



NZAGS

New Zealand Association of General Surgeons

Public Health Event/Pandemic Policy

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to document the expectations of the New Zealand Association of General Surgeons (NZAGS) regarding staff and visitor health and safety during a public health event/pandemic such as, but not limited to, COVID, and to ensure NZAGS adheres to the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 (HSWA).

2. Policy Statement

The offices are situated at L3 – 8 Kent Terrace, Wellington (south side of the building)

1. NZAGS staff working in the offices must be double vaccinated and ensure this kept up to date (i.e., booster shots every six months or when advised). Staff that have a vaccination exemption may work in the office at the discretion of the Executive Director or alternatively work from home.
2. A vaccination certificate or proof of vaccination may be requested by the Executive Director and must be supplied on request.
3. No visitors are to be in NZAGS offices unless they are double vaccinated. If they have a vaccination exemption, access to the NZAGS offices will be at the discretion of the Executive Director, and may involve proof of a negative test but a negative test is not automatically acceptable.
4. Masks must be worn by vaccinated visitors to the building and 1 m distance kept.
5. Visitors who are unvaccinated (except if exempt under point 3 above) cannot enter the NZAGS offices.
6. NZAGS expects all staff to follow known government/public health advice, such as wearing masks in public, not congregating in likely mass spreader events etc. to ensure they stay safe and therefore lower the risk of bringing the virus into the offices.
7. Staff must immediately (or as soon as reasonably practicable) notify the Executive Director if they have been exposed to the virus, such as, but not limited to, a location

of interest, family member exposed, etc and work from home until advised otherwise by the Executive Director.

3. Common areas on L3 – 8 Kent Terrace

NZAGS will expect the College to appropriately clean common areas such as toilets and kitchen after any non-vaccinated person has entered the floor or used the facilities.

4. Travel (COVID related) – for NZAGS travel policy please see Travel Policy

- a) NZAGS staff must notify the Executive Director of all travel plans, both domestic and international so that NZAGS may manage the risk of exposure.
- b) The Executive Director will advise, taking into consideration prevailing government advice, whether travel can go ahead without staff having to work from home afterwards.
- c) The Executive Director will decide, taking into consideration prevailing government/public health advice, whether after such travel, a work from home period is required and what that period will be.

Glossary of terms	
NZAGS	New Zealand Association of General Surgeons
“The Association”	New Zealand Association of General Surgeons
RACS	Royal Australasian College of Surgeons

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1.2	17/11/21	Bronwen Evans	

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