

The AIOH wishes to acknowledge the impact that the current COVID-19 Pandemic has had on individuals, families, and businesses.

AIOH staff have implemented a range of strategies to ensure that they may continue to work safely and productively to ensure that routine member services are maintained throughout this uncertain period without risk to themselves, their families or members.

The Illicit Drugs two-day course planned for May has been postponed until Q4, with dates to be confirmed in the near future. Please continue to register your interest in attending this excellent course.

With respect to the Basic Principles of Occupational Hygiene course scheduled for the months March through to May, unless directed otherwise by government agencies the AIOH is planning to continue to deliver these courses. The AIOH understands that individuals who have registered for these courses may not be able to attend due to workplace travel and event restrictions. If you should fall into this category, please contact Samira in the AIOH office to make other arrangements.

For those that are intending to attend we request that you all follow some basic hygiene precautions (preaching to the converted I know);

- Please do not attend if you are displaying influenza like signs and symptoms
- Please do not attend if you have undertaken international travel within the previous 14 days
- Regularly wash your hands, don't touch your face with your hands and minimize handling and touching surfaces and items that others may frequently come into contact with.
- Sneeze into a tissue or your elbow.

For all of our members who are desperately trying to maintain a semblance of normalcy throughout this Pandemic please don't forget what the current goal of health and government agencies is;

- to reduce transmission of the virus to the elderly and immunocompromised,
- to allow health services to focus on those at greatest risk of serious illness and death due to infection, and
- to ensure that specialist equipment such as respirators are accessible to health care workers and those infected with COVID-19.

For those that have family members that fall into these high-risk categories please protect your loved ones by implementing the basic hygiene controls communicated by the various Health agencies.

The WHO website (<https://www.who.int/>) has a wide range of useful resources and guidance material for individuals and workplaces. Other useful websites include that of the CDC (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>) and Safe Work Australia (<https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/coronavirus-covid-19-advice-employers>).

As this is a very fluid time, the AIOH acknowledges that public health measures, controls and advice may change at any moment. As such the AIOH will continue to inform our membership should anything change.

Your sincerely



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