

DENTAL INSIGHTS

The Magazine of the Australian Dental Association, South Australian Branch Inc.

Micro Edition

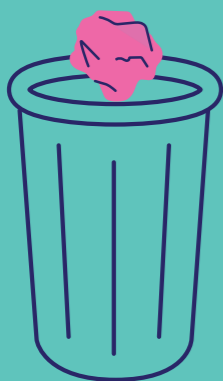


SIMPLE STEPS TO HELP STOP THE SPREAD.

Cough or sneeze into your arm



Bin the tissue



Use a tissue



Wash your hands



TOGETHER WE CAN HELP STOP THE SPREAD AND STAY HEALTHY.

For more information about **Coronavirus (COVID-19)** visit health.gov.au



Australian Government



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Front Cover: Lauren - Dentistry on Unley

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From the President

Dr Angelo Papageorgiou
ADASA President

The challenges brought about by COVID-19 to the world around us and the dental profession is unprecedented and unpredictable. The news headlines, widespread panic buying, anxiety, fear, media overload and misinformation has touched every one of us. Most industries have been affected and the same applies to dentistry in South Australia.

Fortunately, there appears to be a shining light at the end of the dark tunnel for us in this state and in Australia as we continue to lead the world with our enviable low infection rates and successful public health strategies.

It is pleasing to see that COVID-19 dental practice restrictions have stepped back to Level 2 since Monday 27 April 2020.

The World Health Organisation's (WHO) decision to lift restrictions is based on six criteria;

- Transmission is controlled
- Health system capacities are in place to detect, test, isolate every case and trace every contact
- Outbreak risks are minimised in special settings like health facilities and nursing homes
- Preventive measures are in place in workplaces, schools and other places where it is essential for people to attend
- Importation risks can be managed
- Communities are fully educated, engaged and empowered to adjust to the 'new norm'.

The three key triggers that the Infection Control Guidelines recommended to the Australian Health Protection Principle Committee (AHPPC) to move to Level 2 included;

- Sustained evidence of limited local acquisition/ community transmission
- Relaxation of limitations for elective surgery, and
- Sufficient availability of personal protective equipment, in particular masks, which does not compromise medical accessibility

Triggers that will suggest a move to Level 1 would be similar and this aligns with the national pandemic plan.

It is such well-established standards that have allowed South Australia to reach this point and whilst we

should still all be mindful of an outbreak, we may be assured that the curve has flattened and has been staying flat.

ADASA Branch

The office has been busy in an effort to bring you accurate and consistent messages and resources and these continue to evolve in line with developments. This has meant that we have worked closely and collegially with Federal ADA, State Government and the Public Sector, other affiliated associations and media to ensure that we provide our valued members and the public with accurate advice and direction in a timely fashion. Strong and regular key messaging to the dental profession has been a focus of ADASA.

Beyond the issue of mask shortage supplies, ADASA has fielded an extraordinary volume of member and patient enquiries over the last few weeks, and ensured the availability of a wide range of COVID-19 resources, webinars, COVID-19 microcyte and TV, member responses such as Human Resource services, financial resources and many other information resources for practice owners and employees.

High Risk COVID-19

No doubt, you will all be well versed with the ADA Managing COVID-19 Guidelines, however I wish to provide some further and more specific information to assist you in the event that you are presented with a high risk suspect case or confirmed COVID-19 case – highest risk patient in your dental practice.

In such a case, where you are presented with a high risk suspect case or confirmed COVID-19 patient case in your dental practice, the dentist or office staff will first need to contact the Adelaide Dental Hospital (Oral Surgery Unit) on 8222 8220.

The Oral Maxillo-Facial Surgery Unit will triage the emergency patient and assess the management and

the conditions (at the Adelaide Dental Hospital – ADH or at the Royal Adelaide Hospital- RAH). Should the patient meet the emergency criteria, they will be seen regardless of the usual eligibility criteria. Private patients will generally be charged 100% LDO fee. Should this requirement occur outside of business hours, the dentist/patient would need to contact the RAH Emergency Department and be triaged by the Oral Maxillo-Facial Surgery registrar. The dentist/patient must speak to the Oral Maxillo-Facial Surgery registrar via the RAH switchboard to receive advice as to the next step.

These patients who are deemed COVID-19 positive or COVID-19 high risk should be aware that there are emergency criteria that will apply and will be triaged at Level 4 restrictions and any emergency treatment within the guidelines will be provided through the RAH.

Management issues related to a patient treated in a dental practice and who is subsequently identified as either a close contact or confirmed with COVID-19, will be under the direction and advice of SA Health and Communicable Disease Branch, as part of the contact tracing process.

Associate Professor Sharon Liberali COVID-19 Hero

Starting with Australian of the Year Adelaide Eye Surgeon, Dr James Muecke, in the last few weeks we have seen strong leadership and the expertise of science and medicine, come to the fore with illustrious individuals such as Chief Public Health Officer Professor Nicola Spurrier.

There are many individuals and committees behind the ADA that have continued to provide outstanding service to the profession during this pandemic and are deserving of such recognition.

However one who stands out and with whom I have had countless and daily communication is our very own A/Professor Sharon Liberali.

A/Professor Liberali is a Past President of the SA Branch of the Australian Dental Association and also the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Special Needs Dentistry. As a most respected ADASA member she has shown immense dedicated service to the plight of COVID-19 over the last few months. Amongst many other positions held at the University of Adelaide, Adelaide Dental Hospital and Health Partners, A/Professor Liberali currently chairs The National ADA Infection Control Committee, and is the ADA representative on the HE-023 Committee for Standards Australia and the NHMRC Infection Control Guidelines Advisory Committee.

ADASA is tremendously proud that A/Professor Liberali has not only shown her commitment and leadership for our State Branch and nationally but through her Committees is responsible for the

advice given to AHPPC and National Cabinet in putting forward recommendations on behalf of the profession.

A/Professor Liberali has been a part of the COVID-19 journey from the beginning and while we are not out of the woods as yet, we are very thankful that through her expertise, experience and advocacy she continues to help us get to the other side of all this for the benefit of our profession and the health and safety of the community. A true ADASA Hero!

Connecting with General Practitioners

It has come to the attention of ADASA that through this current crisis there have been a number of patients with chronic medical conditions such as diabetes, asthma, mental health conditions and cardiovascular disease who have avoided their scheduled and ongoing checks with their general practitioners.

The most likely reason for this appears to be patient concern regarding contracting COVID-19 from their general practitioner offices and the perception that the general practitioner is extremely busy managing COVID-19 patients. This is certainly not the case.

As we are stepping down with restrictions and the community transmission of COVID-19 has reduced and become controlled, it is important that these patients are encouraged to continue to consult their general practitioner and manage their general health.

As we begin to see more patients ourselves and take routine measures to update their medical history, ADASA advises that Dental Practitioners reinforce the importance of their patients who have chronic conditions to visit their General Practitioner.

It is important that we work together with our medical colleagues to ensure that patients' general and oral health is maintained at an optimum level throughout this crisis and beyond.

Thank you

Finally, ADASA and I personally, appreciate the patience and compliancy of the dental profession during this time of change and adjustment to dental practice.

I have been overwhelmed by the support of the profession during such challenging times and this only reinforces the resilience of our industry and ability to come together and overcome such obstacles. As President it has been extremely busy and demanding but it is often in such times of adversity that I continue to be reminded of the pride and honour I have in serving our celebrated membership and the dental profession.

FROM THE CEO



Mr Dan Pawlyk
ADASA CEO

I would like to thank all members of ADASA for being so kind, patient and collegiate during this time of stress and uncertainty. I am truly proud to be part of the ADASA.

The collegiality of the dental profession that is particular to South Australia has been a real strength and credit to the profession. While the dental profession is still dealing with the ramifications of COVID-19 there does seem to be light at the end of the tunnel.

The Presidents report goes into details of issues being dealt with, this report contains important information that will help assist your planning for the months ahead.

Dental Insights

This micro COVID-19 edition of Dental Insights is being delivered digitally, going forward the regular editions of Dental Insights will also be delivered digitally unless you choose to opt back into receiving a hard copy by emailing publications@adasa.asn.au otherwise you will be kept on digital copy only.

We will also send out a reminder email in the coming weeks regarding your preference to receiving digital of hard copy.

Guild Renewal

A lot has changed in insurance cover over the years and Guild has been working hard with ADASA to ensure they have the best value product on offer to our members.

Guild understands the challenges that South Australian dentists have faced in the past few months have been like no other. However, throughout these challenges, a strong sense of community has emerged. Guild Insurance are the ADASA's preferred insurance partner, providing the best policy cover for Australian dentists. Now more than ever, we've got to come together.

ADASA wants to make sure that you have information to make an informed choice regarding your professional indemnity insurance policy and premium.

We will soon be sending Non Guild Insured Members an email regarding Guild Insurance. This will enable the team at Guild to give you a personalised no obligation quote, so you can see the difference between a policy with Guild and your current insurance provider.

ADASA Renewal

I sincerely thank you for being a valued member of the Australian Dental Association (ADA). During these unprecedented last few months, the ADASA and ADA understand the ongoing impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has had and will continue to have on our members, their staff and their families.

As previously outlined in emails early April 2020, the ADASA Council and ADA Federal Council have committed to supporting members to help them remain connected to the ADASA whilst also providing financial relief at a time when many members have closed practices, are not working or have vastly reduced hours.

To assist members, we have resolved to:

- Remove the membership fee increase (CPI) that was planned for 2020/2021
- Defer the 2020/2021 Annual membership renewal fee payment due date from July 2020 to October 2020
- Review the ongoing impact of COVID-19 on our members to determine whether additional measures relating to membership renewal are required

As a Monthly Member you can choose to defer your monthly payment.

Payment deferral is optional and will only be processed upon request. On enrolment to the deferred monthly payment method monthly payments will be paused and resume from September 2020 at an increased rate of (Annual fee/ 9 months) for the 2020/2021 subscription period.

If you do not request deferral by Friday 29 May 2020 it will result in continued monthly payment deductions at (Annual fee/ 12 months) on the 15th of each month.

As an Annual Member you will have the payment due date delayed until October 2020 but can be paid at any time prior should you wish to take advantage of the tax claim in this FY.

For any changes to circumstances, deferral requests or any membership related queries please contact Kristy Amato at ADASA on (08) 8272 8111 email membership@adasa.asn.au

Again, we thank you for being a valued member of the Australian Dental Association (ADA).

Environmental and Sustainability survey

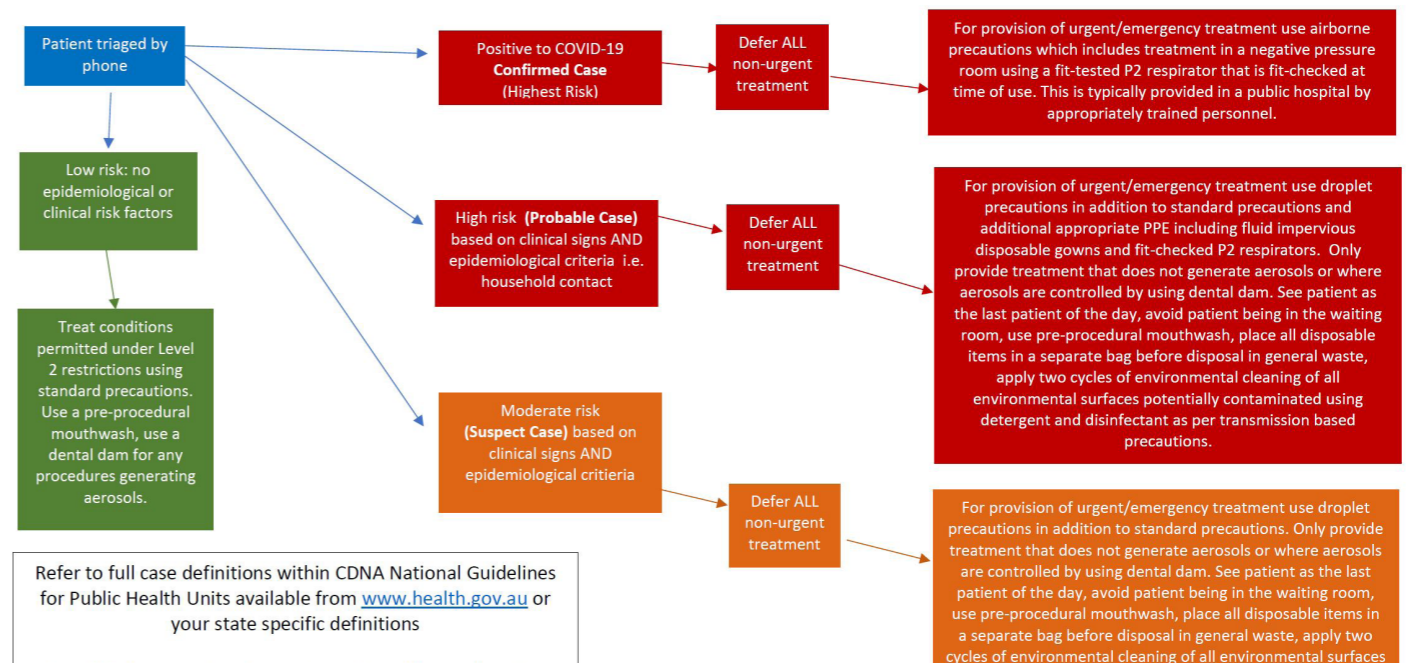
As I mentioned in last month's report a new Standing Committee is being established for Environment and Sustainability. Coincidentally researchers at the College of Health and Medicine at the University of Tasmania are researching sustainable dental practice.

It would be much appreciated if you would kindly take a moment to fill in this [survey](#).

The key objective of this study is to determine what sustainable practices are being implemented in dental practices across Australia. This study will provide valuable information regarding current dental practices to determine the day to day barriers and enablers of sustainable practice facing our dental practitioners. We foresee



Decision Tree for Level 2 Patient Management



Refer to full case definitions within CDNA National Guidelines for Public Health Units available from www.health.gov.au or your state specific definitions

the results will be a great starting point for the Environmental and Sustainability Committee and may be used to help ADASA members consider ways to be sustainable in a cost-effective way.

We understand that you are facing unprecedented times due to COVID-19. However, having a sustainable practice will reduce overheads when dental practices are fully functional again.

COVID-19 Hood Sweeney

I would also like to remind members of an upcoming Webinar - COVID-19 Support Measures, scheduled for Wednesday 13 May 2020, from 4pm - 5pm, presented by Hood Sweeney.

Economic updates have come thick and fast from the State and Federal Governments as the COVID-19 health crisis threatens businesses, jobs and global economies. Hood Sweeney is keeping on top of the myriad of economic updates and we are here to decipher the information and assist you or your business with solutions.

COVI-19 ADA portal

As the situation is continuously evolving please remember to check ADA COVID19 portal for all the latest guidance www.ada.org.au

Thank you for your continued support.



MEDIA AND ADVOCACY

By: Dr Angelo Papageorgiou
ADASA Public Relations Committee - Chair

A relentless COVID-19 has meant that there was less media this last month by ADASA but this was compensated by strong advocacy on behalf of the membership.

This month saw me carry out a couple of interviews with ABC Radio's Sonya Feldhoff focussing again on COVID-19 and the impact on dentists, their staff and patients and with particular reference to the dental practice restrictions.

Stephanie Richards of the online publication 'Indaily' featured me in an interview and this was supported by our ADASA Counsellor Dr Sharyn Borrett, focussing on the closure of dental practices with the dental practice restrictions that were enforced.

"Dental practices shut as surgery restrictions take hold" link is [here](#).

ADASA has been heavy on advocacy over the last three weeks in an effort to manage the impact of COVID - 19 on our dental practices.

CEO Dan Pawlyk and I, have been busy with meetings and correspondence on various matters relating to the restrictions of dental practice. A particular focus has been the financial hardship faced by dental practitioners and the sustainability of dental practice for the period of this crisis. This included meetings with Minister for Health and Wellbeing, Hon. Stephen Wade, shadow spokesman for Health and Wellbeing Mr Chris Picton and Business SA Chair, Mr Martin Haese.

For members interested in the report provided by Business SA South Australian Virtual Summit Meetings, please follow the [link](#) to ADASA webpage COVID-19 resources to Page 12 referring to ADASA and the impact COVID-19 has had on the dental sector.

Detailed reports have been sent to these parties outlining concerns and seeking assistance and relief measures by state government for dental practice. The significant difference between dental practices and other small to medium businesses was outlined with reference to those industry specific costs outside the general business expenses. Furthermore as an essential service our profession differs given it is generally 'procedural' in terms of the services provided and the significant high cost burden of

delivering such services in a safe and effective manner by the practitioner.

With the consistent decline in new COVID-19 cases in South Australia and the zero cases confirmed with increased and widespread testing measures, there was further strong advocacy for easing to Level 2 restrictions and eventually pushing for a revocation and amendment of the State Government Emergency Management Directive when Level 2 restrictions were announced by National Cabinet.

The ADASA was particularly concerned that further delays in accessing dental care will cause significant health problems for patients who are living with pain and discomfort, and having trouble eating and sleeping. The Branch office had received countless calls from members of the public who needed dental care but did not meet the strict criteria for dental emergencies under Level 3 dental practice restrictions. Furthermore, delays in treatment would invariably compromise their future prognosis and outcomes and also risk creating a public dental health problem that will have significant future economic and social costs. This again involved working closely with Government and the Public Sector and further addressing our interests with both the Chief Public Health Officer Professor Nicola Spurrer and the State Police Commissioner Grant Stevens.

As promised in my maiden President's speech, my aim is to maintain and build on the ADASA brand making certain we are relevant and robust as the peak professional body, in our efforts with all stakeholders including the public sector. Such mutually respectful, healthy and fruitful relationships has been most evident with the current COVID-19 pandemic and I thank the likes of Mark Chilvers, Executive Director SADS and Anne Pak-Poy, General Manager Adelaide Dental Hospital who is currently acting Executive Director SADS, for their united efforts to ensure the best interests of the profession are achieved during these difficult times.

Currently, ADASA is looking at a public oral health engagement campaign to welcome and encourage the public to return to dental practices with the lifting of restrictions and ensure that their oral health is prioritised during the COVID-19 crisis.

Coronavirus
(COVID-19)

COVID-19: IDENTIFYING THE SYMPTOMS

SYMPTOMS	COVID-19	COLD	FLU
	Symptoms range from mild to severe	Gradual onset of symptoms	Abrupt onset of symptoms
Fever 	Common	Rare	Common
Cough 	Common	Common	Common
Sore Throat 	Sometimes	Common	Common
Shortness of Breath 	Sometimes	No	No
Fatigue 	Sometimes	Sometimes	Common
Aches & Pains 	Sometimes	No	Common
Headaches 	Sometimes	Common	Common
Runny or Stuffy Nose 	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
Diarrhea 	Rare	No	Sometimes, especially for children
Sneezing 	No	Common	No

Adapted from material produced by WHO, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



TOGETHER WE CAN HELP STOP THE SPREAD AND STAY HEALTHY.

For more information about **Coronavirus (COVID-19)** visit [health.gov.au](https://www.health.gov.au)



Australian Government

SADS RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE EMERGENCY (RACE) DENTAL SERVICE | PART 2

By: Dr Angelo Papageorgiou
ADASA President

Further to the Dental Insights article in the April edition, a multidisciplinary and integrated oral health program incorporating Dentists, Hygienists, Oral Health Therapists (OHTs) and Tele-dentistry may provide an alternative proposal worthy of consideration for improving and sustaining oral health in Residential Aged Care Facilities (RACFs).

Engaging the utilisation of allied oral health professionals/dental auxiliaries as part of the Dentist team with the use of novel technology may allow both the public and private sector to champion the issues faced with the access to oral health services for the aged in RACFs.

To view a more comprehensive outline of the alternative proposition to that put forward by the public dental service- RACE please visit the ADASA website or click on the following [link](#)

As evident in the existing SADS Residential Aged Care Facility Dental Scheme, the presence of oral health practitioners in these aged care facilities is paramount. Dentists must be an integral part of the aged care workforce and ensure a well established oral health program with a potential novel model approach such as a hybrid on-ground and tele-health service.

This may involve the utilisation of Hygienists and OHTs developing and carrying out tasks which include an education program for aged care staff, triaging through limited screening of patients and setting up access to medical records electronically or collating existing medical records for presentation to Dentists. Other duties may include providing oral hygiene instruction and education and awareness to aged care residents and introducing aged care residents to portable dental technology. Taking intra oral radiographs where there is clinical justification by appropriately trained dental auxiliaries is a further consideration.

Dentists may follow on from this by providing a Tele-health service and this may include reviewing medical history and assessing triaging information. A significant responsibility would be providing a clinical point of contact to ensure best practice and to provide a meaningful service to the patient. Treatment plans are created by dentists and they may be split or allocated between treatments that can be done with portable dental technology and those treatments that require

or are possible with more traditional set ups. The patient oral treatment services are therefore managed accordingly with the Dentist as the leader of the team.

The efficiencies in this model are a program based on prevention and utilisation of auxiliary staff in collating information and building relationships. This demonstrates and reinforces the effectiveness of a collaborative approach to managing oral health in RACFs between the oral health service, RACF and the tele- health team.

I would like to extend my appreciation and acknowledge the contribution and feedback provided by our valued ADASA Councillor Dr Vaibhav Garg and Past Federal and Past State ADA President Dr Karin Alexander with my final draft to be presented to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing.

Strategy

Accept

Reduce

**RISK
MANAGEMENT**

MAY BRANCH MEETING

Wednesday 27 May 2020

6.30pm

ADASA Branch President Dr Angelo Papageorgiou invites all ADASA Dentist Members to the May Branch Meeting.

Due to the current circumstances this meeting will be delivered in an online format (Zoom meeting/webinar).

The Risk Management CPD presentation will be rescheduled.

Please continue to register as you will be sent an invitation to attend the online meeting.

Notice of Business

- Opening
- Attendance
- Confirmation of previous Minutes
- Business arising from Minutes
- Presidents Report
- Treasurers Report

- Branch subscriptions for 2020-2021
- General Business
- Close of Branch meeting

- This event is for ADASA dentist members only.
- No cost to attend
- Please contact the ADASA office if you wish to attend or register an apology.
- Queries please contact Sally Queale - 08 8272 8111 | events@adasa.asn.au





Events

All event details are on the ADASA [website](http://www.adasa.asn.au)
www.adasa.asn.au

For more information regarding any ADASA Events please contact Sally Queale
 08 8272 8111 or
events@adasa.asn.au

Due to the current circumstances ADASA have made the decision in the best interests of everyone's health to either postpone or deliver events in a webinar format over the next 3-6 months where possible.

We are following the advice and recommendations from ADA Inc and the SA & Federal Governments and will regularly review the status of ADASA events.

	STATUS
All CPR courses	Event postponed
May Branch Meeting Wednesday 27 May	This event will now take place as a online meeting/webinar with no CPD presentation. Please continue to register for this event as you will be contacted with details on how to view the webinar.
Hood Sweeney Presentations Wednesday, 20 May	Event postponed
Practice Managers Network Seminar #2 Wednesday 17 June	Event postponed
Practice Accreditation Workshop, Thursday, 30 July	Event postponed until 2021
Infection Control Seminar Friday 25 September	Event to be postponed until 2021
Riverland Conference 16 -17 October	Currently no plans have been made to postpone this conference, however this decision will be reviewed at the end of July 2020

Safety is our number one priority



Please tell a member of our staff if you or someone you have been in contact with has travelled overseas recently, or if you have any of the following symptoms.

High temperature 	Coughing
Sore throat 	Shortness of breath

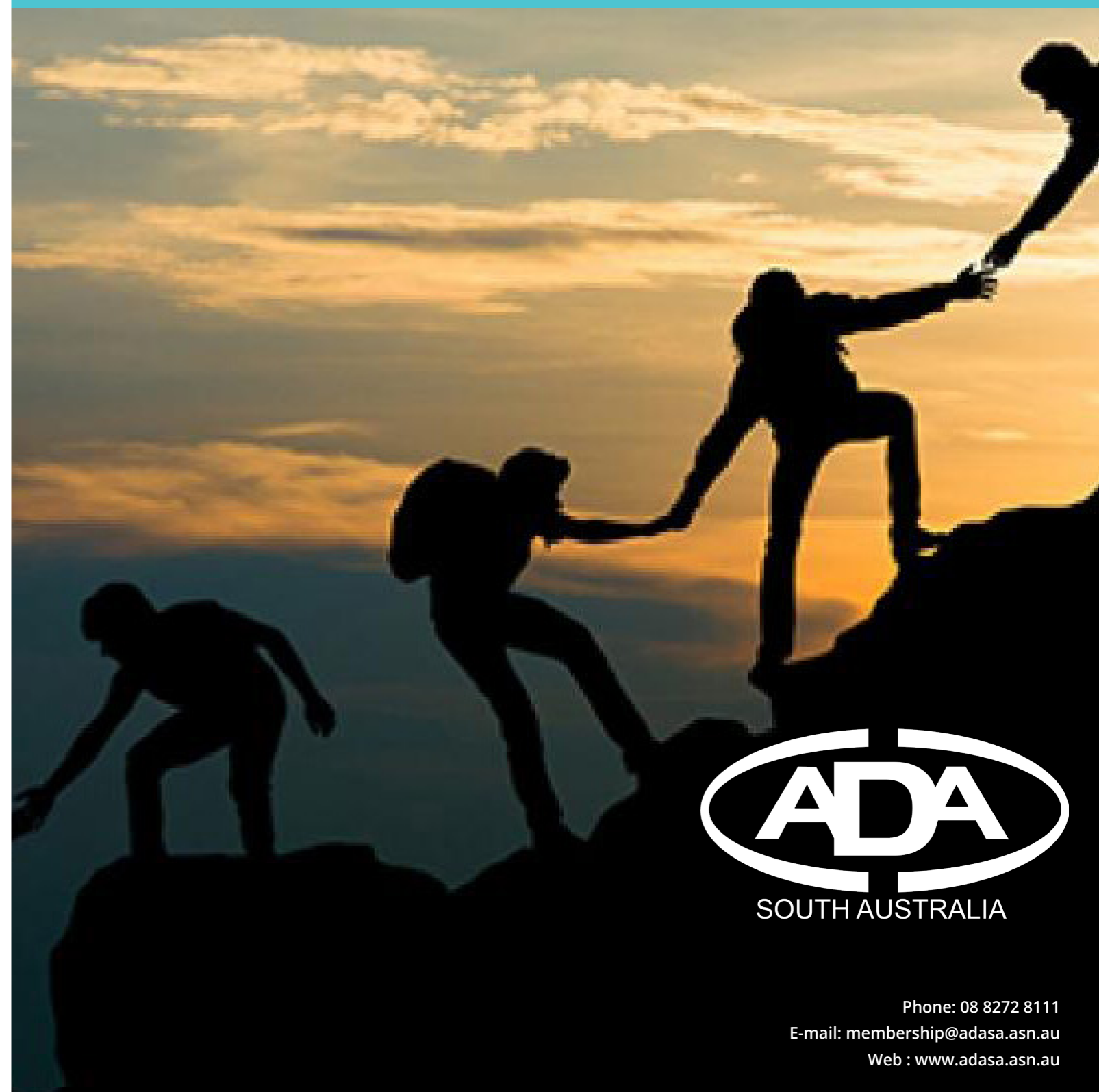
As members of the Australian Dental Association (ADA), our dentists take the safety of our patients, our staff and their families very seriously. We follow ADA Guidelines for Infection Control, which includes minimising the risk of transmitting viruses including the Novel Coronavirus.

STRONGER TOGETHER....

ADASA IS YOUR PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION. LED BY DENTISTS FOR DENTISTS
ARE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP TO DATE?

We will soon be contacting you to renew your Membership. We urge you to check your personal and work contact details are up to date and correct. You can do this online at www.adasa.asn.au or by calling our friendly team on 08 8272 8111.

Remember, no matter what stage you're at in your career, we'll look after you. We look forward to joining you in 2020 - 2021 and beyond



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