



Government
of South Australia

Hon Stephen Wade MLC
Minister for Health and Wellbeing

MHW-H20-1393

Ms Nicole Millis
Chief Executive Officer
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Dear Ms Millis

Thank you for your letter dated 23 March 2020 regarding, your concerns for individuals living with a rare disease during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Widespread access to testing throughout South Australia is fundamental to the Marshall Government's strong plan to protect all South Australians from COVID-19.

The Government has put in place a number of strategies to protect vulnerable members of the community, including those living with rare diseases.

SA Pathology has boosted its world class testing regime with the addition of rapid testing services. For patients deemed clinically urgent, results will be available in less than 60 minutes. The ability to fast-track diagnosis, isolation and treatment has the potential to be a life-saving tool in the fight against the virus.

COVID-19 testing has been expanded to focus on specific groups of people who either work with vulnerable populations, or who may not be able to easily access testing clinics.

The South Australian Chief Public Health Officer, her colleagues, the Premier and I, are collaborating closely with our colleagues at a Federal, State and Territory level to tailor our health response as the situation develops.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Wade
Minister for Health and Wellbeing

11 June 2020