



## Stace Anaesthetists COVID-19 Response

16/03/2020

As the situation with the COVID-19 pandemic continues to rapidly escalate in Australia and around the world, we want to update stakeholders on the measures Stace Anaesthetist has put in place in response.

Our foremost concern continues to be preserving the health and wellbeing of our people, patients and colleagues during this period. We also recognise the importance of our role as a specialist provider of health services and we know that health worker colleagues and patients rely on us, which is why we want to keep you informed of how we are responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Active daily management

To best protect high risk patients from unnecessary potential exposure to COVID-19 we have elected to cancel or in-rooms consultations until further notice. Our anaesthetists will continue to make pre-operative contact with patients via phone and/or telehealth mechanisms.

Should there be patients who absolutely require face-to-face assessment pre-operatively arrangements for out of hours consultation will be made. Please be in contact with our wonderful admin team who will assist with this.

We are expecting the unexpected. We understand that our anaesthetists and their health worker colleagues are at risk of exposure and support decisions to self-isolate and self-care. We expect that there will be disruptions to lists as anaesthetists and/or surgeons take steps to minimise exposure and we are well prepared to respond quickly to these events.

### Personal health and safety

A key focus area in caring for our people continues to be helping prevent the transmission of COVID-19 in our workplace. To help achieve this:

- We have implemented a voluntary work-from home arrangement for those in our admin team who can safely do so. Over 50% of our admin team can be working from home with little or no disruption to normal operations.
- We have requested anyone who is feeling unwell to stay out of the office and work from home or take appropriate leave.
- All international travellers will self-isolate for 14 days.
- We have asked employees to register details of any upcoming personal international travel.

### Office sanitation

In our rooms, we continue to implement control measures as recommended by government health authorities. These include:

- Ready access to hand sanitisers at workstations and at reception.
- Visible requests regarding good hand hygiene, cough/sneeze etiquette and seeking medical advice if required.
- Increased frequency of surface cleaning in common office areas

### Working through this together

In a challenging time for everyone, Stace Anaesthetists are committed to working with our people, patients, health worker colleagues and the relevant authorities to listen, take advice and importantly, take decisive action to help everyone through this period.

Should you have any questions or need further information please contact our Practice Manager, Bec Bright, on: 8236 5000 or at: rebecca.bright@stacedocs.com.au.