

## March 2020

### COVID-19 update

#### Funding continuity

Both levels of government have assured us that there will be no impact to members' funding should you need to adjust the way you deliver services, or cease them, due to the impact of COVID-19. We encourage members to notify your contract managers of any major changes to your business operations. If you are funded by the Department of Health, you will receive formal communication from them shortly. The advice given will be similar for services commissioned by the Primary Health Network, as well as members funded by the National Indigenous Australian Agency. Services funded by NSW Health would have been contacted with similar verbal advice.

#### Is AOD treatment an 'essential' service?

We have received advice from the NSW Ministry of Health that the definition of essential and non-essential services is being finalised and will be released publicly tomorrow. Please check [nsw.gov.au](http://nsw.gov.au) for updates. In the meantime, you should continue to provide the services that you currently have capacity to deliver, unless you are contacted directly by your contract manager to cease operations.

#### Coronavirus (COVID-19) teleconference

**26 March**

**1pm**

This teleconference is for managers to engage in discussion with the NSW Ministry of Health and NADA.

**Dial** 1800 857 029 (National) or 9696 0774 (Sydney)

**Access code** 55493665#

#### Coronavirus (COVID-19) webinar

**1 April**

**9–10.30am (AEDT)**

NADA has partnered with NSW Health to provide you with an update and information about service planning in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. We encourage managers, clinical and senior staff to participate in this webinar if you were unable to attend the March workshop.

[Register now](#)

#### Government support for members

The Australian Government is supporting businesses to manage cash flow challenges and retain employees—this includes NADA members with an aggregated annual turnover of under \$50 million. Eligibility will generally be based on prior year's turnover. The payment will be delivered by the ATO as an automatic credit in the activity statement system from 28 April 2020 upon employers lodging eligible upcoming activity statements. Eligible employers that withhold tax to the ATO on their employees' salary and wages will receive a payment equal to 100 per cent of the amount withheld, up to a maximum payment of \$50,000. Eligible employers that pay salary and wages will receive a minimum payment of \$10,000, even if they are not required to withhold tax. More information is available [here](#).

#### Workforce matters

We know that many of you are concerned about the health and wellbeing of your workforce and the impact of COVID-19 on working from home, staff leave entitlements and other industrial relations matters. The best source of information is available on the [Fair Work website](#), and [Safe Work Australia website](#). You might also like to let staff know about [support for individuals and households](#) from the Australian Government.

## **COVID-19 Webinar: Employment issues for not-for-profits**

Thursday 26 March  
10.30-11.30am

Justice Connect will talk you through:

- leave entitlements for permanent employees
- managing casual employees
- ensuring the safety of volunteers.

[Register here](#)

## **NADA support**

NADA has been on the phone to all members to check in and understand your current service needs. We're working on a timetable of workforce development opportunities that your staff can access online, on topics such as worker wellbeing and supporting clients via technology.

Starting next week NADA will also be posting a weekly timetable that outlines workforce development opportunities on topics relevant to member requests such as:

- tips for telephone, telehealth and video-conferencing counselling
- ABCs of worker wellbeing
- remote care planning for vulnerable clients
- supporting staff who are working from home.

## **The NADA team**

NADA staff is working from home; we may be physically distant, but we're still here for you. [Feel free to contact us](#) at any time.

### **For more information**

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