b>	36 weeks	Hospital
<b>8<sup>th</sup> visit</b>	38 weeks	GP
<b>9<sup>th</sup> visit</b>	40 weeks	Hospital

# GP Obstetric Shared Care

## Document in SAPR – Current Version 13

- Gestation (completed weeks)
- Progress
- BP - seated, correct cuff, Right arm
- Fundal height in cm and plot on graph
- Fetal heart rate
- Fetal movements
- Investigation results
- Presentation and descent from 30 weeks

# GP Obstetric Shared Care

**How to continue F2F care and risk mitigate**

- **GP and staff Fully Vax**
- **N95, google/face shield**
- **Limit F2F to under 15 minutes- phone & F2F for examination? Wait in car & SMS**
- **Limit those accompanying**

**sCOVID/ COVID + use telehealth**

- **If need support- usual mechanism/ if require F2F- options**

**Exposure in practice- CC- matrix SA Health**



# GP Obstetric Shared Care

## Routine Antenatal Booking Tests & investigations: BAU

- booking

CBP, Blood group and antibody screen, Rubella titre, Omega 3, Syphilis, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, HIV, Ferritin, MSSU for MCS, <25 years Chlamydia screening – urine PCR, Vit D if at risk

- **MSS (bloods >9wks & < 14 weeks/ scan 12wks / NIPT >9wk)**

- **Early GTT 12-16weeks**

- **Morph scan**

- **28 weeks bloods-** CBP, VIT D, Ab (Rh -), syphilis if high risk, Ferritin & GTT

- ANTI-D if required 28 & 34 weeks

- **LVS-** GBS 36 weeks and CBP/Ferritin if abnormal at 28 weeks

- **Specialised tests/follow up;** Growth scans/ AFI/ Dopplers/ BA/ PE monitoring/ Anti D following sensitising event

# COVID-19 & GP Obstetric Shared Care

COVID + women – birth at FMC

If present to LHN maybe birthed there (discuss with FMC)

Specialised care- WCH for MFM & cardiac babies

Where to go for assistance? For all +

F2F

>16 weeks any issue F2F assessment via FMC obs/ BAS

<16 weeks if pregnancy related, via FMC or if nonpregnant related at RAH ED or CCC (via CRCT)

Advice only

LHN where booked/zoned

# GP Obstetric Shared Care

## Recommended immunisations during pregnancy:

- **COVID-19 Pfizer mRNA (Cominarty) vaccine:**
  - **recommended at any stage in pregnancy (RANZCOG)**
  - This is because the risk of severe outcomes from COVID-19 is significantly higher for pregnant women and their unborn baby
  - Pregnant women are encouraged to discuss with their GP
  - Women who are trying to become pregnant do not need to delay vaccination or avoid becoming pregnant after vaccination.

# GP Obstetric Shared Care- COVID-19 vax

- Safe to Vax in pregnancy and BF; dose 1, 2 & booster (if second dose >3 months)
- Use Pfizer / moderna (Novavax- insufficient safety data)

If don't vax;

> 5 x higher risk of req hospital

> 2-3 x higher risk of ICU

> 1.5 x preterm baby or needing nursery care

- Vax schedule if become covid + then schedule vax dose (1 & 2) when feeling well
- Booster post infection- delay booster 3 months (ATAGI)

# GP Obstetric Shared Care

**Recommended immunisations during pregnancy:  
Schedule with >1 week from COVID vax**

- **Influenza vaccine:**
  - Recommended at any stage in pregnancy
  - Government subsidised
- **Pertussis vaccine:**
  - Only available in polyvalent form (dTpa)
  - From 20 weeks – Vaccinate by 32 weeks
  - Government subsidised (Adacel)

# GP Obstetric Shared Care GP Role

- **Vaccinate**
- **Usual pregnancy care**
- **Follow up of pregnancy issues**
- **Supportive care for COVID illness (viral illness)- fever, myalgia hydration, hyperemesis exacerbation....**
- **Identify those with risk factor placing them at greater risk of disease progression & monitor/ refer**
- **LOOK OUT FOR RED FLAGS- obstetric & COVID!**
- **Specific considerations in pregnancy;**
  - Monoclonal Antibody (MAB) Infusion-sotrovamab (not oral antivirals)**
  - VenousThrombo Embolism (VTE) prophylaxis**

# Sheet 9. PREGNANT COVID-19 positive treatment flowchart (including MAB)



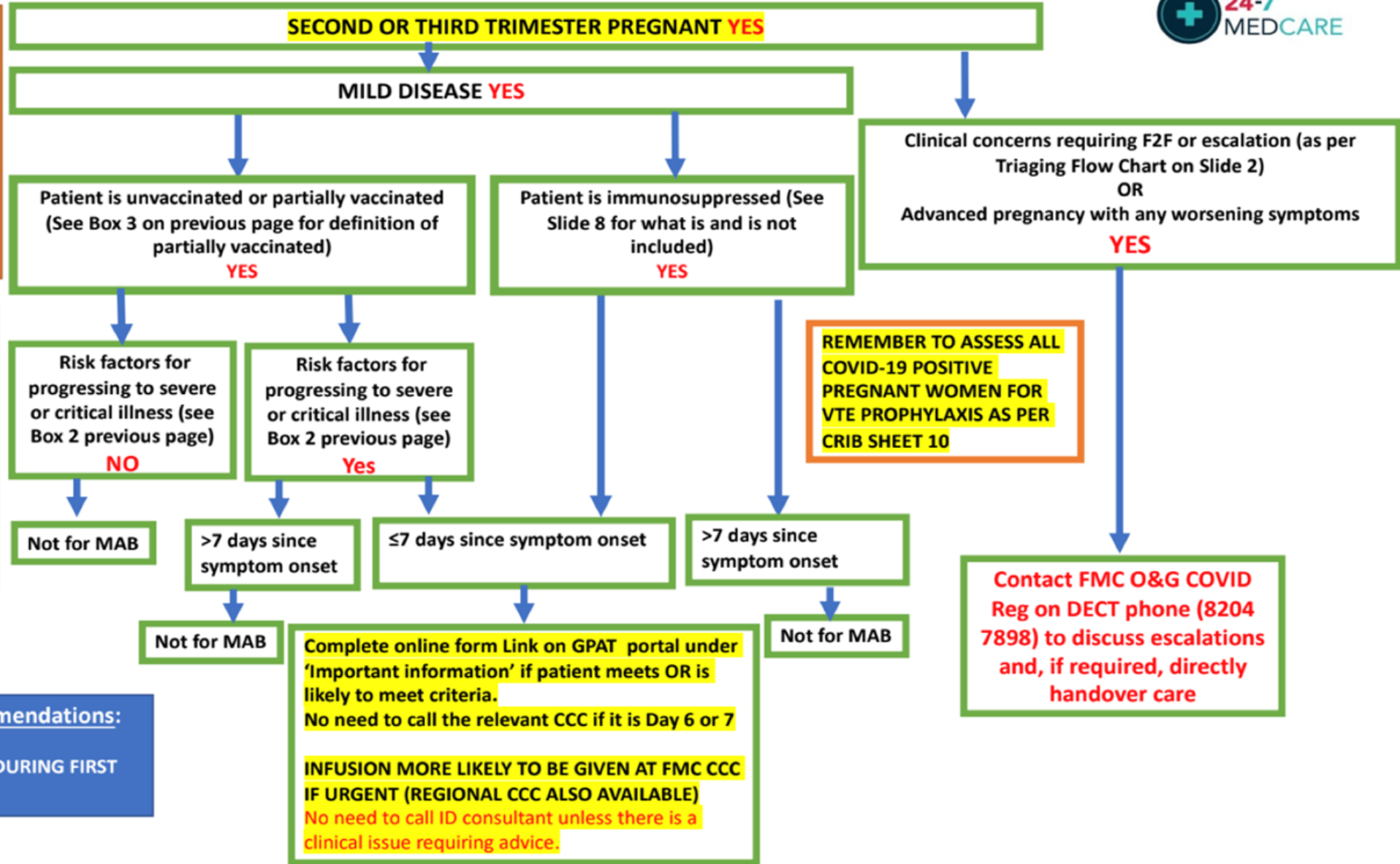
For emergency maternity care patients can call: 8204 5511 and ask for the Birthing and Assessment Suite (BAS) or 000

If a COVID-19 positive pregnant woman needs to attend hospital to birth or receive care, they will be cared for at FMC if:

- greater than 16 weeks gestation
- less than 16 weeks gestation and have pregnancy-related complications

### Current infusion recommendations:

NO INFUSIONS ARE GIVEN DURING FIRST TRIMESTER PREGNANCY

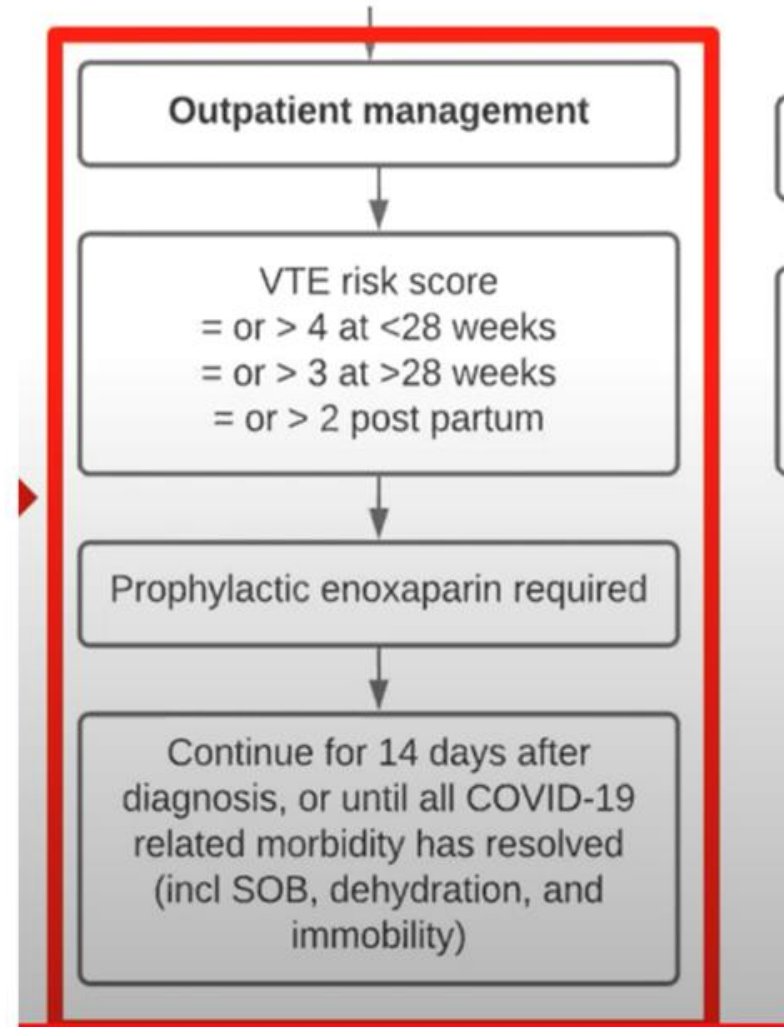


## *VTE Risk Assessment & Prophylaxis in pregnancy*

### **Active COVID-19-risk of VTE & pregnancy elevates baseline risk**

An assessment tool is used to obtain a score, & if eligible, discuss with birthing hospital & commence Enoxaparin as per dosage guidelines.

HITH/ MRU can administer in home



post hospital discharge, further 14 days or until all COVID morbidity resolved



# VTE Risk scoring

Outpatient management Threshold for treatment	
< 28 weeks	Score $\geq 4$
$\geq 28$ weeks	Score $\geq 3$
<b>Post-partum</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Active COVID-19 within the first 6 weeks after birth</li> <li>- Women who have had COVID-19 in pregnancy but are negative at the time of birth</li> </ul>	Score $\geq 2$

Pre-existing risk factors	Tick	Score
Previous VTE (except a single event related to major surgery)		4
Previous VTE provoked by major surgery		3
Known high-risk thrombophilia		3
Medical comorbidities e.g. cancer, heart failure; active systemic lupus erythematosus, inflammatory polyarthropathy or inflammatory bowel disease; nephrotic syndrome; type 1 diabetes mellitus with nephropathy; sickle cell disease; current intravenous drug user		3
Family history of unprovoked or estrogen-related VTE in first-degree relative		1
Known low-risk thrombophilia (no VTE)		1 <sup>a</sup>
Age (> 35 years)		1
Obesity		1 or 2 <sup>b</sup>
Parity $\geq 3$		1
Smoker		1
Gross varicose veins		1
Obstetric risk factors		
Pre-eclampsia in current pregnancy		1
ART/IVF (antenatal only)		1
Multiple pregnancy		1
Caesarean section in labour		2
Elective caesarean section		1
Mid-cavity or rotational operative delivery		1
Prolonged labour (> 24 hours)		1
PPH (> 1 litre or transfusion)		1
Preterm birth < 37 <sup>o</sup> weeks in current pregnancy		1
Stillbirth in current pregnancy		1
Transient risk factors		
Any surgical procedure in pregnancy or puerperium except immediate repair of the perineum, e.g. appendicectomy, postpartum sterilisation		3
Hyperemesis		3
OHSS (first trimester only)		4
Current systemic infection		1
Immobility, dehydration		1
<b>TOTAL</b>		

**Abbreviations:** ART assisted reproductive technology; IVF in vitro fertilisation; OHSS ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome; VTE venous thromboembolism.

<sup>a</sup> If the known low-risk thrombophilia is in a woman with a family history of VTE in a first-degree relative postpartum thromboprophylaxis should be continued for 6 weeks.

<sup>b</sup> BMI  $\geq 30 = 1$ ; BMI  $\geq 40 = 2$

**1 point should be added if the patient is dehydrated or immobile**

## Dosing of Enoxaparin

Prophylaxis	Dosing
Creatinine Clearance (CrCl) <30mL/min or body weight < 50kg	Enoxaparin 20mg daily or Unfractionated Heparin 5000 units BD*
Weight 50-90kg + CrCl >30mL/min	Enoxaparin 40mg subcut daily
Weight 91-130kg + CrCl >30mL/min	Enoxaparin 60mg subcut daily
Weight 131-170kg + CrCl >30mL/min	Enoxaparin 80mg subcut daily
Weight >170kg + CrCl >30mL/min	Consult Obstetrics Medicine or Haematology

### Cautions and contraindications for VTE Prophylaxis

Imminent delivery

Known bleeding disorder (e.g. haemophilia, von Willebrand's disease or acquired coagulopathy)

Active antenatal or post-partum bleeding

Increased risk of major haemorrhage (e.g. placenta praevia)

Thrombocytopenia (Plt <75 x 10<sup>9</sup>/L)

Acute stroke in previous 4 weeks (haemorrhagic or ischaemic)

Severe renal disease (GFR <30ml/minute/1.73m<sup>2</sup>)

Severe liver disease (prothrombin time above normal range or known varices)

Uncontrolled hypertension (blood pressure >200mmHg systolic or >120 mmHg diastolic)

### Administration of enoxaparin

We currently do not have a single-entry pathway for arranging administration, so please try the following:

1. If the patient has a private Obstetrics provider, try to contact this person for a handover OR
2. If a patient is booked at a public hospital for Obstetrics, call the O&G Reg at that hospital to discuss and provide a verbal handover OR
3. Call the O&G COVID Registrar at Flinders Medical Centre on 8204 7898 to discuss and provide a verbal handover

### Box 2: Risk factors for progressing to severe or critical COVID-19 illness

- Age  $\geq 55$  years or  $\geq 35$  for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- Diabetes or gestational diabetes AND requiring medication
- Obesity BMI  $> 30\text{kg/m}^2$  and  $< 45\text{kg/m}^2$  PLUS additional risk factor
- Obesity BMI  $> 45\text{kg/m}^2$
- Kidney disease (eGFR  $< 30$  mL/min OR for pregnant women eGFR  $< 60$  mL/min)
- Chronic Kidney Disease (eGFR 30-60 mL/min)
- Chronic liver disease (cirrhosis)
- Congenital heart disease
- Congestive heart failure (NHYA Class II or above)
- Cardiovascular disease PLUS additional risk factor
- Moderate to severe asthma (on inhaled corticosteroid or prescribed course of oral steroid in previous 12 months)
- Chronic lung disease (chronic bronchitis, COPD, emphysema with dyspnoea on exertion)
- Sickle Cell Disease
- Pregnancy: See dedicated page for this

### Box 3: Definition of partially vaccinated:

- Only 1 vaccination (*same as before*)
- $< 2$  weeks since second vaccination (*same as before*)
- $> 4$  months since second AstraZeneca vaccine (NEW)
- $> 5$  months since second Moderna or Pfizer vaccine (NEW)
- $< 7$  days since booster vaccine (NEW)

### Box 1: Immunosuppressed Classification (See Slide 8 for what is and is not included)

#### Primary or acquired immunodeficiency

- Haematological neoplasm (leukemias, lymphomas or myelodysplastic syndromes)
- Post-transplant: solid organ transplant on immunosuppressive therapy, haematopoietic stem cell transplant within 24 months
- Immunocompromised due to primary or acquired (HIV/AIDS) immunodeficiency

#### Other significantly immunocompromising conditions

- Current or recent immunosuppressive therapy
- Chemotherapy or radiotherapy
- High dose corticosteroids ( $\geq 20\text{mg}$  prednisolone per day or equivalent) for  $\geq 14$  days
- Biological therapy or disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (DMARDs)

# MAB Infusion - Risk factors

Vaccination status	Risk factors for progressing to severe illness	Immunocompromising conditions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No vaccination</li> <li>• Received 1 vaccine</li> <li>• &lt; 2 weeks since second vaccine</li> <li>• &gt; 4 months since second vaccine AZ</li> <li>• &gt;5 months since second vaccine Pfizer</li> <li>• &lt; 7 days since booster</li> <li>• Fully vaccinated but immunocompromised</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age &gt; 55 years or &gt; 35 for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander</li> <li>• Diabetes or pregestational diabetes AND requiring medication</li> <li>• Chronic kidney disease (eGFR &lt; 60 mL/min)</li> <li>• Chronic liver disease (cirrhosis)</li> <li>• Obesity (BMI &gt; 30kg/m<sup>2</sup> and &lt;45kg/m<sup>2</sup> + additional risk factor)</li> <li>• Obesity BMI &gt; 45kg</li> <li>• Moderate to severe asthma (on inhaled corticosteroid or prescribed course of oral steroid in previous 12 months)</li> <li>• Chronic lung disease (chronic bronchitis, COPD, emphysema with dyspnoea on exertion)</li> <li>• Congestive heart failure (NHYA Class II or above)</li> <li>• Cardiovascular disease</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Haematological neoplasm (leukaemia, lymphoma or myelodysplastic syndrome)</li> <li>• Haematopoietic stem cell transplant within 24 months</li> <li>• Solid organ transplant on immunosuppressive therapy</li> <li>• Primary or acquired (HIV/AIDS) immunodeficiency</li> <li>• Current or recent immunosuppressive therapy</li> <li>• Chemotherapy or radiotherapy</li> <li>• High dose corticosteroids (≥ 20mg prednisolone per day or equivalent) for ≥ 14 days</li> <li>• Biological therapy or disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs</li> </ul>

## Sheet 8. Immunocompromised and MABs-included and excluded conditions and therapies



**PLEASE NOTE: asplenic or hyposplenic patients are not classified as immunosuppressed**

The following patient groups are eligible for monoclonal antibody therapy for the treatment of COVID-19 disease

- Active haematological malignancy
- Non-haematological malignancy with current active treatment (e.g., chemotherapy, whole body irradiation)
- Solid organ transplant with immunosuppressive therapy
- Haematopoietic stem cell transplant (HSCT) recipients or chimeric antigen receptor T-cell (CAR-T) therapy within 2 years of transplantation
- Primary immunodeficiency including combined immunodeficiency and syndromes, major antibody deficiency (e.g. common variable immune deficiency (CVID) or agammaglobulinemia), defects of innate immunity (including phagocytic cells), defects of immune regulation, complement deficiencies and phenocopies of primary immunodeficiencies.
- Advanced or untreated HIV with CD4 counts < 250/ $\mu$ L or those with a higher CD4 count unable to be established on effective antiretroviral therapy.
- Patients prescribed immunosuppressive therapies including:
  - High dose corticosteroid treatment equivalent to > 20mg/day of prednisone for  $\geq$  14 days in a month, or pulse corticosteroid therapy.
  - Multiple immunosuppressants where the cumulative effect is severely immunosuppressive (for examples refer to 'excluded therapies' below).
  - Selected conventional synthetic disease-modifying anti-rheumatic drugs (csDMARDs):
    - **including** mycophenolate, methotrexate ( $\geq$  10 mg/week), leflunomide, azathioprine ( $\geq$  1mg/kg day), 6-mercaptopurine ( $\geq$  0.5mg/kg/day), alkylating agents (e.g. cyclophosphamide, chlorambucil), and systemic calcineurin inhibitors (e.g. cyclosporin, tacrolimus).
    - **excluding** hydroxychloroquine when used as monotherapy.
  - Biologic and targeted therapies anticipated to reduce the immune response to COVID-19 vaccine. Refer to table below for examples. However, clinicians may use their judgement for medications which are not listed.

### Included biologic and targeted therapies

Class	Examples
Anti-CD20 antibodies	rituximab, obinutuzumab, ocrelizumab, ofatumumab
BTK inhibitors	ibrutinib, acalabrutinib, zanubrutinib
JAK inhibitors	tofacitinib, baricitinib, ruxolitinib, upadacitinib
Sphingosine 1-phosphate receptor modulators	fingolimod, siponimod
Anti-CD52 antibodies	alemtuzumab
Anti-complement antibodies	eculizumab
Anti-thymocyte globulin (ATG)	anti-thymocyte globulin (e.g. ATGAM <sup>®</sup> , Thymoglobuline <sup>®</sup> , ATG-Grafalon <sup>®</sup> )
Pyrimidine and purine synthesis inhibitors	teriflunamide, cladribine
Other agents	abatacept, belimumab, blinatumomab, dimethyl fumarate, tocilizumab

### Excluded therapies

The following therapies, when **not** given in combination with other immunosuppressive therapies, are likely to have a minimal effect on COVID-19 vaccine response. Patients prescribed these therapies are **not** eligible for monoclonal antibody therapy for treatment of COVID-19 illness:

- Anti-TNF- $\alpha$  antibodies (e.g. infliximab, adalimumab, etanercept, golimumab, certolizumab)
- Anti-IL1 antibodies (e.g. anakinra), Anti-IL4 antibodies (e.g. dupilumab), Anti-IL6 antibodies (e.g. siltuximab)
- Anti-IL17 antibodies (e.g. apremilast, secukinumab, ixekizumab)
- Anti-IL23 antibodies (e.g. guselkumab, risankizumab, tildrakizumab, ustekinumab)
- Immune checkpoint inhibitors (e.g. atezolizumab, durvalumab, ipilimumab, nivolumab, pembrolizumab)
- Integrin receptor inhibitors (e.g. natazilumab, vedolizumab)
- Interferons, Glatiramer
- VEGF, EGFR and HER2 blockers (e.g. cetuximab, panitumumab, pertuzumab, trastuzumab, bevacizumab)

# MAB Referral

## www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/covidinfusion

The screenshot shows the top navigation area of the SA Health website. On the left is the Government of South Australia logo and the text 'Government of South Australia SA Health'. On the right is a red button that says 'DO YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY?' with a right-pointing arrow. Below these are two buttons: 'Accessibility' and 'Language' with a dropdown arrow. To the right of these is a search bar labeled 'Search SA Health' with a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar is a blue navigation bar with the following items: 'Clinical resources' (with a dropdown arrow), 'Conditions' (with a dropdown arrow), 'COVID-19' (with a dropdown arrow), 'Healthy living' (with a dropdown arrow), 'Public health' (with a dropdown arrow), 'Services' (with a dropdown arrow), 'About', 'Careers', and 'Contact'.

[Home](#) > [Clinical Resources](#) > [Clinical Programs and Practice Guidelines](#) > [Infectious disease control](#) > [COVID-19: Information for health professional](#) > Monoclonal Antibody Infusion Application for COVID-19 positive patients

## Monoclonal Antibody Infusion Application for COVID-19 positive patients

This information is designed to support General Practitioners and other Medical Professionals in the referral of South Australian patients that may qualify for an infusion of a monoclonal antibody for COVID-19 positive.



### On this page

- [General information](#)
- [Patient eligibility criteria](#)
- [Refer your patient](#)
- [Patient education information](#)
- [What happens after the referral is made?](#)



# MAB INFUSION APPLICATION FOR COVID-19 POSITIVE PATIENTS (INCLUDING PREGNANT)

Consider early in disease to reduce likelihood of disease progression

## ***Eligibility;***

**COVID +** confirmed by PCR (not Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) ), mild symptoms

**Less than 7 days** since onset of symptoms or + test (which ever earlier)

**Not requiring oxygen** therapy

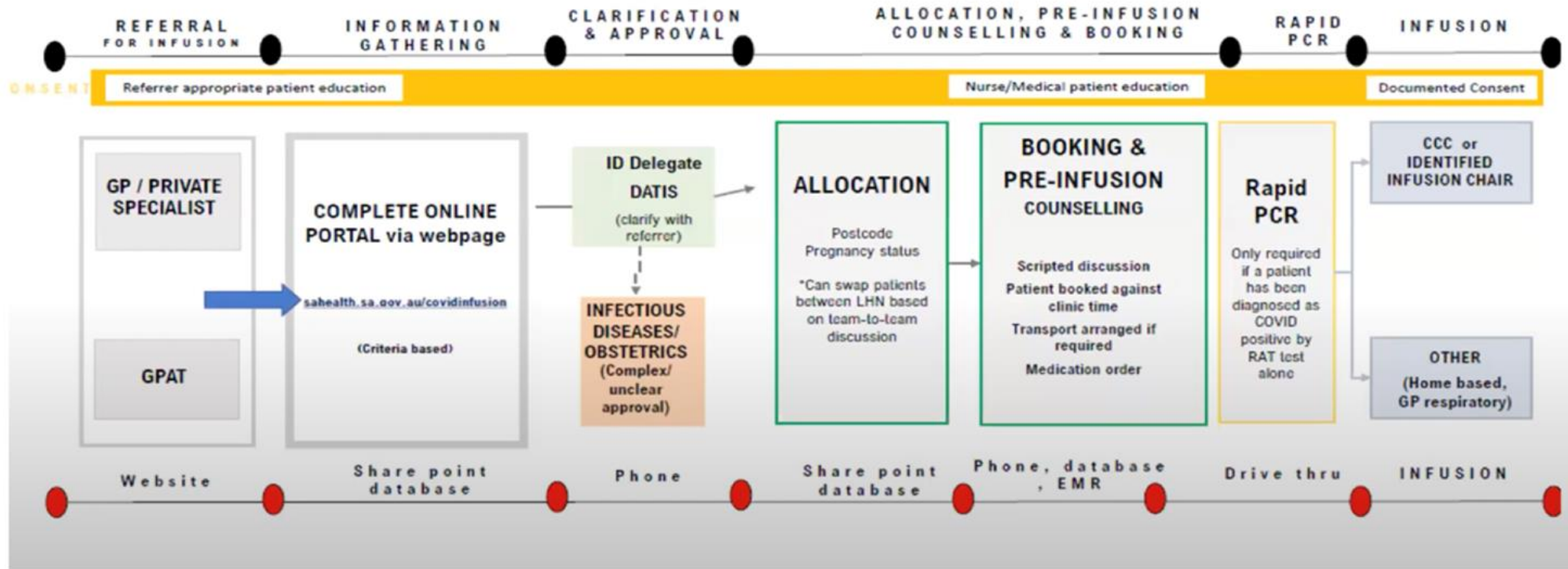
**Immunosuppressed** (as outlined in the application form)

***Or***

**Unvax or partially vax** & have risk factor for disease deterioration

# COVID-19 MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY INFUSION APPROVAL & ADMINISTRATION PATHWAY

COVID-19 MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY INFUSION APPROVAL AND ALLOCATION PATHWAY





# MAB Infusion – Current locations

## METROPOLITAN ADELAIDE

LHN Location	Pre-infusion Counselling	Referral Process	Contact Details
FMC		<a href="http://WWW.sahealth.sa.gov.au/covidinfusion.com.au">WWW.sahealth.sa.gov.au/covidinfusion.com.au</a>	
RAH		<a href="http://WWW.sahealth.sa.gov.au/covidinfusion.com.au">WWW.sahealth.sa.gov.au/covidinfusion.com.au</a>	
LMH	Clinic Currently in set up phase	<a href="http://WWW.sahealth.sa.gov.au/covidinfusion.com.au">WWW.sahealth.sa.gov.au/covidinfusion.com.au</a>	

## REGIONAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Location Local Health Network	Pre-infusion Counselling - SA VTS default	Referral Processes agreed	Contact Details
*Eyre Far North (EFN)	SA VTS	No	Dr Susan Merrett - processes required
Riverland Murray Coorong (RMC) Berri and Murray Bridge	Yes	Yes	Dr Caroline Phegan
*Yorke & Northern (YN)	SA VTS	No	Dr Viney Joshi – processes required
*Barossa Hills Fleurieu (BHF)	SA VTS	No	Dr Sharon Morton – Case by Case only for Kangaroo Island maybe considered
*Flinders Upper North (FUN)	SA VTS	No	Dr Nes Lian-Lloyd - Staffing and processes required
Limestone Coast (LC) Mount Gambier	Yes	Yes	Dr Elaine Pretorius
			* All Subject to change

# GP Obstetric Shared Care

**ORAL ANTIVIRALS- <5 days (similar criteria MAB)**

**Paxlovid-** (combination Nirmatrelvir & ritanovir)

Drug interactions, altered dose with renal function, not preg or BF

**Molnupiravir-** not in preg, avoid BF 4 days (Males  
contraception for 3 mo) 30% efficacy

Large tablets/ capsules- cant crush or open

No tailing off effect like Sotrovamab

Not for pregnancy or BF



## COMMON QUESTIONS

CDCB has simplified the process as of 2 January 2022.

All COVID-19 positive patients will be automatically cleared 10 days post test collection, irrespective of vaccination status or symptoms. This will be via an automated message sent directly to patients on Day 9.

This should be the message given to all patients who ask questions regarding clearance.

### CLEARANCE

Return to work?

do I need to test before I have my baby?

Who can support me in my birthing experience?

Who can visit me?

Postnatal care?- for mothers encourage BF infant suggest Mask and hand hygiene when feeding / handling (postnatal Care- patient information sheet)

***Find it all here:***

**WCHN- Having a baby at the WCH**

**FMC- COVID-19 screening for maternity patients**

**LMH COVID-19 Birthing At Lyell Mc-Ewin Hospital**

**Regional- check with designated birthing hospital**

# GP Obstetric Shared Care

## Perinatal Mental Health

- Recognition of depression and other mental health conditions is very important
- Use the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale (EPDS) or other screening tool, to assess antenatal depression
- Screening of all women for Depression/ DV in the antepartum (at booking and at 28 weeks - using MBS item **16591**) and postpartum period using the EPDS

# IMPORTANT CONTACT DETAILS

## ***Assistance required with pregnancy care in covid + pregnant woman:***

- Clinical advice
- Escalation of Care (F2F)
- VTE Prophylaxis
- MAB Infusion ( oral antivirals)

## ***Contact details***

- Birthing hospital
- SALHN COVID-19 Obstetrics DECT 82047898
- Birthing LHN in consultation with Obstetric Team
- [www.sahealth.sa.gov/covidinfusion](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov/covidinfusion)

# COVID-19 & GP Obstetric Shared Care

## Contact Numbers:

FMC Obstetric Dect phone: 82047898 24 hours

WCH: 81617000 pager 5899 24 hours

LMHS: 81829000 page 6146 mon- Friday 9.5pm after hours SALHN

CRCT:

Email [Health.CRCTStatewide@sa.gov.au](mailto:Health.CRCTStatewide@sa.gov.au)

GP contact to nurses 0401 577 241

Patient access 1800 272 872

# GP Obstetric Shared Care- further info?

SA GP Obstetric Shared Care Protocols <http://www.gppaustralia.org.au/>

SA Perinatal Practice Guidelines [www.health.sa.gov.au/ppg](http://www.health.sa.gov.au/ppg)

OSC Midwife Coordinators/ GP Advisor  
GP OSC Program Manager; Leanne March – (T): 0418 803 844

SA Health website – fact sheets

LHN websites-

- visitor guidelines
- COVID testing pre LSCS /IOL
- + partner/ support person
- Postnatal care

Guidelines; maternity pathway, SA Health, National Guidelines

# THANKS FOR BEING AWESOME!

## GPS ARE CORNERSTONE OF COVID COMMUNITY CARE

KEEP PROVIDING USUAL EXCELLENT PREGANACY CARE

VACCINATE, VACCINATE, VACCINATE

REMEMBER MAB & VTE

SUPPORT

LOOK OUT FOR RED FLAGS & REFER



***Thanks helping to keep SA & our OSC Pregnant women safe***