Avoiding Delta in the Workplace

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Overview

- Epidemiology of COVID-19
- Risks of COVID-19 in the workplace
- Management of COVID-19 in the workplace
- Vaccine Declarations
- Mandatory Vaccination
- Future Workplaces
- Practical Tips
- Questions



Workers Compensation

- Rebuttable presumption
- Prescribed employment:
 - (a) the retail industry (other than businesses only on-line retail)
 - (b) the health care sector, including ambulance officers and public health employees,
 - (c) disability and aged care facilities,
 - (d) educational institutions, including pre-schools, schools and tertiary institutions (other than establishments providing only on-line teaching services),
 - (e) police and emergency services (including fire brigades and rural fire services),
 - (f) refuges, halfway houses and homeless shelters,
 - (g) passenger transport services,
 - (h) libraries,
 - (i) courts and tribunals,
 - (j) correctional centres and detention centres,
 - (k) restaurants, clubs and hotels,
 - (I) the construction industry,
 - (m) places of public entertainment or instruction (including cinemas, museums, galleries, cultural institutions and casinos),
 - (n) the cleaning industry,
 - (o) any other type of employment prescribed by the regulations



Public Health Orders

Model Work Health and Safety Act

- Primary duty to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the <u>health and safety of workers</u> and <u>others</u> whilst at work.
- Workers duty to take reasonable care for their health and safety, that their acts or omissions don't adversely affect others, comply with reasonable instructions and cooperate with health and safety policies/procedures.



- Control Measures
 - Ventilation
 - Social distancing Public Health Orders
 - Cleaning and sanitising
 - Temperature Testing
 - Masks and Face Shields
 - Rapid Antigen Tests
 - □ Fitness/vaccine Declarations



- Mandatory Vaccination
 - Quarantine workers
 - Transport workers
 - Airport Workers
 - Construction Workers from LGA's of Concern
 - Care Workers from/within LGA's of Concern
 - Workers from LGA's of Concern seeking to work outside their LGA



Employer Mandated Vaccination

- Lawful and reasonable direction
- Risk of contracting COVID-19
- Safety reason
- Nature of the work, workplace and workforce
- Other control measures
- Vaccine scarcity
- Medical contraindication
- Incentives



Office-based

Working from home

□ Flexibility

Recruitment and retention





Practical Tips

Overriding safety obligation

Risk Assessments

Vaccine Declarations & Workers from LGA's of Concern

Return to the Workplace Policy

Vaccinations Policy

