

## **Suspending non-urgent public dental for coronavirus**

All non-urgent public dental procedures across Victoria will be placed on hold for the next three months to limit the spread of coronavirus and to protect patients and staff. It will also free up personal protective equipment for front line health workers, and ensure supplies are available for critical dental services.

Victorians can continue to access emergency and urgent dental care at the Royal Dental Hospital of Melbourne, and many community-based dental services across the state. Health screening procedures will be in place at these clinics to protect staff and patients.

Suspended services include general dental care, routine denture services, specialist care, oral health promotion, teaching clinics and day surgery procedures. All patients with existing dental appointments in the next three months will be contacted to discuss their treatment plans and make new appointments when services re-commence.

Minister of Health Jenny Mikakos also urged all Victorian to maintain their oral health by eating well, drinking tap water, and brushing twice a day with fluoride toothpaste.

## **\$750 one off Economic Support Payment**

From 31 March with most getting it by 17 April 2020, the \$750 one off Economic Support Payment will be paid to eligible Australians or permanent residents automatically.

For eligibility and further details, please visit:

<https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/news/750-one-economic-support-payment>



## **Breaking News!**

Victoria Premier, The Hon. Daniel Andrews released a new statement on 30 Mar 2020. According to the statement, the number of cases of coronavirus in Victoria increase by 136 to 821. Four people have already died.

National Cabinet has agreed to significant new restrictions on public gatherings and will also enforce that where people can stay at home, they must stay at home. There are only four reasons to leave your home: food and supplies, medical care, exercise, and work or education.

The Stage 3 restrictions have come into effect from 30 Mar 2020 11:59pm and will be reviewed after four weeks, these include closing all playgrounds, skate parks and outdoor gyms, restricting gatherings to no more than two people except for members of your immediate household and for work or education. If people breach these directions, they face on-the-spot fines of \$1,652 for individuals and \$9,913 for businesses. Larger fines can also be issued through the courts.

The government has also announced a six-month moratorium on evictions for residential tenants who are not able to pay rent due to financial distress as a result of the COVID-19

Be alert all the time by maintaining good hand hygiene, wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water, or using Alcohol based hand sanitisers. Avoid touching your eyes, mouth or nose directly with your hands. Maintaining good cough etiquette, cover your mouth and nose when you sneeze or cough. Seek medical advice immediately when you have flu-like symptoms.

The Government also recommended People aged over 70, aged over 60 with pre-existing conditions, or Indigenous people aged over 50 should stay home wherever possible for their own protection.

**CCSSCI will always keep you posted on the updates from the government and our centre!**

### **CCSSCI specific measures regarding COVID-19 prevention:**

Request all staff to declare their health condition daily. Medical clearance is required after sick leave

Request all home care workers to avoid unnecessary direct contact with our consumers and maintain proper social distancing whenever possible throughout their service periods.

Request all home care workers to wash hands thoroughly before and after each service.

Provide masks to home care workers in providing high-risk services e.g. escort consumers to medical appointments)

Enhance communication with consumers via phone and various social media, suspend face-to-face temporarily.

Updated on 31 March 2020