

## AAPM calls on community to support Practice Managers

As the Greater Sydney lockdown continues, AAPM is calling on the community to support Practice Managers who will be met with additional pressure in the coming weeks.

Recognising the challenges already faced by Practice Managers, AAPM is throwing its support behind the NSW practice management community following today's announcement by the NSW Premier that Greater Sydney's lockdown will be extended by two weeks.

AAPM Acting CEO Miranda Grace said AAPM is working with the NSW State Government to support the necessary changes to cater for the additional expectations placed on practices.

"People in NSW are being encouraged by the government to seek their second dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine at a six-week interval which will increase pressure on practices and have a flow on effect for others throughout Australia," Ms Grace said.

"AAPM backs these continued measures by the NSW Government to keep the community safe, but we also acknowledge these changes will create additional challenges for NSW Practice Managers.

"We recognise that many Practice Managers and frontline staff are already under a lot of stress. This is why we're asking the community to treat these frontline workers with compassion during what is a challenging time for all.

"Whether you are engaging your local practice for a routine appointment or an urgent Telehealth assessment, Practice Managers are there on the frontlines ensuring you receive the help you need.

"Thank you to all our Practice Managers across Australia for your continued work and resilience at this difficult time."

Other broad guidelines put forward by NSW Health in light of recent lockdowns include:

- All staff and patients should be in masks as already advised under the Public Health Order and further PPE will be dependent on your location in Sydney and the type of presentation/patients being seen as per current clinical guidelines.
- Whilst Telehealth is preferred at this time, it is recognised that it is not always appropriate.
- A strong plea again to make sure anyone even mildly symptomatic is sent for covid testing

For all media enquiries, please contact Nicola Rodrigues (on behalf of AAPM) on 0433 445 996 or [nicola@p4.com.au](mailto:nicola@p4.com.au). For more information on AAPM, please visit [www.aapm.org.au](http://www.aapm.org.au)



Australian Association of Practice Management  
Level 1/60 Lothian Street  
North Melbourne, Vic 3051  
1800 196 000

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