

**Re: Consultation Paper on the Pricing Framework for Australian Public Hospital Services 2016-17**

**Submission from Mercy Public Hospitals Incorporated**

Received by IHPA via email on Tuesday, 4 August 2015

Mercy Mental Health

It is important in working out a care classification system that IHPA consider the complexities of care interventions in hospital, residential and community services. In hospital interventions such as ECT, constant clinical monitoring (specialling), interpreting for CALD patients and management of more than one person as part of treatment (e.g. Mother Baby Dyads or family interventions) are more intensively resourced interventions and should be considered in weighting factors. Likewise in community settings interpreting, family interventions, outreach and acute community interventions require more resources and should be weighted accordingly.

Current pricing for hospital based mental health care is inadequate and does not reflect the true cost of care provision and future pricing should address this funding shortfall.

Ambulatory care

Proposal for bundled pricing - while this may be reasonable for non-complex maternity patients who receive their antenatal/delivery/postnatal care from the same organisation, this will be much more challenging for Werribee Mercy Hospital as services are expanded. Currently, Werribee Mercy Hospital does not perform hip or knee replacements, however people who live locally and have their surgery elsewhere receive their post-operative follow up with physio and other rehabilitation care there.