



## CHANGES TO THE MISSING PERSONS ACT 2018

APPROVED:	MARCH 8, 2018
EFFECTIVE:	MARCH 8, 2018 – JUNE 30, 2019
REVISED – EFFECTIVE:	JULY 1, 2019

### NEW LEGISLATION:

[Missing Persons Act 2018](#)

### **New Mandatory Requirement to Disclose Information to the Police**

#### **How this affects Registrants:**

When a missing person has not been in contact with people they would expect to have been in contact with and there are reasonable grounds to believe their safety is at risk, the police can make an "urgent demand for records". This includes patient records kept by health care practitioners. The request from the police will specify the type of information sought, which is intended to assist the police in locating the individual.

This new power is designed to assist in cases where no criminal activity is suspected. Although the *Personal Health Information Protection Act (PHIPA)* allows for this type of disclosure because the patient is at risk of harm, the *Missing Persons Act* mandates health practitioners' cooperation.