

IHACPA  
Via email: [submissions.ihacpa@ihacpa.gov.au](mailto:submissions.ihacpa@ihacpa.gov.au)

Dear IHACPA team,

### Re Draft IHACPA Work Program for 2024-25

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Work Plan for IACHPA for the coming year.

Women's Healthcare Australasia (WHA) & Children's Healthcare Australasia (CHA) are non-profit peak organisations for hospitals providing care to women, newborns, children and young people across Australia. WHA's members care for 83% of public births annually, while CHA's members care for 76% of annual paediatric inpatients. We remain committed to working closely with IHACPA where relevant to help inform IHACPAs work as it relates to women's & children's services.

We note with interest the intentions outlined in the draft Work Plan to:

- Develop and commence a work plan for the review of all adjustments to the national pricing model by June 2025
- Continue the review of the funding methodology for unqualified newborns, by December 2024
- Refine the data request specifications for emergency virtual care. Ongoing
- Undertake a multi-stage project to support the development of a new patient level non-admitted care classification. June 2025
- Undertake a horizon scan of Australian and international virtual models of service delivery and care, and associated funding arrangements. September 2024

We are writing to express our support for these proposed bodies of work, as they are all pertinent to contemporary issues and concerns in both women's & children's healthcare. We are particularly interested in the shorter term in your review of the paediatric adjustment, funding methodology for unqualified newborns, work on costing emergency and other virtual care models, and the intention to progress work on development a patient level non-admitted care classification.

We appreciate IHACPA's long standing openness to meeting with our members from time to time to explore one or more aspects of your work and to test ideas, ask questions or seek advice. We remain committed to facilitating such opportunities where you may find them useful.

It is also valuable for our members to remain apprised of the important work being undertake by IHACPA where it has direct bearing on the design, delivery and ongoing sustainability of women's and children's healthcare services.

We look forward to engaging with one or more of your teams in the year ahead as you strive to deliver on your work plan.

Your sincerely,



Dr Barb Vernon  
Chief Executive Officer  
Women's & Children's Healthcare Australasia

18 April 2024