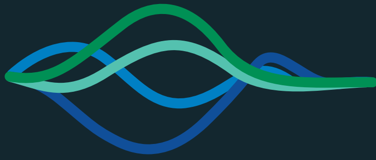

General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services Eligibility Policy

June 2024

General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services Eligibility Policy – Version 8.1 June 2024

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Acronyms and abbreviations

Category A	Category A of the General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services
Category B	Category B of the General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services
General list	General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services
HMM	Health Ministers' Meetings[1]
IHACPA	Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority
NEP	National efficient price
The addendum	Addendum to the National Health Reform Agreement 2020–25
The Administrator	Administrator of the National Health Funding Pool
This policy	General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services Eligibility Policy

[1] The Health Ministers' Meetings (HMM), comprised of all Australian health ministers, has been established to consider matters previously brought to the Council of Australian Governments Health Council, including matters relating to the national bodies. The HMM serves as the replacement for the Council of Australian Governments Health Council.

Definitions

Term	Definition
Activity based funding	Refers to a way of funding public hospitals whereby they get paid for the number and mix of patients they treat. Activity based funding is underpinned by national classification systems, data collections, costing standards, price weights and efficient costs developed by the Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority (IHACPA), as outlined in the National Health Reform Agreement (NHRA). An activity based funding activity may take the form of a separation, phase, presentation or service event.
Category A	Refers to category A of the General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services (see definition of the General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services). This comprises all clinics in the Tier 2 Non-Admitted Services Classification, classes 10, 20 and 30 that were reported as a public hospital service in the 2010 Public Hospital Establishments Collection in terms of their activity, expenditure or staffing. The exception is the General practice and primary care (20.06) clinic, which is considered by the Pricing Authority to be ineligible for Commonwealth funding as a public hospital service.
Category B	Refers to category B of the General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services (see definition of the General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services). This comprises other non-admitted patient services and non-medical specialist outpatient clinics and 40 series Tier 2 Non-Admitted Services Classification non-admitted patient service (except Aged care assessment (40.02), Family planning (40.27), General counselling (40.33) and Primary health care (40.08)). To be eligible for Commonwealth funding as an other non-admitted patient service and non-medical specialist outpatient clinics or a 40 series Tier 2 Non-Admitted Service Classification non-admitted patient service, a service must be: • directly related to an inpatient admission or an emergency department attendance; or • intended to substitute directly for an inpatient admission or emergency department attendance; or • expected to improve the health or better manage the symptoms of persons with physical or mental health conditions who have a history of frequent hospital attendance or admission.
Eligibility criteria and interpretive guidelines	IHACPA developed the eligibility criteria and interpretive guidelines in close consultation with the jurisdictions in late 2012 to provide a basis for determining which services would be included on the General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services. These eligibility criteria and interpretive

guidelines have been designed to include contemporary models of clinical care within the General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services.

General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services

In accordance with section 131(f) of the *National Health Reform Act 2011* (Cth) and clauses A16–A32 of the addendum, the scope of "Public Hospital Services" eligible for Commonwealth funding under the agreement are[2, 3]:

- all admitted programs, including hospital-in-the-home programs and forensic mental health inpatient services;
- all emergency department services provided by a recognised emergency department service; and
- non-admitted patient services and non-admitted mental health care services including community and residential mental health care services that could reasonably considered a public hospital service in accordance with clauses A18–A24 of the addendum. There are 2 broad categories of in-scope, public hospital non-admitted services[4]:
  - Category A: specialist outpatient clinic services (see definition of category A)
  - Category B: other non-admitted patient services and non-medical specialist outpatient clinics (see definition of category B).

Hospital avoidance program

A comprehensive clinical assessment, risk screening and review of care generally targeted at people with chronic health and/or mental health conditions at risk of unplanned hospital presentations. This will generally include the provision of time limited goal orientated care planning in an ambulatory setting to reduce unplanned admissions or readmissions to hospital and would usually include timely referral to specialist services and care coordination.

Pricing Authority

The governing body of IHACPA established under the *National Health Reform Act 2011* (Cth).

Service event

An interaction between one or more healthcare provider(s) with one non-admitted patient, which must contain therapeutic or clinical content and result in a dated entry in the patient's medical record.

Tier 2 Non-Admitted Services Classification

The Tier 2 Non-Admitted Services Classification provides a consistent framework for counting non-admitted service events.

The clinics are grouped into a number of categories that reflect the type of service provided and the clinicians who typically provide the service. The clinics are grouped into four categories set out in **Table 1**.

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[2] In August 2011, Governments agreed to be jointly responsible for funding growth in 'public hospital services'. But, as there is no standard definition or listing of public hospital services, Governments gave IHACPA the task of deciding which services will be ruled 'in scope' as public hospital services, and so eligible for Commonwealth funding under the Addendum.

[3] With regards to IHACPA's role in defining the scope of public hospital services, refer to the addendum clauses A16–A32.

[4] Non-admitted services must be public hospital services that are provided in a community setting that are designed to prevent or shorten hospital admission.

Table 1. Categories of Tier 2 clinics

Category	Description	Range of clinics
Procedure classes	Procedures provided by a surgeon or other medical specialist.	10.01 – 10.21
Medical consultation	Medical consultations provided by a medical or nurse practitioner.	20.01 – 20.58
Diagnostic services	Diagnostic services, within a specific field of medicine or condition (e.g. epilepsy).	30.01 – 30.09
Allied health and/or clinical nurse specialist interventions	Services provided by an allied health professional or clinical nurse specialist.	40.02 – 40.67

For more information, please consult the following documentation available on IHACPA's website:

- Tier 2 Non-Admitted Services Definitions Manual
- Non-admitted patient national best endeavours data set specifications
- Tier 2 Non-Admitted Services Compendium
- Tier 2 Non-Admitted Services National Index.

1. Executive summary

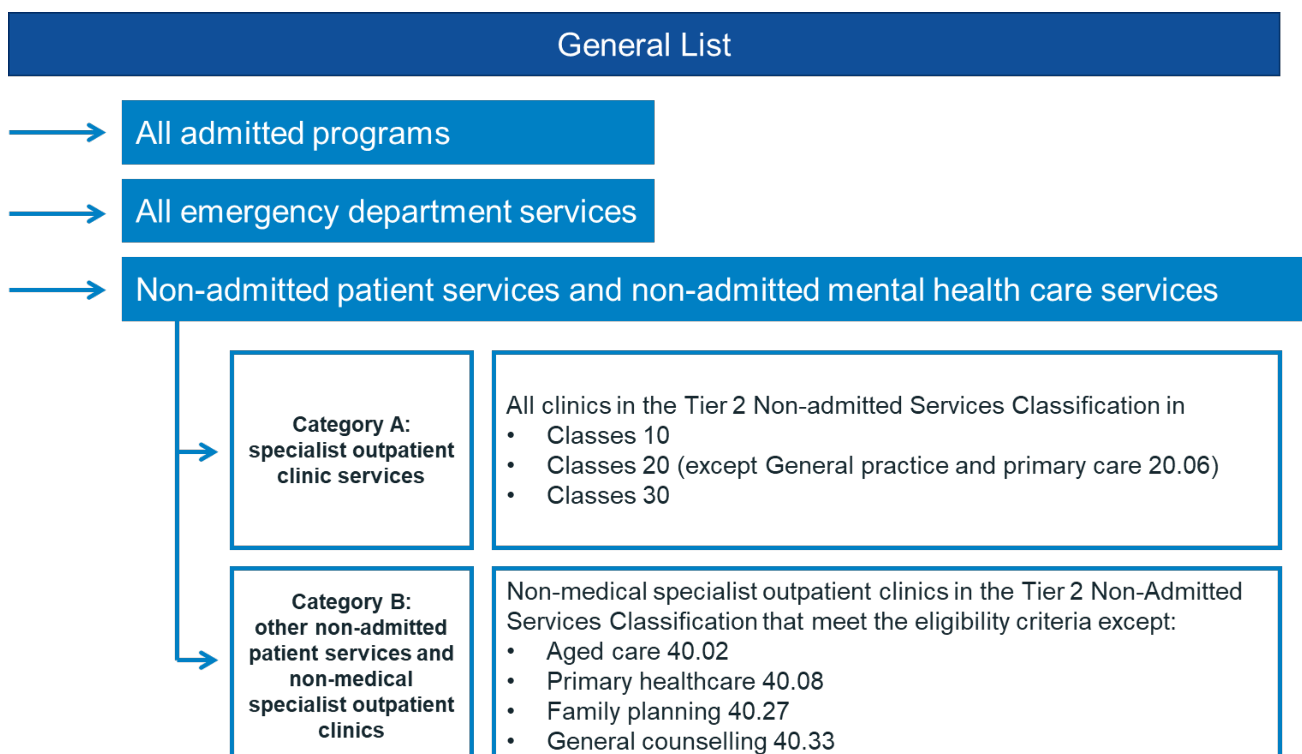
1.1 Background

The *National Health Reform Act 2011* (Cth), section 131(1)(f), prescribes that the Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority (IHACPA) will determine the public hospital functions in the states and territories that are to be funded by the Commonwealth, except where otherwise agreed between the Commonwealth and a state or territory.

In accordance with clause A17 of the addendum to the National Health Reform Agreement 2020–25, the scope of public hospital services eligible for a Commonwealth funding contribution under the addendum and therefore included on the General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services is described in **Figure 1**.

The Australian Government, and state and territory governments are able to apply to have services included on, or excluded from, the general list. In accordance with clause A31 of the addendum, IHACPA will conduct an analysis of each application to determine if services are transferred from the community to public hospitals for the primary purpose of making services eligible for Commonwealth funding. To support the provision of targeted, evidence-based applications, jurisdictions are encouraged to seek advice from IHACPA prior to submitting their application to discuss examples of evidence or information that would best support their application, or advice regarding trial arrangements, particularly where these may involve innovative funding approaches.

Figure 1. Scope of public hospital services eligible for a Commonwealth funding contribution under the addendum



1.2 Purpose

The General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services Eligibility Policy outlines the scope of public hospital services eligible for Commonwealth funding under the addendum and the process for jurisdictions to request IHACPA consider services to be included on, or excluded from, the general list. This policy does not apply to IHACPA's functions pertaining to the provision of advice to the Commonwealth on aged care costing and pricing matters.

1.3 Review

The Pricing Authority and Chief Executive Officer of IHACPA will review this policy, including associated documentation, every three years or as required.

This policy was reviewed in June 2024.

2. Eligibility criteria

2.1 IHACPA General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services

Guidance on the process to determine the scope of public hospital services that are eligible for Commonwealth funding on an activity or block grant basis is described in clauses A17–A26 of the addendum.

Clause A19 of the addendum provides that IHACPA will:

- maintain and publish criteria for assessing services for inclusion on a general list of hospital services eligible for Commonwealth growth funding
- consider each state and territory's recommendations against the published criteria
- publicly release its determination and its rationale if it considers the service should continue to be included or excluded
- establish a general list of other services eligible for Commonwealth funding.

As per clause A21 of the addendum, IHACPA may update the eligibility criteria or the interpretive guidelines, and will update the general list based on any updated eligibility criteria, or as required, to reflect innovations in clinical pathways.

IHACPA may also be requested by the Health Ministers' Meeting (HMM) to update the eligibility criteria, the interpretive guidelines or the general list.

2.2 Overall scope

In accordance with clause A17 of the addendum, the scope of public hospital services eligible for a Commonwealth funding contribution under the addendum is as follows:

a. all admitted programs, including hospital-in-the-home programs and forensic mental health inpatient services;
b. all emergency department services provided by a recognised emergency department service; and
c. non-admitted patient services and non-admitted mental health care services, including community and residential mental health care services, that could reasonably be considered a public hospital service in accordance with clauses A18–A24 of the Addendum, as defined in section 2.3.

In addition to services outlined in clause A17 of the addendum and services covered under a bilateral agreement (clause A25 of the addendum), grandfathered services in specific hospitals are eligible for Commonwealth funding. Grandfathered services in specific hospitals were made eligible under clause A17 of the *National Health Reform Agreement 2011*. In 2011, these services were agreed as eligible for Commonwealth funding for specific hospitals as they were purchased or

provided by that hospital during 2010, that is, prior to the signing of the National Health Reform Agreement 2011. This is referred to as the A17 List.

IHACPA has determined that the inclusion of a service in the Public Hospital Establishments Collection in 2010 is sufficient evidence that a service was provided by a hospital in 2010.

2.3 Non-admitted patient services

The listing of in-scope non-admitted services is independent of the service setting in which the service is provided (for example, at a hospital, in the community, in a person's home). This means that in-scope services can be provided on an outreach basis.

To be included as an in-scope non-admitted service, the service must meet the definition of a service event. A service event is defined as an interaction between one or more healthcare provider(s) with one non-admitted patient, which must contain therapeutic or clinical content and result in a dated entry in the patient's medical record.

Consistent with clause A31 of the addendum, the Pricing Authority will conduct analysis to determine if non-admitted patient services or community mental health care services are transferred from the community to public hospitals for the dominant purpose of making services eligible for Commonwealth funding.

As depicted in **Figure 1**, IHACPA has determined that there are 2 broad categories of in-scope public hospital non-admitted services:

A. specialist outpatient clinic services
B. other non-admitted patient services and non-medical specialist outpatient clinics.

Category A

This comprises all clinics in the 10, 20 and 30 series of the Tier 2 Non-Admitted Services Classification, with the exception of the General practice and primary care (20.06) clinic, which is considered by the Pricing Authority to be ineligible for Commonwealth funding as a public hospital service.

Category B

To be eligible for Commonwealth funding as an 'other non-admitted patient service' or a 40 series Tier 2 Non-Admitted Services Classification non-admitted patient service, a service must be:

- closely related to an inpatient admission or an emergency department attendance; or
- intended to substitute for an inpatient admission or emergency department attendance; or
- expected to improve the health or better manage the symptoms of persons with physical or mental health conditions who have a history of frequent hospital attendance or admission.

IHACPA has determined that the following clinics are not eligible for Commonwealth funding as a public hospital service under category B:

- 40.02 Aged care assessment
- 40.08 Primary health care

- 40.27 Family planning
- 40.33 General counselling.

Additionally, IHACPA has determined that certain non-admitted services are not in-scope for Commonwealth funding, on the basis that they do not meet the eligibility criteria for inclusion on category B of the general list. These non-eligible services include certain mental health services such as:

- psychosocial rehabilitation programs where the primary purpose of the service is to meet the social needs of consumers living in the community rather than hospital avoidance
- prevention and early intervention services, which in many cases are already funded by the Australian Government and community based programs, and where the primary focus is on the ongoing management of stable patients.

2.4 Community mental health care services

To be eligible for Commonwealth funding as a 'community mental health care service', a service must be a public hospital service that meets the definition of mental health care, which is:

'Care in which the primary clinical purpose or treatment goal is improvement in the symptoms and/or psychosocial, environmental and physical functioning related to a patient's mental disorder.

Mental health care:

- is delivered under the management of, or regularly informed by, a clinician with specialised expertise in mental health;
- is evidenced by an individualised formal mental health assessment and the implementation of a documented mental health plan; and
- may include significant psychosocial components, including family and carer support.

This includes services provided as assessment only activities.'

Community mental health care services are provided to consumers in the community (also known as ambulatory) setting, rather than admitted or residential settings. However, in-reach service contacts from specialised mental health community units into specialised mental health care admitted patient units are considered in-scope, where they are provided as part of a community mental health episode of care.

2.5 Innovative models of care

Clauses A96–A101 of the addendum provide that IHACPA facilitate the exploration and trial of new and innovative approaches to public hospital funding, to improve efficiency and health outcomes. To support the trialling of innovative models of care and services, IHACPA is required to develop a funding methodology that does not penalise state and territory governments for undertaking such trials and advise the Australian Government and states and territories on the application of the trial methodology. IHACPA is also required to provide advice to the HMM on any proposal to translate an innovative funding model to the national funding model.

Schedule C of the addendum contains clauses relating to the goals and principles around long-term reforms to the health system, in particular the direction for 'Paying for value and outcomes'.

Clause C19 of the addendum provides that this reform will explore funding and payment mechanisms to create stronger incentives for providers to:

- focus on the outcomes that matter to patients, including through the utilisation of Patient Reported Measures;
- improve patient equity, namely inequities in health care provision, access to health care, and health outcomes;
- improve clinical outcomes, including the outcomes that matter to patients, and experiences of health care;
- deliver best-practice clinical care; and
- focus on the entire patient journey, not just individual parts of it.

To support the proposed health reform objectives and facilitate the trial of innovative funding models, IHACPA will consider innovative models of care and services for inclusion on the general list, using the interpretive guidelines outlined in chapter 3.

The interpretive guidelines do not preclude trials of innovative models of care where all or most aspects of the innovative model of care is delivered beyond the hospital setting or where the Australian Government and a state or territory government have agreed to trial an innovative model of care through a bilateral agreement, as per clause A97 of the addendum.

3. Interpretive guidelines

IHACPA has developed the interpretive guidelines to guide its assessment of services against the eligibility criteria for inclusion on the general list. The interpretive guidelines provide detail about the key attributes of health services or innovative models of care and services that are considered to meet the eligibility criteria.

3.1 Key attributes of eligible health services

In line with the with the *National Health Reform Act 2011* and the addendum, non-admitted patient services (including physical chronic disease management and community based allied health programs), non-admitted mental health care services (including community and residential mental health care services)s and innovative models of care and services considered in-scope will be required to have all or most of the following attributes:

- be closely linked to the clinical services and clinical governance structures of a public hospital (for example, integrated area mental health services, step-up/step-down mental health services and crisis assessment teams)
- target patients with conditions where hospital treatment is generally required and a primary care setting is not suitable, including chronic conditions
- demonstrate regular and intensive contact with the target group (an average of 8 or more service events per patient or consumer, per annum)
- demonstrate the operation of formal discharge protocols within the program
- demonstrate either regular enrolled patient admission to hospital or regular active interventions which have the primary purpose of preventing hospital admissions.

These eligible services may include:

- rehabilitation services incorporating clinician outreach and non-clinical support
- hospital avoidance programs and services incorporating community health providers, such as chronic disease management programs, community mental health programs, patient medication programs and other non-admitted allied health programs
- those provided through contract arrangements.

3.2 Key attributes of eligible innovative models of care and services

In addition to the requirements outlined in section 3.1 and the eligibility criteria in chapter 2, eligible innovative models of care and services will be required to have all or most of the following attributes:

- demonstrate a set of established eligibility criteria for the target group

- demonstrate adequate data linkage to provide IHACPA with patient-level activity and cost data for the service on a regular basis
- demonstrate sound program methodology, including risk adjustment and an established governance structure across care settings and funders
- demonstrate the potential for replication or scalability at the jurisdictional or national level
- allow for the evaluation of measurable patient outcomes to determine the effectiveness of the innovative model of care or service.

4. Assessment against the eligibility criteria

4.1 Evidence to support assessment against the eligibility criteria

The state or territory government must outline the evidence or best available information to support their submission against the eligibility criteria. State and territory governments should aim to provide the following supporting evidence:

- The cost of delivering the program or service across the state or territory
- clinical service plans or service level agreements that demonstrate links to the clinical or governance structure of public hospitals, for example, the employment of hospital staff in the delivery of the program or service
- information on the proportion of patients who are referred following an admission, readmission or emergency department presentation
- data that demonstrates the patient cohort of the service (target group) has a history of frequent hospital admission or emergency department presentation
- any evaluation demonstrating the program or a similar program has an impact on emergency department presentations or admission rates (for example, the number of prevented emergency department presentations or hospital admissions, the type of patients in the target group, the number of patients in the target group seen in the community and their admission rates per year)
- arrangements such as service level agreements that demonstrate key performance indicators in reducing hospital admission rates
- data that demonstrates the service provides regular and intensive contact with the target group
- clinical service plans or protocols that demonstrate the discharge pathway for patients in the target group
- capability to report appropriate patient-level activity and cost data, including linked data where relevant, to inform program evaluation.

In addition to meeting the eligibility criteria specified above, a service must be operational in order to be considered in-scope for the purposes of inclusion on the general list. However, for new programs that may be operational for a limited period of time, evidence from similar programs in other locations including data or evidence-based research outcomes may be used in lieu of evidence drawn directly from the new program, in order to demonstrate that the new program or service meets the eligibility criteria.

4.2 Evaluating applications

In undertaking its assessment of a request for inclusion on, or exclusion from, the general list, IHACPA will assess the proposed service based on the following considerations:

- whether the proposed service meets the definition of a service event
- whether the service is already captured by clause A17(a) (all admitted services including hospital in the home programs) and clause A17(b) (all emergency department services provided by a recognised emergency department service) of the addendum
- if there is supporting evidence that the service is closely related to the non-admitted service, an inpatient admission or an emergency department service attendance or is intended to substitute for an inpatient admission or emergency department service attendance
- if the patients in the target group have a history of frequent hospital attendance or admission
- whether the service is operational at the time of the application
- whether services are being transferred from the community to public hospitals for the primary purpose of making services eligible for Commonwealth funding.

5. Assessment process

State and territory governments may apply to have services included on, or excluded from, the general list on an ongoing basis, however IHACPA will assess all applications in a single annual process to align with the NEP determination development cycle. State and territory governments are encouraged to engage with IHACPA prior to submitting their application to discuss the evidence or information that may be provided to support their proposals and to seek IHACPA's advice regarding any trial arrangements, particularly where these involve innovative approaches.

Applications received prior to 31 May in a given year will be considered for the NEP determination for the financial year following IHACPA's assessment and final decision. Applications received following 31 May in a given year will be assessed and considered for the following NEP determination. For example, applications received in May 2024 will be considered in the development of the NEP Determination 2025–26.

The key stages in the IHACPA assessment process for inclusion or exclusion of services from the general list are outlined in **Table 2**.

Table 2. Overview of assessment process

Stage 1: Request for assessment	(1a) State or territory government determines that a service meets the eligibility criteria for assessment
	(1b) State or territory government submits an application for assessment by IHACPA using the application form at **Appendix A**
Stage 2: Assessment	(2a) IHACPA reviews the request and evidence provided
	(2b) IHACPA provides notification of the request to all jurisdictions and invites written submissions to be made to IHACPA within 28 days
	(2c) IHACPA undertakes the assessment. Further information may be requested from jurisdictions with a 14-day consultation period
Stage 3: Draft decision	(3a) IHACPA determines the draft decision
	(3b) IHACPA prepares the draft decision and provides it to all jurisdictions for a 14-day consultation period
	(3c) IHACPA reviews the written comments with regard to the draft decision. If further clarifications are needed, they will be sought within seven days
Stage 4: Final decision	(4a) IHACPA prepares the final decision and provides it to all jurisdictions
	(4b) IHACPA refines the general list (if applicable)

Stage 1: Request for assessment

(1a) State or territory government determines that a service meets the eligibility criteria for assessment

A state or territory government may request IHACPA consider services to be included on, or excluded from, the general list.

The state or territory government must provide evidence that the proposed service for inclusion meets one or more of the eligibility criteria and is in line with the interpretive guidelines where possible. If the request for assessment is to exclude a service from the general list, the state or territory government must provide evidence that the service does not meet any of the eligibility criteria.

(1b) State or territory government submits an application for assessment by IHACPA

The state or territory government's request must be in writing and accompanied by a written submission in support of the request, in line with the application form provided at **Appendix A**. Applications received prior to 31 May in a given year will be considered for the NEP determination for the financial year following IHACPA's assessment and final decision, to align with the NEP determination development cycle. Applications received following May 31 in a given year will be assessed and considered for the following NEP determination.

Stage 2: Assessment

(2a) IHACPA reviews the request and evidence provided

IHACPA will assess the submission against the eligibility criteria, using the interpretive guidelines. IHACPA will only proceed to undertake an assessment where the jurisdiction outlines the evidence or best available information to demonstrate the submission either meets the relevant eligibility criteria for the inclusion of a service on the general list, or does not meet any of the eligibility criteria for the exclusion of a service. If IHACPA is not satisfied that these eligibility criteria have been met, the request will be referred back to the state or territory government:

- explaining that insufficient information has been provided to enable IHACPA to undertake an assessment of whether the service should be included on, or excluded from, the general list
- seeking additional information to enable IHACPA to make this assessment.

IHACPA will not take further action until the state or territory government provides additional information that enables IHACPA to undertake an assessment against the eligibility criteria.

(2b) IHACPA provides notification of the request to all jurisdictions

As the request for assessment may impact other jurisdictions, IHACPA will provide all jurisdictions with:

- the request for assessment received from the state or territory government, including a copy of the written submission that accompanied the request

- an invitation to make a written submission to IHACPA within 28 days about the proposed service for inclusion on, or exclusion from, the general list.

(2c) IHACPA undertakes the assessment

In undertaking the assessment, IHACPA will consider the submissions received from all jurisdictions. Where required, IHACPA will:

- request additional evidence from the state or territory government (for example, data, information, agreements) to clarify information in the assessment process
- consult further with jurisdictions where required
- seek expert input or advice.

To support the timeliness of the investigation, additional information will generally be requested within 14 days after receiving the written request.

Stage 3: Draft decision

(3a) IHACPA determines the draft decision

IHACPA will only determine that adjustments should be made to the general list to include or exclude a service where there is demonstrable evidence to support this amendment.

(3b) IHACPA prepares the draft decision and provides it to all jurisdictions

Following the assessment process, IHACPA will:

- prepare a draft decision and obtain endorsement from the Pricing Authority
- provide the draft decision to all jurisdictions
- invite the jurisdictions to give IHACPA written comments on the draft decision within 14 days of receiving it.

Neither the *National Health Reform Act 2011*t nor the addendum prescribe any timeframes in relation to IHACPA conducting the assessment. However, subject to adequate evidence to support IHACPA in undertaking a timely investigation, it is generally expected that IHACPA will be able to provide the draft decision to the jurisdictions within three months of receiving the request.

The draft decision will include the following information:

- summary of the request
- overview of the evidence examined and analysis undertaken
- any limitations to the scope of the assessment
- IHACPA's decision as a result of the assessment
- reasons supporting the decision including whether the service is determined to be in-scope, or out-of-scope as it does not meet the eligibility criteria or due to insufficient supporting evidence
- the applicability of IHACPA's decision at a national level or any limitations, such as whether a service is only approved for a specific local health network or state or territory.

(3c) IHACPA reviews the written comments with regards to the draft decision

IHACPA will review the comments received by the responding jurisdictions with regards to the draft decision.

IHACPA may seek explanation or clarification of issues or statements that appear in the submissions. IHACPA will request this in writing from the relevant state or territory government. To support the timeliness of the final decision, this response will be requested to be provided within 7 days after receiving the request for clarification.

Stage 4: Final decision

(4a) IHACPA prepares the final decision and provides it to all jurisdictions

IHACPA will prepare a final decision and obtain endorsement from the Pricing Authority. The final decision will be provided to all jurisdictions.

(4b) IHACPA refines the general list (if applicable)

Following the release of the final decision, IHACPA will update the general list and include the outcome of the final decision in the NEP determination for the upcoming financial year, if required.

6. Verification of compliance

6.1 Certification of in-scope services

IHACPA will require that the Chief Executive Officer of the relevant state or territory health department certify that:

- public hospital services reported to IHACPA are true and correct in-scope public hospital services eligible for Commonwealth funding as determined by IHACPA and the services are consistent with the information provided to IHACPA at the time that the application for inclusion on, or exclusion from, the general list was made
- information provided to IHACPA to support claims regarding the eligibility of a service for Commonwealth funding contribution is true and correct.

This will be requested by IHACPA in writing on an annual basis.

6.2 Reconciliation process

IHACPA will use the following process for ensuring only approved services receive Commonwealth funding under the addendum:

- IHACPA will provide a detailed listing of in-scope services by local hospital networks to the Administrator of the National Health Funding Pool on an annual basis.
- If in performing reconciliations the Administrator suspects out-of-scope activity is being reported and the Administrator is unable to resolve this with the jurisdiction in question, the Administrator will request IHACPA to review the data.
- IHACPA will consult with the relevant state or territory government and advise the Administrator of the outcome of that process. IHACPA may require evidence from the relevant state or territory government that its services reconcile with the approved in-scope services previously determined by the Pricing Authority.

Appendix A: Application form for inclusion of new services on the general list

Prior to completing this application form, please ensure you have reviewed the General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services Eligibility Policy, available at www.ihacpa.gov.au. This application form is intended as a guide only. An editable PDF version of this form is available on IHACPA's website.

The general list is published in March every year as part of the national efficient price (NEP) determination. For health services or innovative models of care and services to be considered for inclusion on, or exclusion from, the general list, the request for assessment must be received by IHACPA by no later than 31 May each year. For example, applications received in May 2024 will be considered in the development of the NEP determination 2025–26.

Requests sent after that date will be considered for the following NEP determination.

Name	
Position	
Organisation	
Email address	
Phone number	
Contact person for further information	

Assessment against the general list eligibility criteria and interpretive guidelines: This application form has been developed to assist state and territory governments in providing information that clearly demonstrates how the service or program meets one or more of the eligibility criteria outlined below: - closely related to an inpatient admission or an emergency department service attendance provided by a recognised emergency department service - intended to substitute for an inpatient admission or emergency department attendance provided by a recognised emergency department service - expected to improve the health or better manage the symptoms of persons with physical or mental health conditions who have a history of frequent hospital attendance or admission. Documentation and evidence in the application should also support the service or program's assessment against the interpretive guidelines outlined in chapter 3. The interpretive guidelines provide detail about the key attributes of health services or innovative models of care and services that are considered to meet the eligibility criteria.

1. **Service description, including (but not limited to):** - Name of service - Local hospital network where the service is provided - Geographic location (for example, is it based on hospital grounds or elsewhere) - Composition of staff by profession (for example, the number of nurses, doctors or allied health staff) - Objective of care - Commencement date of program or service - Evidence of innovations in clinical pathways - After hours services - Evidence that the service is closely linked to a clinical service or governance structure - Similarity to existing in-scope public hospital programs or services (for example, Tier 2 series)
2. **Patient profile, including (but not limited to):** - Diagnosis or presenting problems - Age group, sex and other relevant patient characteristics - Proportion of patients who were referred following an admission, readmission or ED presentation - Median and average time per patient between hospital stay - Information on the length of time patients are enrolled - Average number of service events per enrolled patient and total number of service events - Evidence of formal discharge protocols

3. **Current program expenditure, including (but not limited to):** - The cost of delivering the program across the state or territory (for example, annual expenditure, expenditure per patient) - Proportion of expenditure which is potentially in-scope (for example, the treatment of patients for primary care in the program or by the service would be excluded as well as treatment of private patients) - How the state or territory government proposes to report the program or service (for example, block funded through the national efficient cost determination or through a Tier 2 class)
4. **Documentation and evidence to support the assessment against the general list eligibility criteria and interpretive guidelines including (but not limited to):** - Any evaluation demonstrating the program or similar programs has an impact on emergency department presentations or hospital admission rates (for example, the number of prevented emergency department presentations or hospital admissions, the type of patients in the target group, the number of patients in the target group seen in the community and their admission rates per year) - Quantitative evaluations of the program or similar programs which demonstrate that it has an impact on admission rates (for example, number of prevented emergency department presentations or admissions) - Qualitative studies around clinical governance (for example, relationship between non-government organisations and hospitals) - Surveys demonstrating that the service supports hospital avoidance - Longitudinal or linked data analyses of participating patients - Additional statistical information
Please attach as Word, PDF or Excel

Declaration by applicant

I make this application on the basis that the details in this form are true and accurate.

Applicant name, position and signature	**Date**

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