

17 August 2017

Mr James Downie
CEO
Independent Hospital Pricing Authority
PO Box 483
DARLINGHURST NSW 1300

By email to: submissions.ihpa@ihpa.gov.au

Dear Mr Downie

Re: Consultation Paper on the Pricing Framework for Australian Public Hospital Services 2018-19

The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP) welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Consultation paper on the Pricing Framework for Australian Public Hospitals Services 2018-19 (the Consultation Paper).

As previously stated, we strongly support the ongoing development of the Australian Mental Health Care Classification (AMHCC) to classify and price mental health services on an activity basis across both the admitted and non-admitted settings in order to provide a clinically meaningful way of classifying mental health care.

We appreciate RANZCP's ongoing involvement in the development of clinical assessment measures for child and adolescent mental health consumers under the AMHCC. We would also welcome the opportunity to be similarly involved, at the appropriate time, in the refinement of the older persons' mental health branch of the AMHCC given the strong interest and expertise of our members in this area.

We also look forward to working with IHPA to further develop the ABF and AMHCC systems to measure and count the work of consultation-liaison psychiatrists following our meetings with IHPA on this important issue in 2016 and 2017.

The RANZCP also notes and supports IHPA's proposals to:

- not proceed with pricing mental health services using the new classification for NEP18 given the absence of 'phase of care' data at this time
- continue block funding for teaching, training and research and mental health until an appropriate ABF model can be developed
- continue block funding amounts for non-admitted mental health activity and residential mental health care services
- shadow fund the counting, costing and classifying of multidisciplinary case conferences where the patient is not present in 2018-19.

If you would like to discuss any of the issues raised in the submission, please contact Rosie Forster, Executive Manager, Practice, Policy and Partnerships via rosie.forster@ranzcp.org or by phone on (03) 9601 4943.

Yours sincerely



Dr Kym Jenkins
President

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