

Able Australia COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Management Plan



COVID-19 has been declared a pandemic by the World Health Organisation, and Australia has declared it as a health emergency. Able Australia has developed a COVID-19 management plan in line with Government advice.

Able has set up an Able Emergency Response Team who will:

- Ensure best practice in infection control and management of COVID-19
- Plan for the prevention, containment and management of an incidence of COVID-19.
- Email comms@ableaustralia.org.au if you have any information to pass onto the Emergency Response Team.

Team Leaders and/or Area Managers are to be notified of any suspected or known cases of COVID-19 amongst clients and staff or others diagnosed with COVID-19 who you have close contact* with them (e.g. a family member).

*Close contact means - greater than 15 minutes face-to-face or the sharing of a closed space for more than two hours with a confirmed case of COVID-19, without recommended personal protective equipment (PPE). Contact needs to have occurred during the period of 24 hours prior to onset of symptoms of a confirmed case.

Able Australia's 3 phase COVID-19 response

Phase 1.

Preparation, Prevention and Early Detection

Ensure adequate stock of household items and protective clothing

- Food and general supplies
- Cleaning products
- Personal protective equipment

Good infection control practices in place

- Social distancing
- Hand hygiene / washing
- Adhere to cleaning schedule

Enforce early detection practices

- Monitor for Symptoms & check temperature of staff/clients daily
- Quarantine (as per Dept. of Health)
 - o International travellers – 14 days
 - o Close contact with a person known to have COVID-19



Phase 2.

Infection Management for Suspected COVID-19 Cases

For person showing symptoms

- Seek Medical attention and follow advice
- Isolate infected person/minimise their risk of contact with others

For staff

- Continue good infection control practices
 - o Continue to use normal PPE - gloves
 - o Increase PPE only if directly advised by health professionals – face masks, eye protection, gowns
 - o Hand hygiene / washing
 - o Intensify Cleaning schedule
- Notify manager on duty and escalate to Able Emergency Response Team

Notify family/next of kin



Phase 3.

If COVID-19 Case is Confirmed

Seek guidance from Dept. of Health

Able Emergency Response Team develops tailored plan with the local team, and Dept. of Health

Isolate service/no visitors to the service outside mandatory staff

Notify others in close contact with person diagnosed including next of kin where appropriate

Continue good infection control practices

Utilise increased PPE as directed – face masks, eye protection, gowns

Seek clearance from the Dept of Health once the isolation period is over.