

Sector watch

September 2021

Vaccination of NGO healthcare workers

As you would be aware, the NSW Government has issued a <u>Public Health Order</u> (PHO) mandating vaccination for healthcare workers. The NSW Ministry of Health has advised NADA that this PHO does not currently apply to health funded NGOs. We have conveyed the confusion that this is causing for NGO services and have sought formal communication to be provided. We understand that this advice will be provided shortly. Given the vulnerable populations that we support, we anticipate that NGOs may soon be included and would encourage vaccination of workers across all NADA member services, where this is possible.

Webinar: Managing mandatory vaccine policy for NSW based community organisations

Justice Connect is holding a free webinar tomorrow (Friday 3 September). Register here—even if you can't attend, you can register to receive the video recording to watch later.

Rapid antigen testing

NADA has received many queries from members in relation to rapid antigen testing. Information is available on the NSW Government website here. NSW Health has also developed the Framework and standard operating procedure [PDF] to guide businesses and industries that are interested in conducting rapid antigen screening onsite. It also includes a link to the model process [PDF] that has been co-designed with industry and endorsed by the Chief Health Officer to guide workplaces on the correct use of rapid antigen testing. NADA has spoken with both the NSW Ministry of Health and the Department of Health about getting access and support for AOD services.

Support package for not-for-profits

The NSW Government has announced a \$200 million support package for the not-for-profit sector to help organisations faced with the financial impacts of the current restrictions. Read the <u>media release</u>. Further details will become available in the coming weeks, including what components may be available to health funded NGOs.

Did you miss the Q&A webinar for health funded NGOs with Dr Jan Fizzell?

The webinar is now available on the NADA website.

For more information or to discuss, contact Robert Stirling on 0421 647 099 or robert@nada.org.au.