



11 August, 2020

Dear members,

Our small team is receiving a lot of phone calls and emails from our members and you are asking three main questions:

- what do the Victorian government's directions mean for me?
- how can I help MA working for our members?
- what is MA doing to help our members?

Let us answer those questions one-by-one.

1. What Do the Victorian Government's Directions Mean?

On Monday 3 August, the Victorian government issued new requirements for the health care and social assistance sector under stage 4 restrictions.

We summarised this advice [here](#).

We understand that the advice can be difficult to apply to real-world situations.

MA is currently working with other small business industry associations to seek further clarification on the Victorian government's directions.

Our advocacy position is that myotherapists and their patients should be empowered to together work out the best treatment plan in the current environment. In some cases, this may be able to be done remotely. In other cases, a mixture of remote and face-to-face treatment is the best way to manage the patient's medical condition(s).

2. How Can Myotherapists Help MA's Advocacy Efforts?

We are asking members to provide us with evidence of how the Victorian government's current advice is harmful to patients. We have provided a sample letter [here](#) to give you some ideas to work from.

Please send us this information as soon as possible to support our advocacy efforts with the Victorian government

3. What is MA Doing to Help our Members?

The short answer is that MA is doing everything we can to help our members. Our impression is that government is overwhelmed and that is why they are giving mixed messages.

MA are continuing to work directly with the Victorian DHHS and other allied health peak professional bodies to clarify exactly how these directives apply to your practice. We are hearing conflicting advice being provided to our myotherapists such as;

- calls made to the Department in Victoria seeking clarification and being advised they can continue care;
- others being advised that a referral is being updated daily on the DHHS website.

Our intention is to keep you safe, keep your staff safe, and ensure your most vulnerable patients have access to their trusted myotherapist in an effort to keep them safe.

Thank you again for your patience during this difficult time. We will continue to update you as new information becomes available and we have had the opportunity to fact-check it.

We remind you that we have a small staff, who are doing everything they can to respond to your queries as soon as possible. Please be patient and respectful with them as they continue to work hard to help you.