

Public Health and Other Legislation (COVID-19 Management) Amendment Bill 2022

Submission No:

4

Submitted by:

Australian Dental Association Queensland Branch

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Making the submission and your name public

Attachments:

No attachment

Submitter Comments:

The Australian Dental Association Queensland Branch (ADAQ) is the peak professional body for dentistry in Queensland. ADAQ’s mission is to support and advocate for the profession as the trusted source of knowledge and information about oral health and clinical practice.The ADAQ supports the Bill’s proposal to manage COVID-19 as a notifiable condition under the Public Health Act 2005 (Public Health Act) until 31 October 2023. The ADAQ also supports the amendments to supplement existing powers to manage controlled notifiable conditions with limited powers to make and enforce public health directions, with a view to ensure health system capacity is maintained and protect vulnerable individuals.The ADAQ continues to support the view that oral health care is an essential health care service. Deferring necessary preventive dental care has been shown to impact on long-term outcomes for many patients and especially for already disadvantaged and vulnerable cohorts. Therefore, maintaining continuity of care through a risk-based approach remains in the best interest of public health.