

Rebuilding Tasmania's Health System

TASMANIAN ROLE DELINEATION FRAMEWORK

As at 28 June 2015

Table of Contents

Acronyms and abbreviations.....	4
Background.....	5
The Tasmanian Role Delineation Framework	6
Clinical Support Services.....	8
Anaesthetic Services.....	9
Intensive Care Unit/High Dependency Unit.....	12
Medical Imaging Services	17
Pathology Services	21
Pharmacy Services.....	24
Clinical Services.....	29
Acute Stroke Services.....	30
Cancer Services	34
Cardiology Services	45
Cardiothoracic Services.....	51
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services	54
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Acute Inpatient Service	55
Drugs and Alcohol Services.....	63
Ear, Nose and Throat	67
Emergency Medicine.....	71
Endocrinology	74
Gastroenterology Services.....	78
General Medicine	81
General Surgery.....	85
Geriatrics	90
Gynaecology Services.....	94
Hyperbaric and Diving Medicine	98
Infectious Disease	101
Maternity services.....	104
Mental Health Inpatient Services.....	110
Neonatology Services	113
Neurology Services.....	118
Neurosurgery.....	122
Ophthalmology Services.....	124

Oral Health Services	127
Orthopaedics Services	131
Paediatric Services	135
Palliative Care Services	143
Plastic and reconstructive surgery	146
Persistent Pain Medicine.....	149
Rehabilitation Medicine Services	152
Renal Service	156
Respiratory Medicine	160
Rheumatology	164
Trauma Services	167
Urology Services	172
Vascular Surgery Services.....	175

Acronyms and abbreviations

ACS	acute coronary syndromes
CCU	Coronary Care Unit
CICM	College of Intensive Care Medicine
CNC	Clinical Nurse Consultant
CT	computed tomography
DRANZCOG	Diploma of Obstetrics and Gynaecology from the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists
ECG	electrocardiograph
EEG	electroencephalogram
ENT	Ear, Nose and Throat
GP	General Practitioner
HDU	High Dependency Unit
ICU	Intensive Care Unit
LSCS	Lower segment caesarean section
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging
NP	Nurse practitioner
Imaging	Medical Imaging
PACS	Picture Archive and Communication System
Path	Pathology
PET	positron emission tomography
Phar	Pharmacy
RMO	Resident medical officer
RN	Registered nurse
SCI	Surgical Complexity I
SCII	Surgical Complexity II
SCIII	Surgical Complexity III
SCIV	Surgical Complexity IV
SCV	Surgical Complexity V

Background

Every service is a statewide service. The role delineation framework describes for each statewide service where services in each discipline will be delivered. It is important that in reading this framework the reader understands statewide clinical pathways, protocols and standards of care are required to support the best quality service being delivered regardless of which facility the person presents to.

Many patients would enjoy better outcomes at lower cost if their care was delivered in a more appropriate setting.

Role delineation is a process which determines the clinical capacity of a health facility to provide services of a defined clinical complexity. It is based on an assessment of the number, range and expertise of medical, nursing and other healthcare personnel in a given clinical discipline to provide a specialised service. It incorporates an assessment of the population size, likely demand for the service and the presence of other clinical disciplines within the facility that, together, influence the capacity of the facility to deliver high quality care in that discipline.

Role delineation frameworks have been used to describe and plan health service delivery in other jurisdictions in Australia since the late 1980s. Recent examples include Northern Territory Health's *Hospital Services Capability Framework (2014)*, Western Australia Health's *Clinical Services Framework 2010–2020 (2010)* and Queensland Health *Clinical Services Capability Framework for Public and Licensed Private Health Facilities (2012)*.

Role delineation can guide hospitals and health facilities within a multi-hospital health system to plan and develop their services to the level that is necessary to meet the needs of their catchment population, thus ensuring services are configured for quality care, while also improving local access.¹

A role delineation framework is designed to outline the minimum service requirements, staffing, support services and risk considerations for our public hospitals to ensure safe and appropriately supported clinical service delivery. When applied across the state, a consistent set of minimum standards and requirements for clinical services will safeguard patient safety and facilitate clinical risk management in public health services.

As a general principle, it is expected that all of the hospitals and health facilities in the system, regardless of their role delineation, should contribute to educating the next generation of health professionals. The role of each facility will differ in terms of the level of trainee that they can support with highly specialised training requiring a higher level service with appropriated clinical throughput to support the training. The role delineation framework is not intended to outline the level and type of training supported as this may vary over time depending on the available workforce. In some cases however, accreditation for training and participation in research is a necessary requirement for the service to be recognised at the higher level.

¹ NSW Health. Guide to the Role Delineation of Health Services. Third Edition, 2002.

Underlying Principles of the Tasmanian Role Delineation Framework

- The facility must be able to sustain a competent and high performing clinical workforce, infrastructure and support services required to provide care that is consistent with best practice.
- Appropriate minimum service volumes must be maintained to ensure the competence and professional practice of the multidisciplinary team can be sustained.
- Tasmanians must be able to access services which are determined by the facility's ability to deliver consistently safe, high quality care, rather than on considerations of proximity.
- Relying on small numbers of clinicians to be on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to maintain a service is neither safe nor sustainable. Workload needs to be sufficient to engage multiple clinicians across the range of necessary disciplines in the delivery of a quality sustainable service. Services with key person dependencies must be redesigned to ensure quality, safety and sustainability.
- Care must be continually improved. The impact on patient outcomes and experience must be continually monitored, reviewed and evaluated. Tasmanians should expect to receive care comparable with national and international standards.

The Tasmanian Role Delineation Framework

The process of role delineation recognises that for each level of clinical service provision, a corresponding level of clinical support services and staff profile are required to ensure services are delivered in a safe, efficient and appropriate manner.

Role delineation provides a means to categorise the complexity of services required to meet the needs of the population and is a useful tool to inform discussion and planning for the development of services.

The role level of a service describes the complexity of the clinical activity undertaken by that service and is chiefly determined by the presence of:

- medical, nursing and other health care personnel who hold qualifications compatible with the defined level of care, and
- an appropriate level of clinical support services at the facility, or where clinically appropriate.

Relying on small numbers of clinicians to be on-call 24 hours, seven days a week, 365 days of the year to maintain a service is neither safe nor sustainable. Workload needs to be sufficient to engage multiple clinicians across the range of necessary disciplines in the delivery of a sustainable service. Services with key person dependencies must be redesigned to ensure sustainability.

The Role Delineation Framework consists of:

- **Clinical Services**, and
- **Clinical Support Services** which include Anaesthetics, Intensive Care /High Dependency Care, Pathology, Pharmacy and Medical Imaging.

Clinical Services and Clinical Support Services are generally categorised into six levels of service provision with increasing complexity (from level 1 to level 6, with 6 being the most complex).

The role delineation service levels are cumulative and build on each previous level's capability requirements. It is intended that there is a level of flexibility between the margins of the levels.

Level of self-sufficiency determined by application of the role delineation framework

Local Service	Integrated Care Centre, Community Nursing, Rural Hospital, GP	Levels 1-2
Regional Service	3 sites	Levels 3-6
Supra Regional Service	2 sites	Levels 4-6
Single Site Service	1 site	Levels 5-6
Interstate	Provided at an interstate facility	Level 6

Future service role delineation levels may change over time in response to changes within the health care sector in Tasmania and interstate.

The capability of health service is recognised as an essential element in the provision of safe, quality care. The aim is to have safe, sustainable and appropriately supported health care for all health service.

The Tasmanian Role Delineation Framework is a significant planning tool which provides a consistent language to describe health services and to identify and document the minimum support services, staffing, safety standards, networking arrangements, and other requirements essential to ensure Tasmanian acute and rural hospitals and facilities provide safe, high quality, appropriately supported clinical services.

This framework is as at 28 June 2015. It is a living document and will be updated from time to time to reflect significant changes in technology or resource allocation across the Network or when new services or new profiles are developed and endorsed. Some Clinical Advisory Groups are currently working to review the existing profiles and provide revisions for consideration.

Clinical Support Services

Clinical Support Services are those services which are essential to the safe, appropriate and quality provision of Clinical Services.

For the purposes of this Framework, Clinical Support Services comprise: Anaesthetic Services, Intensive Care Unit/High Dependency Unit, Pathology Services, Pharmacy Services and Medical Imaging.

Anaesthetic Services

Anaesthetic services are provided by a multidisciplinary anaesthetic and anaesthetic-assistant workforce with a range of skills in providing procedural and operative anaesthesia. Anaesthetics may be delivered by anaesthetic senior medical practitioner or appropriately credentialed registered general medical practitioners in health centre settings through to large tertiary referral hospitals.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Anaesthetics Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Anaesthetics Services

Service description

A Level 2 service generally provides analgesia/minimal sedation performed by a registered medical practitioner credentialed to provide anaesthetic services.

Service requirements

- Formal network linkages with specialist anaesthetist for consultation
- Medical practitioner to provide analgesia/minimal sedation

Workforce requirements

- Workforce staffing IAW PS9²
- Registered medical practitioner
- Access to specialist anaesthetist for consultation

Level 3 Anaesthetics Services

Service description

A level 3 service provides low to medium-risk local anaesthetics, neuraxial block and regional block for low to medium anaesthetic risk patients undergoing Surgical Complexity I (SCI) and Surgical Complexity II (SCII) procedures.

Low to medium-risk general anaesthetics are provided to patients (ASA 1-3) undergoing Surgical Complexity III (SCIII) procedures (refer to General Surgical Services role delineation framework).

Service requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- At least one operating/procedure room with separate on-site , dedicated recovery area/room for post-operative care

² PS09 Guidelines on Sedation and/or Analgesia for Diagnostic and Interventional Medical, Dental or Surgical Procedures, Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists.

- Access to Level 4 or above Intensive Care Unit (ICU) (may be off-site)
- On-site emergency service able to stabilise and transfer patients that experience deterioration
- Elective anaesthetic services are generally provided during business hours for regularly scheduled lists
- On-site medication

Workforce requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Visiting registered medical specialist with credentials to administer general anaesthetic
- Registered nurses with experience/post graduate qualifications in anaesthetic nursing

Level 4 Anaesthetics Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides all Level 3 services plus general anaesthetics on moderate to high anaesthetic risk patients (ASA I-4) undergoing SCIII to Surgical Complexity IV (SCIV) procedures. Anaesthesia is administered by a specialist anaesthetist.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- 24 hour access to perioperative services where emergency services are provided
- Broad range of day and general surgery and some specialty surgery
- More than one theatre
- High-dependency or ICU (24 hour ventilation capability) on-site
- On-site pathology, diagnostic and medical services

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Specialist anaesthetists on-site
- Specialist anaesthetists on-call 24 hours
- Anaesthetics registrar on-call 24 hours

Level 5 Anaesthetics Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus surgery is performed on low to high anaesthetic risk patients (ASA I-4) undergoing Surgical Complexity V (SCV) procedures. Generally, a combination of procedures with a moderate to high level of complexity and risk are performed, and management of some patients with comorbidities and risk of intra- and post-operative complications occurs. Anaesthesia is administered by a specialist anaesthetist with support from anaesthetic registrars.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Provides emergency anaesthetic services
- Network referral role
- Has an active research role
- On-site cardiac medicine, cardiac care unit

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Specialist anaesthetist on 24 hour roster for low, moderate and high risk patients.

Level 6 Anaesthetics Services

Service description

A Level 6 service manages the highest level of anaesthetic risk in a range of specialties in conjunction with the most complex surgical and medical presentations that have a high level of complexity or risk to patients with an extensive range of comorbidities requiring specialist staff.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Procedural/operative anaesthesia performed on patients with high potential for intra- and post-operative complications
- Sub-specialty paediatric, cardiothoracic, neurosurgical, obstetric and trauma/retrieval anaesthetists
- Credentialed paediatric and cardiac sub-specialty anaesthetists

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 for:

- Anaesthetic registrar on-site 24 hours
- Broad range of surgical sub-specialties on-site and available at close proximity 24 hours

Intensive Care Unit/High Dependency Unit

An Intensive Care Unit (ICU) is a specially staffed and equipped, separate, self-contained section of a hospital for the management of patients with potentially life threatening conditions, and/or potentially reversible organ failures. An ICU provides clinical expertise, facilities and equipment for the support of patients and their families, utilising skills of specialist medical, nursing and allied health staff who are specifically trained in the multidisciplinary management of critically ill patients.

A High Dependency Unit (HDU) may be combined with an ICU or located separately. A HDU is a specifically staffed and equipped section of a hospital that provides a level of care intermediate between intensive care and general ward care. It may be located in a hospital with Level 4, 5 or 6 ICU's or as a satellite unit supported by ICU in another hospital within a reasonable transport time, as long as transfer systems are available, safe and robust.

Typical patients in HDU have single organ system dysfunction or failure and/or are assessed to be at a high risk of developing acute complications. An HDU should have sufficient resources and immediate access to appropriately skilled medical staffing for the immediate resuscitation and management of critically ill patients. Equipment should be available to manage short term life-threatening emergencies, e.g. the need for mechanical ventilation.

ICU's / HDU's provide high level acute, clinical support for the various specialist and subspecialist medical and surgical services operating within a health service or hospital. In this sense, ICU provides a safety net for those patients undergoing major surgery, procedures and treatments, and for managing complications of these. ICU also supports those patients who present to the Emergency Department with severe acute reversible illness or injury, ICU care may also include end of life care and support for potential organ donation. Additionally, Intensive Care medical and nursing staff provide a wide variety of outreach services to support patients on acute hospital medical and surgical wards.

This Framework describes the structure of these multidisciplinary services, their minimum system requirements, their staffing needs and the other clinical support services each of which is necessary to run safe and sustainable Intensive Care services within each designated hospital level in Tasmania.

There are No Level 1, 2 or 3 Intensive care services described.

Tasmanian hospitals functioning at these levels do not require on-site ICU or HDU services. These levels of hospital or clinical service need systems for urgent care and rapid transfer to larger regional centres, where high quality Specialist Intensive Care services are safe and sustainable.

Level 1 Intensive Care Unit/High Dependency Unit

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Intensive Care Unit/High Dependency Unit

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Intensive Care Unit/High Dependency Unit

No Level 3 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 4 Intensive Care Unit/High Dependency Unit

Service description

A Level 4 service provides a self-contained critical care area with easy access to the emergency department and operating theatres within the facility.

A Level 4 service has the capability of providing immediate resuscitation and short-term cardiorespiratory support for critically ill patients. It must be capable of providing mechanical ventilation and simple invasive cardiovascular monitoring for a period of at least several hours.

Service requirements

- Separate and self-contained facility in the hospital capable of providing basic, multisystem life support, usually for up to 36 hours
- Provides mechanical ventilation and simple invasive cardiovascular monitoring
- Admission and discharge protocols for all beds to be determined by the Medical Director.
- Established referral relationship with a Level 5 or Level 6 ICU including defined transfer policies and access to telemedicine support
- Formal audit and review of activities and outcomes through participation in the Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society Centre for Outcome and Resource Evaluation database activities
- 24 hour access to on-call pharmacy, pathology, operating theatres and imaging services.
- All patients admitted to a Level 4 Unit must be referred to the Consultant Specialist taking responsibility for the Unit at the time of admission (with the exception of Coronary Care Patients)
- Active hospital based infection control unit and policies

Workforce requirements

- Medical Director with a full-time commitment to the operation of the unit and who is a Fellow of the College of Intensive Care Medicine (CICM)
- Sufficient registered specialists from relevant disciplines on-call 24 hours, with rostering and call arrangements determined by the Medical Director.
- In addition to the attending Specialist, at least one on-site registered medical practitioner with appropriate level of experience, airway and ALS skills, rostered for the unit and immediately available at all times to attend the unit
- A nurse in charge of the unit who has a post registration qualification in intensive care
- All nursing staff in the unit responsible for direct patient care being registered nurses with the majority of all nurses having a post registration qualification in intensive care
- All nurses working in unit must have ECG interpretation, ventilation, invasive line management, and ALS competence at a minimum

- A minimum of two registered nurses present in the unit at all times when there is a patient present in the unit, and this number should be maintained irrespective of Rapid Response Team involvement
- Educational programs for both medical and nursing staff which may include links with level 5 or 6 referral centres and tertiary education institutions
- Access to a dedicated unit nursing educator
- An orientation program for new staff
- A minimum nurse–patient ratio of 1:1 for ventilated and similarly critically ill patients, as per accepted clinical standards for ICUs
- A minimum 1:2 nursing ratio for high dependency patients
- Access to technical support staff (e.g. biomedical engineers and scientific officers), as required
- Appropriate access to specialist pharmacist, physiotherapist, social worker, dietician, pastoral care and any other allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4

Level 5 Intensive Care Unit/High Dependency Unit

Service description

A Level 5 ICU provides services at Level 4 plus it has the capability of providing a high standard of general intensive care including more complex, extended, multisystem life support.

A Level 5 service provides mechanical ventilation, renal replacement therapy, invasive cardiovascular monitoring for extended periods. A level 5 ICU with suitably trained clinical and support staff and resources, may be capable of providing more advanced respiratory and cardiovascular support using ECMO. However this is not essential to the minimum provisions for a level 5 ICU service.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Accredited CICM training program
- Regional referral role
- Adequate capacity, equipment resources, and medical and nurse staffing to support the required elective caseload, emergency surgical referrals and any medical procedural services provided on-site, locally or in affiliated regional centres. This will ultimately depend on the nature and level of other services delivered in the region and should be addressed and adjusted in line with other service structures
- Access to urgent echocardiography services 24/7, by either trained Intensive Care Specialists, Cardiologists or Cardiac sonographers
- Specialised bariatric lifting equipment integrated into bed spaces

- Nearby inpatient rehabilitation services for post-critical illness recovery and support
- Adequate staffing and resources to provide any ward-based support service or outreach programs and deteriorating patient quality assurance. (NSQHS Standard 9)
- Active research program including research nurse and data collection
- Adequate clerical and administrative support, as per CICM guidelines
- Systems for the facilitation and support of organ donation

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Minimum 50% of all nursing staff to have post registration qualification in ICU
- Each nursing shift requires a designated Clinical Nursing Co-ordinator and ACCESS nurses. The number of ACCESS nurses required per shift will vary depending on percentage of qualified staff. E.g. Units with 50-75% qualified ICU nurses require one ACCESS nurse for every 6 patient's. (ACCCN ICU staffing position statement, 2003)
- Capacity and staffing models adequate to cope with surges in demand for unexpected peaks in emergency referrals, both from within the institution and from referring regional centres
- Allied health support, including dedicated, specialised ICU physiotherapists. Recommend 1.0 FTE Senior Physiotherapist per 7 ICU beds OR 1.0 FTE Senior per 5 HDU beds
- A dedicated ICU Specialist Pharmacist. Other pharmacy services including compounding, sterile room services, TDM, clinical drug guidelines and protocols
- Equipment officer

Support service requirements

Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5

Level 6 Intensive Care Unit/High Dependency Unit

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus it is the highest level referral unit for intensive care patients and is capable of providing comprehensive critical care, including complex and multisystem life support for an indefinite period, and support for complex Level 6 activity. A Level 6 ICU should contain and be supported by services that provide patient care at a level which delivers appropriate clinical services for all types of illness/injury, other than those which the State does not support such as acute transplantation medicine. As such a Level 6 ICU should not require transfer of acute patients to other ICUs except for times of significant bed pressure. However, elective transfer of patients to other ICUs within the State should be supported where services exist to support the patient, and the transfer facilitates better proximity to the patient's family.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Sub-specialty Cardiothoracic and/or Neurosurgical throughput and support
- Appropriate systems for support of Tertiary Trauma and/or Major Burns centre. patients
- Hyperbaric chamber available at short notice
- Participates in the trauma team for the hospital
- Formal research program
- Has statewide and interstate referral role
- Capacity for extended advanced respiratory and cardiovascular support using ECMO

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Fellow of CICM qualified ICU Consultant specialists on-call 24 hours
- ICU registrar on-site and exclusively rostered to the Unit 24 hours

Support service requirements

Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	6

Medical Imaging Services

Medical Imaging encompasses a spectrum of both conventional and sophisticated diagnostic and interventional practices. It encompasses general radiography, ultrasound, computed tomography (CT) scan, fluoroscopy, bone mineral densitometry, mammography, angiography, interventional radiology, and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). Nuclear Medicine diagnostic imaging has also been included in the Medical Imaging delineation section of this framework, it uses radiopharmaceuticals (radioactive substances) to provide functional and dynamic imaging, and includes gamma camera imaging as well as more specialist investigations such as PET (positron emission tomography) scanning.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Medical Imaging

Service description

A Level 1 service provides low-risk ambulatory care services during business hours and may provide some limited after-hours services. This service involves a single, mobile or fixed, general x-ray unit and is delivered by licensed operators.

Service requirements

- A mobile or fixed general x-ray unit
- Range of imaging limited to x-ray of extremities, chest and abdomen if service is delivered by licensed operators.

Workforce requirements

- Radiographer or if no radiographer available then licensed x-ray operator with 24 hour access to an appointed radiographic advisor for supervision of licensed operators
- Medical imaging interpreted by on-site doctor / health professional
- Radiologist readily contactable to discuss findings and provide a report

Level 2 Medical Imaging

Service description

A Level 2 service provides services at Level 1 plus it provides a low-risk inpatient service. This service may also provide a low-risk ambulatory care service. This service is predominantly delivered by a sole radiographer and support may be provided by licensed operators. There is a designated room on-site with a fixed x-ray unit and may also include digital radiography; however, depending on the range of services provided at the facility (e.g. day hospitals), a mobile image intensifier may be the only modality available. The service may also have access to ultrasound for non-complex conditions.

Service requirements

As for Level 1 plus:

- Mobile service if present limited to x-ray of extremities, chest, abdomen

- Has dedicated x-ray room with fixed x-ray unit available, range of images not restricted when a radiographer on duty
- May have access to non-complex ultrasound Interpreted by on-site doctor/health professional and reported by a radiologist using teleradiology

Workforce requirements

As for Level 1 plus:

- On-site radiographer available during business hours

Level 3 Medical Imaging

Service description

A Level 3 service provides services at Level 2 plus it has on-site ultrasound and CT services. Sites may perform examinations involving contrast, such as intravenous pyelograms and has on-site radiologists able perform some biopsies and procedures.

Service requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- On-site designated radiography rooms
- Teleradiology facility available
- On-site ultrasound and CT facilities

Workforce requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Radiographer in attendance who has regular access to radiological consultation
- Registered medical practitioner must be on-site at all times when procedures involving contrast are performed
- Ultrasound performed by a sonographer or registered medical practitioner trained in ultrasound

Level 4 Medical Imaging

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at Level 3 plus it provides on-site MRI services.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Facilities for general x-ray and fluoroscopy, in addition to mobile x-ray for wards, operating room and emergency department
- MRI scanner
- Formal links with nuclear medicine services

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- After-hours access to consultant radiology for reporting
- On-site radiographer on-call 24 hours
- Registered radiographers and sonographers
- RN/EN as required

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	Pathology	Pharmacy
4	3	4

Level 5 Medical Imaging

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus a limited range of specialised interventional radiology and nuclear medicine services.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Nuclear medicine facilities with single-photon emission CT
- Preparation or reconstitution of radiopharmaceuticals with clear and appropriate documentation in place, including details of supply source, preparation date and batch number and reconstitution in line with the Australian and New Zealand Society of Nuclear Medicine Guidelines for Good Radiopharmacy Practice
- One or more gamma cameras on-site with whole body and single-photon emission CT facility
- May have the facility for in vivo and/or in vitro tracer studies

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Clinical Director of Medical Imaging and lead radiographer
- Radiologist on-site and on-call 24 hours
- May have radiology registrar
- Registered and licensed nuclear medicine specialist present during radiopharmaceutical administration and available for consultation 24 hours
- Full-time supervision during procedures by a nuclear physician or radiologist with nuclear medicine qualification
- RN with evidence of ongoing clinical competency and experience appropriate to the service being provided on-site during the hours of operation of the department and available after-hours

- Access to an appropriately credentialed anaesthetist as required
- Registered nuclear medicine technologists
- Business hours access to a radiochemist/radiopharmacist
- Business hours access to technical support staff (e.g. biomedical engineering scientific officers)

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	Pathology	Pharmacy
5	4	5

Level 6 Medical Imaging

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus it provides complex, on-site interventional and neuro-interventional procedures and PET services that must be available on-site. It also provides an interstate referral role.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Special rooms for digital angiography, neuroradiology etc., as required
- On-site PET scanning facilities
- 24 hour on-call service across multiple modalities including general radiography, CT, ultrasound, fluoroscopy, nuclear medicine and interventional angiography
- Provides interstate referral role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- On-site imaging modality specialists during business hours
- Has radiology registrars (2 minimum according to Australian standard) and postgraduate Fellows
- One or more full-time medical physicists
- A full-time radiopharmacist/radiochemist available if radiopharmaceuticals are manufactured in-house
- An experienced/suitably qualified registered nurse at minimum Grade 4 level

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	Pathology	Pharmacy
5	5	5

Pathology Services

Pathology Services provide testing of materials, tissues or fluids from a patient to determine the cause and nature of a disease.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level. Pathology service requirements are consistent with the National Pathology Accreditation Advisory Council (NPAAC) requirements.

Level 1 Pathology Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Pathology Services

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Pathology Services

Service description

A Level 3 service provides a limited range of pathology tests, including on-site basic biochemistry and haematology, and has the ability to manage pathology specimens until transfer of the specimen to a higher level service is available. More complex testing is accessible via higher level pathology services.

Service requirements

- On-site basic biochemistry and haematology
- Access to blood bank services provided by a higher level service within the network
- Routine anatomical pathology provided within 96 hours via a higher level service within the network
- Routine microbiology samples (including culture of blood, urine, stool) are managed on-site and referred to a higher level pathology service within the network

Workforce requirements

- Non-pathology specialists who are trained in the use of automated pathology testing equipment
- Where appropriate, specialist pathology staff with appropriate qualifications, training and experience relevant to scope of testing being performed in accordance with National Pathology Accreditation Advisory Council requirements

Level 4 Pathology Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at Level 3 plus comprehensive testing in a local pathology laboratory.

This level of service can typically be provided by a category B (branch) accredited pathology laboratory.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Routine pathology services provided by laboratory scientists
- Blood bank service provided by local laboratory
- Electronic pathology result reporting available

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Service provided by laboratory scientists with appropriate tertiary qualifications in accordance with National Pathology Accreditation Advisory Council guidelines

Level 5 Pathology Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus it provides a specialist pathologist service in a dedicated pathology department.

This level of service can typically be provided by a category GX or GY accredited pathology laboratory.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Service provided by pathologists and/or clinical scientists as per NPAAC guidelines
- Laboratory provides Haematology, Clinical Chemistry, Blood Bank, Microbiology and Histopathology services locally
- May have sub-specialist pathologists in a limited range of disciplines
- Has formal access to sub-specialist pathology services from a Level 6 Pathology service
- Provide support to lower service level facilities within the network

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Credentialed pathologists
- Specialist pathology laboratory staff available locally 24 hours.

Level 6 Pathology Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus sub-specialty services and a statewide referral role for complex, highly specialised and sub-specialty pathology services.

This level of service can be provided by a category GX accredited pathology laboratory.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Sub-specialty pathology services
- Cytogenetics service
- Cell culture facilities and cryopreservation
- Interstate referral role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Credentialed sub-specialty pathologists

Pharmacy Services

Pharmacy services include preparation, dispensing and clinical monitoring and provision of information on appropriate utilisation of drugs within health services. The level of pharmacy service provided by a health facility reflects acuity of patients and complexity of patients treated. Pharmacy services must comply with the *Poisons Act 1971* and Pharmacy Board of Australia legislation regarding storage and security requirements.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level I Pharmacy Services

Service description

A Level I service provides services on an outpatient basis to a local community.

Service requirements

- Medications supplied on individual prescription from a community pharmacy, primary health care clinic or higher level service
- Where there is no pharmacist employed, on-site medication service oversight provided by a pharmacist located elsewhere from a higher level service via telehealth where available or through a documented process with a community pharmacist
- Links to other relevant services to support patients taking medications (e.g. community nursing services)
- Access to registered pharmacists for medication management, patient education and support, home medicines review and formal medication reviews in collaboration with the patient's usual general practitioner
- Telehealth facilities where this has been identified as a means of providing medication services and oversight
- A reliable internet connection with sufficient capacity to enable access to receive consultation from a higher level service
- Defined and appropriate supply chain where medications are sourced from a network hospital or community pharmacy
- Linked to higher level pharmacy services within the network

Workforce requirements

- Access to registered pharmacists where not on-site
- Access to a suitable medication distribution network for supply of medications to maintain a requisite medication inventory
- Must have access to a registered medical practitioner for prescriptions
- Access to a registered medical practitioner and/or Nurse Practitioner (NP) for facilities in rural and remote areas

Level 2 Pharmacy Services

Service description

A Level 2 service provides services at Level 1 plus it provides an inpatient clinical pharmacy service.

Service requirements

As for Level 1 plus:

- Medications supplied for inpatients by hospital pharmacy within the network
- Medications for inpatients on discharge supplied on individual prescription from either a community pharmacy, appropriate hospital within the network, or a higher level service with documented processes in place for the provision of medications that require compounding
- Provision of pharmacy drug information, drug monitoring, drug utilisation evaluation and adverse drug reaction reporting
- Staff education program in place
- Patient education provided for inpatients from nursing or visiting pharmacist staff
- Timely access to clinical information, including medical records, medication history and pathology results for patients
- May provide pharmacy undergraduate and postgraduate teaching role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 1 plus:

- Access to pharmacist, either visiting or on-site
- Access to more specialised pharmacist support from a higher level facility within the network

Level 3 Pharmacy Services

Service description

A Level 3 service provides services at Level 2 plus it provides a clinical pharmacy service on weekdays through an on-site pharmacy or a contracted service, and includes an out-of-hours medication mechanism and ideally has access to a pharmacist for emergency advice 24 hours.

Service requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Medications and clinical services for day patients and, where applicable, ambulatory patients in specialty clinics
- Provides support to outreach and specialist services
- Access to basic, non-sterile extemporaneous compounding in the network
- Clinical service includes drug information, drug monitoring, drug utilisation evaluation, adverse drug reaction reporting, patient education and support, and membership on hospital based network committees (e.g. Drugs and Therapeutic Committee, Quality Control, and Clinical Governance Committees)

- Timely access to clinical information, including medical records and pathology results, reliable access to a dedicated desktop and/or laptop computer in the ward/clinical area, or equivalent (e.g. electronic tablet), if wireless technology is available
- May provide pharmacy undergraduate and postgraduate teaching role
- Appropriate networking with higher level service
- Must comply with *Poisons Act 1971* and Pharmacy Board of Australia legislation regarding storage and security requirements
- Provides pharmacy support to rural and remote areas within the network

Workforce requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Service provided by a pharmacy team which includes a pharmacist, pharmacy assistant and pharmacy technician
- Pharmacist available during designated business hours. Documented processes in place to access medications and medicines information outside these hours (after-hours service may be provided by a higher level service under a documented process)
- Access to relief/locum pharmacist services, as required
- Referral pathways and access to allied health and complementary services, as required for patient care (ideally, access to dietetics, occupational therapy, physiotherapy and interpreter services)
- Education for nursing staff and support for medical practitioners

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Imaging
-	-	3	-

Level 4 Pharmacy Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at Level 3 plus it provides a medication service that is available 24 hours. The service is able to provide care for a full range of patient risk levels, and has the capacity and capability to care for patients that are likely to have complex and competing therapeutic needs, and multiple comorbidities that the service must consider when optimising therapy.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Provides network consultation and accepts referrals from lower level services within the network
- Medication distributed and stored by the facility and, as required, to any lower level service that is safe, meets legislative requirements and assures the quality of the medicinal products (e.g. maintains cold chain)

- Has responsibilities across a defined area within the network, providing support and medication service oversight to lower level services through intermittent visits, via outreach pharmacy or telepharmacy services if available, or through other means
- Provides support for a range of specialty services (e.g. chemotherapy)
- Provides support for clinical trial medication distribution
- Provides visiting services to lower level services within the network

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- An after-hours, on-call service for medication supply and clinical services, including medicines information, available 24 hours
- General or junior-level pharmacy staff mentored or clinically supervised by a specialist or advanced-level practitioners where applicable

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Imaging
-	-	3	-

Level 5 Pharmacy Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus it has the capacity to act as a referral service for very high-risk patients except those who need high level specialist clinical services, such as highly complex patients.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Basic, non-sterile, extemporaneous compounding possibly with limited small-batch manufacturing for local hospital use, and sterile, individually compounded products (e.g. chemotherapy including parenteral, targeted and oral chemotherapy) if the use of these products falls within the scope of practice of the pharmacist or trained support staff providing supporting medication services
- The capacity to respond to requests for medicines information related to direct patient care in a timely manner, either through a medicines/drug information service or a service provided internally
- A medicines/drug information service provided for the whole of the network and State
- The service may actively participate in multidisciplinary research
- Undergraduate and postgraduate pharmacy teaching role
- Under- and post-graduate pharmacy training

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- An extended-hours service with a pharmacist available 24 hours
- A pharmacy team structured to deliver services at multiple levels throughout the organisation
- Specialist pharmacist positions which reflect the range of specialist services provided (e.g. ICU, haematology, and medical oncology)

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Imaging
-	-	3	-

Level 6 Pharmacy Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus it acts as a referral service for all lower level services across the State (i.e. a Statewide and/or super-specialty service), accepting referrals, including interstate, where applicable. The service has the capacity and capability to provide care for patients who have the most complex care needs. A team of pharmacists, including specialist advanced level pharmacists aligned with clinical specialist services, provides medication services.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- A specialised or Statewide Medicines and Drug Information Service, and/or Poisons Information Service may be provided
- Product evaluation with drug use/policy development
- Participates in research, clinical trials and clinical reviews

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- A full range of specialist pharmacist positions which reflect the range of specialist services provided (e.g. ICU, haematology, medical oncology, cardiology, paediatrics, geriatrics, psychiatry, and drug information).

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Imaging
-	-	5	-

Clinical Services

For the purposes of this Framework, core services comprise Emergency Medicine, Trauma Services, General Medicine, Cancer Services, Cardiology Services, Endocrinology Services, Gastroenterology Services, Infectious Diseases Services, Neurology Services, Renal Services, Respiratory Medicine, Rheumatology and Pain Management Services, General Surgery, Cardiothoracic Services, Ear, Nose and Throat Surgery, Gynaecology Services, Ophthalmology Services, Oral Health Services, Orthopaedics Services, Plastics and Reconstructive Surgery, Urology Services, Vascular Surgical Services, Neonatology Services, Maternity Services, Paediatric Services, Geriatrics Services, Mental Health Services, Palliative Care Services and Rehabilitation Medicine Services.

Acute Stroke Services

Stroke medicine is a specialised area of clinical practice involving the diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of patients who have experienced a stroke.

The scope of this Framework recognises that:

- All people with stroke should be admitted to hospital and be treated in a stroke unit with a multidisciplinary team.
- All people with stroke should be admitted directly to a stroke unit (preferably within three hours of stroke onset).
- Smaller hospitals should consider stroke services that adhere as closely as possible to the criteria for stroke unit care. Where possible, patients should receive care on geographically discrete units.
- If people with suspected stroke present to non-stroke unit hospitals, transfer protocols should be developed and used to guide urgent transfers to the nearest stroke unit hospital.

A designated Stroke Unit requires:

1. Co-located beds within a geographically defined unit.
2. Dedicated, interprofessional team with members who have a special interest in stroke and/or rehabilitation. The minimum team would consist of medical, nursing and allied health (including Occupational Therapist, Physio Therapist, Speech Pathologist, Social Worker and Dietitian). For Tasmania, the minimum team also consists of a neuropsychologists and pharmacist.
3. Interprofessional team meet at least once per week to discuss patient care.
4. Regular programs of staff education and training relating to stroke, (e.g. dedicated stroke in-service program and/or access to annual national or regional stroke conference).

The scope of this Framework also describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Acute Stroke Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Acute Stroke Services

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Acute Stroke Services

Service description

A Level 3 service provides basic hospital care for a stroke patient for which the stroke results in the patient requiring end of life care. Non-palliative acute strokes need to be transferred to a designated stroke unit.

Workforce requirements

- Carers
- Registered medical practitioner on-site
- Access to specialist palliative care services in the network 24 hours
- RNs on-site 24 hours; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to patients

Level 4 Acute Stroke Services

Service description

A Level 4 services provides specialist hospital care for stroke patients. Level 4 services do not have a dedicated stroke unit. Moderate complexity patients are transferred to a higher service.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Formal linkages including referral processes with Level 5 or 6 Acute Stroke Service within the network to facilitate timely transfer of stroke patients and/or provision of clinical advice via telemedicine in line with agreed guidelines
- Access to a Pharmacist

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Physician practicing in general medicine on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Pharmacist
- Access to specialist stroke unit, specialist neurology, designated allied health and Rehabilitation Medicine Services in the network
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or extensive experience in stroke care

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	4	3	3	4

Level 5 Acute Stroke Services

Service description

A Level 5 service is a designated primary stroke centre. To be classified as a primary stroke centre it must receive over 100 stroke admissions each year.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Dedicated stroke unit with clinicians who have stroke expertise

- Close linkages with level 6 as part of statewide stroke service
- Access to ICU/HDU for complex patients
- Written stroke protocols for emergency services, acute care and rehabilitation
- Access to thrombolytic therapy
- Protocols to transfer appropriate patients to a comprehensive stroke centre
- Ability to provide acute monitoring (telemetry and other physiological monitoring) for up to 72 hours
- Onsite neurovascular imaging (CT and Carotid) and timely access to expert interpretation
- Rapid (within 48 hours) Transient Ischaemic Attack (TIA) assessment clinics/services
- Access to standardised and early assessment for neuro-rehabilitation
- Coordinated processes for patient transition to ongoing rehabilitation and secondary prevention services including referral back to acute services if required
- Access to an Early Supported Discharge Service
- Interdisciplinary stroke or neuro-rehabilitation team with access to staff education and professional development specific to stroke
- Access to clinical neuropsychologist as part of the ongoing care after acute admission
- Regular audit and stroke-specific quality improvement activities

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Access to CNC providing leadership in stroke management
- Dedicated medical lead who has primary focus on stroke (stroke centre director)
- Clinical psychologist
- Access to specialist rehabilitation services
- Access to early Supported Discharge team comprising of a physiotherapist, occupational therapist, nurse, speech pathologist, physician, social worker and administrative support person
- Access to allied health services with special expertise in stroke/rehabilitation

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	5	5	4	5

Level 6 Acute Stroke Services

Service description

A Level 6 service is a designated comprehensive stroke centre, providing comprehensive care for acute stroke admissions. This level provides statewide specialist stroke support to all lower level facilities in the network and is responsible for establishing statewide protocols for stroke assessment and management.

To be a designated comprehensive stroke centre it must receive over 350 acute stroke admissions each year. These centres have established well organised systems to link emergency services, acute care, coordinated processes for ongoing inpatient rehabilitation, secondary prevention (e.g. clinic or follow up service), and community reintegration (e.g. early supported discharge).

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Statewide coordination of stroke services
- Network referral role
- On-call neurologist for statewide service to support lower level services in acute thrombolysis and transfer decisions
- Dedicated stroke unit with specialised resources and personnel available 24 hours, 365 days a year
- Formal Linkages with emergency services
- Links with Level 5 rehabilitation service
- Provides 24 hour availability of thrombolysis
- Access to advanced imaging capability (MRI, advanced CT and catheter angiography)
- Access to sub-specialist neurosurgical and neuro-intensive care, interventional radiology services, cardiology and palliative care
- Provide outreach services to lower services
- Provides clinical advice, education and training to lower level services
- Leads clinical research

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Access to neurosurgeons and neuro-intensive care staff
- On-site clinical neuro-psychologist

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	5	5	6

Cancer Services

Cancer Services refer to the overall suite of specialised services delivered by health facilities in diagnosing and treating cancer and cancer survivors.

Cancer services should be part of an integrated model and the scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required for Medical Oncology, Radiation Oncology and Malignant Clinical Haematology. There are service interdependencies between each of these services.

Medical Oncology

Medical Oncology is the component of cancer medicine that assesses patients with solid tumour cancer and manages their care, particularly through the use of systemic therapies. This service has interdependencies with Radiation Oncology and Malignant Clinical Haematology.

Level 1 Medical Oncology

No level 1 service

Level 2 Medical Oncology

A Level 2 service provides outpatient management and appropriate referral of patients by a medical practitioner for patients who are under the care of a Level 5 or Level 6 Medical Oncology service.

Level 2 services may participate in multi-disciplinary meetings regarding the patient's management.

Level 3 Medical Oncology

As for Level 2, plus a Level 3 service provides outpatient management and appropriate referral of patients by a physician practicing in general medicine or equivalent for patients who are under the care of a Level 5 or Level 6 Medical Oncology service.

Level 4 Medical Oncology

Service description

As for Level 3, plus a Level 4 service has infrastructure that enables on-site ambulatory chemotherapy to be provided to patients. This service has links with a higher level medical oncology service which coordinates the patient's care and makes relevant treatment decisions.

A Level 4 service has a visiting medical oncologist and provides appropriately qualified and/or experienced RNs with specialist cancer care nursing knowledge and expertise, including in the administration of chemotherapy to ambulatory patients.

A Level 4 service can coordinate referral to a higher level service for initial diagnosis and transfer to a higher level service for the assessment and management of post treatment complications.

Service requirements

- Capacity to provide day treatment, with designated ambulatory day beds for treatment
- Visiting medical oncologist
- Formal linkages with higher level medical oncology service

Workforce requirements

- Access to medical oncologist in the network 24 hours, seven days a week
- Access to visiting medical oncologist
- RNs with post graduate qualifications and/or nursing experience in medical oncology
- Specialist pharmacist haematology/oncology

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	3	3	3

Level 5 Medical Oncology

Service description

A Level 5 service provides all services at Level 4 plus some inpatient medical oncology care. A Level 5 service does not provide inpatient chemotherapy, however, patients with medical oncology care needs may be admitted as inpatients under the care of a physician practicing in general medicine.

This service has access to medical oncology multi-disciplinary teams, including at a higher service level.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Service has formal linkages to Level 6 medical oncology service
- 24 hour access to specialist medical practitioners with credentials in medical oncology, radiation oncology, haematology, palliative care, pain management services and microbiology for advice and support within the network
- Access to designated allied health services including social workers, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, speech pathologists, psychological and emotional support services, palliative care and a nutrition team, as required
- Appropriate network access to nuclear medicine

Workforce requirements

As for level 4 plus:

- Nurse Unit Manager providing clinical leadership in medical oncology
- Physician practicing in general medicine on-site and on-call 24 hours
- RNs with post graduate qualifications and/or nursing experience in medical oncology; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to inpatients

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	4	4	4

Level 6 Medical Oncology

Service description

A Level 6 service provides all services at Level 5 plus delivery of inpatient systemic therapy, including intensive chemotherapy protocols. The service provides initial assessment, management and treatment plans for common malignancies, in collaboration with disease-specific surgeons, radiation oncologists, pathologists and supportive care specialties.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Oncology department
- Provides ambulatory and inpatient chemotherapy
- On-site radiotherapy, palliative care and pain management services
- Specialist medical oncology advice and support available 24 hours
- Access on-site to renal dialysis, respiratory, cardiology and infectious diseases services
- On-site access to specialist allied health professionals (social workers, dietitians, pastoral care)
- Site-specific (breast, lung and colorectal) and general oncology consultative services available
- Active participation in clinical trials and research
- Multidisciplinary meeting in major cancer streams

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Medical oncology specialist on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Medical oncology registrar / RMO

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	4	4

Radiation Oncology

Radiation Oncology plays a major role in cancer treatment. Radiation therapy is either used alone or combined with surgery, chemotherapy, or other therapies in the curative or palliative treatment of cancer. This service has interdependencies with Medical Oncology and Malignant Clinical Haematology.

Level 1 Radiation Oncology

No Level 1 service

Level 2 Radiation Oncology

No Level 2 service

Level 3 Radiation Oncology

No Level 3 service

Level 4 Radiation Oncology

No level 4 service

Level 5 Radiation Oncology

Service description

A Level 5 service has at least one linear accelerator that enables on-site radiation treatment to be provided to patients.

The service has links with a higher level radiation oncology service. Clinical pathways will be developed in collaboration with the higher level service with some of the more complex cases referred to the higher level service. The higher level service provides the radiation planning component of the patient's clinical pathway. It may also need to support treatment in times of staff shortage to prevent patients having to travel.

Service requirements

- Accredited radiation oncology facility
- Radiation treatment provided onsite and supported by Level 6 service as required
- Planning for radiation treatment provided by Level 6 service
- Visiting medical oncology service
- On-site palliative care
- 24 hour access to advice and support from a radiation oncologist
- Network access to medical oncology, palliative care, higher level radiation oncology services and nuclear medicine

Workforce requirements

- Specialist Radiation Oncologist
- Dedicated radiation therapists, RNs and radiation physicists with appropriate radiation oncology training and experience as determined by higher level radiation oncology service

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	4	4	4

Level 6 Radiation Oncology

Service description

A Level 6 service provides all services at Level 5 plus it provides radiation oncology treatment services and facilities for planning on-site.

The service has on-site access to radiation oncologists, physicists and radiation therapists.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Multi-disciplinary patient management in designated cancer streams
- Access to PET service either on-site or through referral network
- Acute inpatient beds available on-site for specialised procedures and for supportive care
- Interstate access to total body irradiation and total skin electron beam therapy
- Interstate link to paediatric super-specialist facilities where children are treated
- Interstate links to adolescent and young adult specialty services
- Access to a clinical genetics/medical genetics service, including genetic counselling
- Active participation in clinical trials and research

On-site medical oncology, palliative care and pain management. Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Specialist medical practitioner with credentials in radiation oncology
- Radiation oncology registrars/RMOs
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or extensive experience in radiation oncology
- Radiation oncology medical physicists and radiation therapists on-site during operational hours
- On-site access to specialist allied health professionals (social workers, dietitians, speech pathologists, PEG service including dedicated nurse, stomal care nurses, psychological medicine, pastoral care, pharmacists)

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	5	5	5

Malignant Clinical Haematology

Haematology is the branch of medicine concerned with the study of blood, the blood-forming organs and blood diseases. This includes the overall suite of specialised services delivered by health facilities in diagnosing and treating haematological malignancy as well as non-malignant haematology. This service has interdependencies with Medical Oncology and Radiation Oncology.

Level 1 Malignant Clinical Haematology

No Level 1 service

Level 2 Malignant Clinical Haematology

No Level 2 service

Level 3 Malignant Clinical Haematology

No Level 3 service

Level 4 Malignant Clinical Haematology

Service Description

A Level 4 service has infrastructure that enables ambulatory haematology care to be provided to patients. This level of service provides outpatient consultative and day treatment services and provides only low-risk systemic therapy.

The service has links with a higher level haematology service which coordinates the patient's care and makes relevant treatment decisions. A visiting registered medical specialist with credentials in haematology provides on-site services.

Service requirements

- 24 hour access to higher level haematological services for emergency advice
- A day treatment area for procedures, such as administration of systemic therapy, biological agents and blood transfusions
- Administers systemic therapies under the supervision of a specialist medical practitioner with credentials in haematology
- Access to a central venous access service
- Access to a full blood bank service
- Access to designated allied health services including social workers, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, speech pathologists, psychological and emotional support services, palliative care and a nutrition team, as required

Workforce requirements

- Formal linkages with consultant haematologist
- RNs appropriately qualified and experienced in the administering and monitoring of systemic therapies
- Specialist pharmacist haematology/oncology

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	4	4	-

Level 5 Malignant Clinical Haematology

Service description

A Level 5 service provides specialist haematologist inpatient and outpatient treatment services for patients with haematological diseases. A Level 5 service provides inter-disciplinary care in conjunction with other consultation services, including infectious diseases, pain services, palliative care, psychiatry, radiotherapy, medical imaging, renal physicians, respiratory physicians and surgical services.

This level service manages moderate to high risk systemic therapy protocols and may perform cell separation/plasmapheresis. The service is able to provide initial courses of systemic therapy and supervise subsequent maintenance courses.

A Level 5 service coordinates all definitive diagnostics and development of a plan for treatment, which may take place at a lower level, this level or a higher level service.

The service provides multidisciplinary management of haematology patients, including case conferences and the development of treatment plans. A Level 5 service does not perform stem cell transplantation.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Inpatient haematology care delivered by a multidisciplinary team
- On-site access to medical oncology, radiation oncology, infectious diseases, pain services, palliative care, psychiatry, medical imaging, renal physicians, respiratory physicians and surgical services
- Access to specialist haematology advice 24 hours
- On-site access to a radiotherapy unit for patient referral and transfer

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Appointed haematologist
- Medical registrar on-site 24 hours

- Access to specialist medical practitioners with credentials in infectious diseases, pain, palliative care, psychiatry, radiation oncology, medical imaging, renal medicine, respiratory medicine and surgical disciplines
- Staff trained, and with evidence of ongoing competency, in the collection of peripheral blood progenitor cells
- Specialist haematology RNs

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	5	5	5

Level 6 Haematology

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus autologous stem cell transplantation and inpatient and outpatient care by a specialised haematology-led multidisciplinary team.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Statewide referral role for some services
- Advanced haematological diagnostics and transfusion services provided by a laboratory accredited under relevant national accreditation body
- Autologous stem cell transplantation service accreditation under relevant national accreditation bodies
- 24 hour aphaeresis cover
- Dedicated standard isolation rooms
- May manage all high-risk and/or complex protocols, and deliver intensive chemotherapy protocols
- An accredited haematology training program
- Access to interventional radiology service, PET service and vascular service for management of venous and arterial thrombosis where appropriate
- Multidisciplinary meetings in malignant haematological disorders
- Active participation in clinical trials and research

Workforce requirements

As for level 5 plus:

- Clinical Haematologist on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Clinical Haematology registrar/RMO
- NUM providing clinical leadership in haematology including in-reach and outreach

- RNs appropriately qualified and experienced in clinical haematology
- Clinical scientists on-site
- Designated transplant coordinator on-site
- Transfusion nurse

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	6	6	6

Cardiology Services

Cardiology Service involves the prevention, investigation, diagnosis, treatment and management of a range of cardiac diseases, e.g. coronary artery disease, valvular heart disease, arrhythmias, heart failure and adult congenital heart disease. Services can range from emergency care, to acute care, surgery, rehabilitation, ongoing care for chronic conditions, and palliative care.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Cardiology Services

Service description

A Level 1 service provides a low-acuity, ambulatory care for minor cardiac diseases and management of acute conditions with the ability to provide acute resuscitation.

It should provide health promotion/disease prevention and chronic disease management programs. This service would normally be delivered by General Practitioners in an outpatient setting and may incorporate nurse led services.

Service requirements

- Access to / integration into a statewide Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS) management pathway and should include:
 - access to a network phone system for immediate access to on-call cardiologist for ACS service as well as routine advice
 - access to electrocardiograph (ECG) machine and the ability to safely and effectively operate and maintain equipment, and
 - if digital ECG is present, the service has access to the central server to provide ECG data
- Provision of basic cardiovascular risk factor/disease prevention information

Workforce requirements

- A registered medical practitioner or RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to inpatients

Level 2 Cardiology Services

Service description

A Level 2 service provides services at Level 1 but in addition provides a low-acuity, single-system medical condition ambulatory and outpatient service.

It is run by registered medical practitioner, usually a GP with 24 hour access to a registered medical practitioner which may require a deputising service or GP Assist.

This service will be delivered in small community hospitals, large GP practices or rural health centres.

Service requirements

As for Level 1 plus:

- Has digital ECG machine with appropriate support from higher level services within the network to safely and effectively operate and maintain equipment
- Ability to perform point of care testing
- Appropriate support from higher level services within the network
- Access to pathology / medical imaging in a relatively short time frame
- Access to Automated External defibrillator, oxygen and the ability to achieve venous access

Workforce requirements

As for Level 1 plus:

- 24 hours access to a registered medical practitioner
- Business hours access to allied health professionals, as required

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	3	2	1

Level 3 Cardiology Services

Service description

A Level 3 service provides services at Level 2 plus ambulatory and non-acute services.

Outpatient care is accessible by a visiting registered medical practitioner, general internal medicine specialist or cardiologist or via telephone, telehealth and/or e-health.

Patients with acute cardiac care needs are transferred to a higher level service.

Service requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Provides outpatient, ambulatory and non-acute care led by a cardiologist and supported by visiting medical specialists and / or via telehealth
- Elective diagnostic investigations performed
- Provides thrombolysis, and blood gas monitoring
- Ability to provide close care and monitoring at the bedside with appropriate facilities and appropriately trained nursing staff in place
- Must have communication linkages to specialist medical services from a higher level service within the network
- Formal referral protocols established with higher level services
- Links to Cardiac Nurse Practitioner

Workforce requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- On-site 24 hour access to a registered medical practitioner or registered medical specialist
- 24 hour cover by RNs/ENs
- Access to cardiologists in the network
- Has access to some allied health services e.g. physiotherapy
- Has access to Cardiac Rehabilitation Nurse
- Access to Cardiac Nurse Practitioner or Clinical Nurse Specialist (Cardiac/Health Promotion)

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
2	-	3	3	2

Level 4 Cardiology Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at Level 3 plus inpatient cardiology care by a registered medical practitioner practicing in general medicine and/or non-interventional cardiologist.

Outpatient consultation is provided by a cardiologist.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Capability and capacity to deliver multidisciplinary team-based care to cardiology patients
- Provides a range of inpatient and outpatient cardiology services including transthoracic echocardiography, cardiac event monitoring, ambulatory blood pressure monitoring, implantable cardiac device checks, and exercise stress testing
- Provides cardiac rehabilitation and preventive patient cardiac education
- Discrete area within the facility for provision of level of care more intensive than ward-based care (e.g. may be CCU, HDU or ICU)
- Performs non-invasive monitoring
- Formal referral protocols established with higher level services
- Can provide resuscitation and stabilisation of emergencies until transfer or retrieval to higher level facility

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Registered medical specialist with experience in cardiology, on-call 24 hours
- Access to an anaesthetist

- Outpatient cardiologist service provided by outreach but would include review of inpatients by visiting cardiologist
- Formal liaison with higher level 6 cardiology service
- In-hours access to allied health services appropriate to the level of cardiology services being provided (local, visiting or via telehealth dependent on availability and clinical appropriateness), including psychology, dietetics and social work
- On-site emergency medicine specialist
- Cardiac Rehabilitation Nurse
- Cardiac Nurse Practitioner or Clinical Nurse Specialist (Cardiac/Health Promotion)

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4	4

Level 5 Cardiology Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides cardiology services at Level 4 plus a full range of cardiac services through a dedicated cardiology department including emergency services and an on-site cardiac catheterisation laboratory. A Level 5 service caters for the complex cardiology medical care. The service is usually provided at a general hospital by a multidisciplinary team available 24 hours and includes and has a network referral role.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Has on-site CCU capable of providing a dedicated ward area for patients requiring cardiac monitoring and/or resuscitation, with appropriate levels of staff and specialised resources including monitoring equipment and appropriate investigations
- Provides a range of cardiology of diagnostic services including , CT coronary angiography, transthoracic echocardiograph, stress echocardiogram, transeosophageal echocardiography cardiac event monitoring, ambulatory blood pressure monitoring, implantable cardiac device checks, tilt table testing and functional assessment
- Access to on-site central haemodynamic monitoring capacity
- On-site diagnostic coronary angiography, permanent pacemaker, percutaneous revascularisation and angioplasty
- Provides a range of outpatient services, coronary risk factor clinics as well as cardiac rehabilitation and preventive patient education programs
- Paediatric liaison service and shared care model with Royal Melbourne Hospital for Adult Congenital Heart Disease
- A comprehensive heart failure service with a Nurse Practitioner

- Formal links to cardiothoracic service and Level 5 Respiratory service
- Specialist consultation or diagnosis provided by telehealth or via telephone to smaller sites and services
- Formal liaison with Level 6 Cardiology service
- Provides specialist consultation and diagnosis to lower level services
- May have research role
- Clinical audit and monitoring

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- 24/7 cover by an interventional cardiologist
- Cardiology registrar (advanced trainee)
- RMO or intern in cardiology
- Medical registrar on-site 24 hours
- CNC providing clinical leadership in cardiology
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or extensive experience in cardiac nursing
- Heart Failure Nurse Practitioner
- Designated multi-disciplinary Cardiac Rehabilitation service
- Access to relevant allied health service provision 24/7 e.g. physiotherapy
- A full complement of cardiac technicians for echocardiography with 24/7 on call roster and pacing services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

Level 6 Cardiology Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus a full range of cardiac services through a dedicated cardiology department including emergency services and an on-site cardiac catheterisation laboratory. A Level 6 service caters for the most complex cardiology medical care. The service is usually provided at a large referral hospital by a multidisciplinary team available 24 hours and includes an interstate referral role.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Full range of cardiology services, with dedicated cardiology department, emergency care, diagnostic and interventional cardiology services with on-site cardiac catheter laboratory, on-site cardiothoracic surgery and cardiac Rehabilitation Medicine Services
- Able to deal with highly complex diagnostic and treatment procedures in consultation with other specialties
- Provides implant and follow up service for complex cardiac devices
- Provides statewide pulmonary hypertension service
- May provide an electrophysiology service (EPS) including radiofrequency ablation and a structural heart disease program including Trans-aortic valve implant (TAVI)
- Capable of providing an adult congenital disease service
- Cardiac MRI and cardiac PET scanning services available on-site
- On-site cardiothoracic surgery
- Access to invasive cardiovascular monitoring on-site
- Statewide referral role
- Provides clinical advice, education and training to lower level services via telehealth
- Active research role
- Outreach provided to lower level services
- Clinical audit and monitoring

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Staff Specialist in cardiology on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Cardiology Registrars (advanced trainees) on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Cardiology RMO or intern
- Nurse Practitioner providing high level nursing expertise in cardiac care/cardiac rehabilitation
- Senior allied health professionals e.g. physiotherapists with advanced specialty skills and involved in education and research appropriate to their specialty, as required

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	6	6	6

Cardiothoracic Services

Cardiothoracic surgery is the field of medicine related to the surgical treatment of diseases of the chest, particularly surgery of the heart and lungs.

Services can range from emergency and trauma care to elective surgery for chronic heart, lung and chest conditions.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Cardiothoracic Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Cardiothoracic Services

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Cardiothoracic Services

No Level 3 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 4 Cardiothoracic Services

No Level 4 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 5 Cardiothoracic Services

Service description

A Level 5 Service may provide pre-operative and post-operative cardiothoracic surgical services on-site by a visiting cardiothoracic surgeon. A Level 5 Service has on-site cancer services, palliative care and pain management services.

Service requirements

- Radiation oncology and medical oncology available on-site
- Palliative care and pain management services available on-site
- On-site ICU/CCU
- Access to specialised allied health services

Workforce requirements

- Visiting cardiothoracic surgeons
- On-call cardiothoracic surgeons able to be contacted 24 hours
- General surgeon on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Specialist anaesthetists on-site

- Medical oncologist, radiation oncologist, palliative care physician, pain medicine specialist on-site
- Access to CNC providing high level nursing expertise to a collaborative model of interdisciplinary care
- Access to designated allied health services appropriate to the level of cardiothoracic services being provided

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

Level 6 Cardiothoracic Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus the service is able to deal with high complex diagnosis and treatment in association with other specialities. It has a statewide referral role, research role and undergraduate and post graduate teaching role.

Level 6 cardiothoracic services in Tasmania do not provide heart and lung transplantation services.

Service requirements

As for level 5 plus:

- Statewide referral role and pathways established to refer patients for elective and urgent cardiothoracic surgical procedures
- Elective and emergency thoracic and cardiothoracic procedures by on-site cardiothoracic surgeons
- Able to deal with highly complex diagnosis and treatment in association with other specialties
- Ability to provide intra aortic balloon pump and Extra corporeal membrane oxygenation [ECMO] facility by having perfusion and support services available round the clock
- Research role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- At least 2 fully trained cardiac surgeons accredited by the *Royal Australasian College of Surgeons* available 24 hours, seven days a week
- Cardiothoracic registrar/RMO and round the clock cover
- A cardiac anaesthetist – one for every 100 adult cases treated
- At least 2 cardiac medical and/or clinically accredited perfusionists
- At least 2 Registrars/Fellows/Trainees with additional resident medical staff including interns
- ICU specialists on-site. They should be supported by registrars or junior staff (year 3 or above in training) 24 hours, seven days a week for ICU management

- Appropriately qualified and experienced nursing staff in operating theatres, intensive care units, wards and Rehabilitation Medicine Services along with dedicated nurse managers
- CNC/Nurse Practitioner providing leadership within a collaborative model of interdisciplinary care.
- Physiotherapists and allied health services, and cardiac Rehabilitation Medicine Services
- Actively practising medical specialists in the following specialities should be available at all times for clinical consultation:
 - Cardiologists
 - Haematologists
 - General surgeons
 - Urologists
 - Respiratory physicians
 - Neurologists
 - Neurosurgeons
 - Nephrologists
 - Endocrinologist
 - Infectious diseases consultants
 - ENT specialists
 - Dental surgeons
 - Vascular surgeons
- On-call rosters for echo cardiographers, radiographers, pacemaker technician, biomedical engineers
- Audit manager, educators and data collectors

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	6	6	6

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

Child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS) are specialist multidisciplinary services for infants, children, adolescents and their families between the age of 0 and 18 years, who present with severe and complex mental health problems that cause functional impairment and have an adverse impact on social and emotional development or risk of harm. As well as the provision of specialist care, CAMHS will provide support for other service sectors to provide mental health services to children with mild to moderately severe problems.

The definition is underpinned by the following principles:

- Promoting of social inclusion and recovery in intervention services;
- Enhancing prevention and early intervention services;
- Improving access co-ordination and continuity of care within service systems; and
- Strengthening research and performance monitoring.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Acute Inpatient Service

Level 1 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Acute Inpatient Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to a higher level.

Level 2 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Acute Inpatient Services

Service description

A Level 2 service is capable of providing limited short-term (up to 72 hours) or intermittent inpatient mental health care to low-risk/complexity voluntary mental health consumers up to 18 years (time frames beyond this require specific consultation with higher level Child and Adolescent Mental Health Acute Inpatient Service that will contribute in ongoing manner to case review and management).

Care is delivered predominantly by team of general health clinicians within a hospital that does not have dedicated mental health staff (on-site) or allocated beds. Consumer admitted by registered medical practitioner.

Service provision typically includes assessment, brief interventions and monitoring; consumer and carer education and information; documented case review; consultation-liaison with higher level mental health services; and referral, where appropriate.

Service requirements

- Provides general healthcare and some limited mental health care 24 hours a day
- Identification, initial acute assessment, brief intervention and monitoring of uncomplicated mental health problems
- Development of care plan
- Medication management
- Forward referrals for expert assessment, diagnosis and intervention as required
- Limited psychoeducation (including information about available mental health services, mental health problems and illnesses, indicated treatment options and support services).
- Additional mental health interventions may be directly provided by mental health clinicians using telehealth facilities, visiting and/or community-based workforce
- Daily care coordinated by registered medical practitioner who has access to registered medical specialist with credentials in psychiatry and certificate in child and adolescent psychiatry (or equivalent) to assist and guide assessment, treatment, case management and case review (may be via telehealth)
- Assessments and interventions conducted in consultation with child and adolescent mental health clinician where clinically indicated, and associated with documented review process

- Documented processes with Level 5 or 6 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Acute Inpatient Service
- Considers necessity of parent / carer being admitted with child aged 5 years and younger
- Medical services provided on-site or in close enough proximity to provide rapid response at all times

Workforce requirements

- Registered medical practitioner
- Access to registered medical specialist with credentials in psychiatry and certificate in child and adolescent psychiatry (or equivalent)
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in child and adolescent mental health nursing
- Access during business hours to allied health professionals
- Assistants-in-nursing (AINs) or equivalent may complement clinical team at discretion of nurse in charge (however titled)
- Bachelor of Nursing students (second or third year undergraduate) may complement clinical team at discretion of nurse in charge (however titled) and under registered nurse supervision

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-		-	

Level 3 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Acute Inpatient Services

Service description

A Level 3 service is capable of providing short- and medium-term (1 week to 10 days) or intermittent inpatient mental health care to low-risk/complexity voluntary mental health consumers up to 18 years (time frames beyond this require specific consultation with higher level acute inpatient service for child and adolescent mental health who will continually contribute to case review and management).

Care is delivered predominantly by team of general and children’s health professionals within hospital that has paediatric unit or beds. A Level 3 service does not have allocated mental health beds or staff on-site.

Consumers are admitted by registered medical practitioner or registered medical specialist with credentials in paediatrics.

Service provision typically includes assessment, interventions and monitoring; consumer and carer education and information; documented case review; consultation-liaison with higher level mental health services; and referral, where appropriate.

Service requirements

As per Level 2, plus:

- Provide some mental health care 24 hours a day
- Identification, acute assessment, intervention and monitoring of mental health problems (that may be associated with simple comorbidities and/or resistance to treatment)
- Daily care coordinated by registered medical practitioner or registered medical specialist with credentials in paediatrics who has access to registered medical specialist with credentials in psychiatry and certificate in child and adolescent psychiatry (or equivalent) to assist and guide assessment, treatment, case management and case review (may be via telehealth)
- Limited range of primary (e.g. parenting support) and secondary (e.g. weight management) prevention services
- Basic clinical data collection to inform assessment, diagnosis, intervention and recovery
- Psychoeducation (including information about available mental health services, mental health problems and illnesses, indicated treatment options and support services)

Workforce requirements

As per Level 2

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	2	-	1

Level 4 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Acute Inpatient Services

Service description

A Level 4 service is capable of providing short- to long-term (4 to 6 weeks) or intermittent inpatient mental health care to low- and moderate-risk/complexity voluntary and, if authorised to do so, involuntary mental health consumers up to 18 years (time frames beyond this require specific consultation with higher level child and adolescent mental health acute inpatient service that will contribute in ongoing manner to case review and management).

Care is delivered predominantly by team of mental health clinicians and general or children's health professionals within hospital that has allocated mental health beds for children and/or adolescents. Consumers are admitted by / under registered medical specialist with credentials in psychiatry and certificate in child and adolescent psychiatry (or equivalent).

Service provision typically includes multidisciplinary assessment, targeted interventions and monitoring; consumer and carer education and information; documented weekly case review; some group programs; consultation-liaison with higher level mental health services; and referral, where appropriate.

Service requirements

As per Level 3, plus:

- Provides mental health care 24 hours a day
- Flexible use paediatric and mother-baby beds co-located with inpatient psychiatric services
- Identification, ongoing assessment, monitoring and interventions for mental health problems (that may be associated with comorbidities and/or indicators of treatment resistance)
- Integrated approach to identification, assessment and intervention of any co-occurring substance-use disorders
- Development of comprehensive individual mental health recovery plans within 1 week of assessment
- Daily care coordinated by registered medical specialist with credentials in psychiatry who has 24 hours access to registered medical specialist with credentials in psychiatry and certificate in child and adolescent psychiatry (or equivalent) to assist and guide assessment, treatment, case management and case review (may be via telehealth)
- May be an authorised mental health service under *Mental Health Act 2000*
- Extensive clinical data collection to inform assessment, diagnosis, intervention and recovery
- Range of primary (e.g. parenting support) and secondary (e.g. weight management) prevention services
- Psychoeducation for consumer and family / carer (including information about available mental health services, mental health problems and illnesses, indicated treatment options and support services)
- Documented processes and collaborative partnerships established with schools, education networks and service providers

Workforce requirements

As per Level 3, plus:

- 24 hour access to a registered medical specialist with credentials in psychiatry and certificate in child and adolescent psychiatry (or equivalent)
- Two or more RN per shift qualified and experienced in mental health. If inpatient unit occupancy is low, only one RN per shift
- Access during business hours to community- or hospital-based allied health staff with qualifications and/or experience in mental health
- Access to some on-site and/or visiting specialties in health / mental health

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	2	-	2

Level 5 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Acute Inpatient Services

Service description

A Level 5 service is capable of providing short- to long-term and intermittent inpatient mental health care to low- moderate- and high-risk/complexity voluntary and involuntary mental health consumers up to 18 years 24 hours a day.

Care is delivered predominantly by child and adolescent mental health professionals within dedicated child and adolescent mental health unit.

Service provision typically includes multidisciplinary assessment and targeted interventions by mental health professionals; consumer and carer education and information; documented weekly case review; group programs; extensive primary and secondary prevention programs; consultation-liaison with higher and lower level mental health services; and referral, where appropriate.

Service requirements

As per Level 4, plus:

- Designated child and adolescent inpatient mental health beds
- Identification, ongoing assessment, monitoring and interventions for mental health problems ranging in risk and complexity (that may be associated with complex comorbidities and/or indicators of treatment resistance)
- Targeted clinical programs for individuals / groups / families / carers (e.g. group therapy for families / carers of patients with psychotic illness)
- Extensive range of primary (e.g. parenting support) and secondary (e.g. weight management) prevention services
- Authorised mental health service under *Mental Health Act 2000*
- As clinically indicated, ECT services may be facilitated and/or provided by mental health service authorised to provide ECT under *Mental Health Act 2000*, and under care of registered medical specialist with credentials in psychiatry and certificate in child and adolescent psychiatry (or equivalent), and in accordance with *Mental Health Act 2000*
- May provide a range of additional clinical programs and service components, such as telehealth services or a day program

Workforce requirements

As per Level 4, plus:

- Qualified and/or experienced RN in charge of each shift with extensive skills appropriate to service being provided
- Majority of unit nursing staff have mental health qualifications and/or experience, and/or qualifications and/or experience in child and adolescent mental health, and/or children's health
- Access during business hours to community- or hospital-based allied health staff with qualifications and/or experience in child and adolescent mental health (postgraduate qualifications desirable)
- Access to psychology, social work, occupational therapy, speech pathology and dietetic services
- Access to dedicated pharmacy services for mental health
- Access to extensive range of on-site and/or visiting specialties in health/mental health
- May have hospital-based school teacher dedicated to mental health consumer

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
3	-	5	5	6

Level 6 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Acute Inpatient Services

Service description

A Level 6 service is capable of providing short- to long-term and intermittent inpatient mental health care 24 hours a day to voluntary and involuntary mental health consumers up to 18 years who present with highest level of risk and complexity.

Consumer group may be targeted population with special care needs who may demonstrate most extreme comorbidities and/or indicators of treatment resistance.

Highly specialised and/or statewide inpatient service delivered from child / adolescent hospital that incorporates dedicated mental health unit or may be delivered from purpose-designed and built mental health facility.

Care is delivered by a highly specialised, multidisciplinary team of child and adolescent mental health professionals.

A Level 6 service has statewide and/or interstate health service functions. It demonstrates specialist expertise in delivery of mental health services to a patient group that cannot be safely and effectively cared for in any other level of acute inpatient mental health service.

Service provision includes multidisciplinary assessment and specialised interventions by mental health professionals; consumer and carer education; documented daily case review; targeted group programs; all levels of prevention programs / services; consultation-liaison with lower level mental health services; and referral, where appropriate.

Service requirements

As per Level 5, plus:

- Identification, ongoing assessment, monitoring and interventions for complex mental health problems (that may be associated with most complex comorbidities and/or indicators of treatment resistance)
- Extensive clinical data collection to inform assessment, diagnosis, intervention, recovery and broader service delivery in all levels of service
- Extensive range of primary (e.g. parenting support), secondary (e.g. weight management) and tertiary (e.g. psychosis treatment maintenance) prevention services
- Statewide clinical forums to assist dissemination of clinical expertise
- Separate clinical services for families / carers, if required
- Specialist consultation-liaison to other health and non-health services / agencies for target population
- Psychoeducation for consumer, families / carers and groups (including information about available mental health services, mental health problems and illnesses, indicated treatment options and support services)
- Forms part of integrated mental health service and is based in a network that also includes Level 5 or 6 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Ambulatory Service
- May provide extensive range of additional clinical programs and service components, such as an outreach service, telehealth services or day program
- Medical services provided on-site or in close enough proximity to provide rapid response at all times

Workforce requirements

As per Level 5, plus:

- 24 hours access to registered medical practitioner (psychiatry registrar / principal house officer / senior medical officer / career medical officer) with credentials relevant to the discipline
- Extended-hours access to community- or hospital- based allied health staff with qualifications and experience in child and adolescent mental health
- Access to extensive range of on-site and/or visiting specialties in children's health
- Access to on-site school with school teachers who can provide range of educational services dedicated to children and/or adolescents with mental illness

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
3	-	5	5	6

Drugs and Alcohol Services

Alcohol and Drug Services provide a wide range of services to assist individuals, families and communities to reduce the harm caused by substance abuse.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Drug and Alcohol Services

Service description

A Level 1 service provides general drug and alcohol services by community health staff and GPs.

Service requirements

- No specialist alcohol and drug professionals available on-site
- Information, risk assessment and referral is provided by community health staff and GPs
- Service provides information, counselling and referral to specialist services
- Formal linkage to specialist alcohol and drugs services

Workforce requirements

- Visiting GPs
- Visiting community nursing and / or allied health staff with specialist knowledge and skills in alcohol and drugs treatment and support

Level 2 Drug and Alcohol Services

Service description

A Level 2 service provides services at Level 1 plus outpatient assessment and brief intervention for alcohol, cannabis and other drugs use.

Service requirements

As for Level 1 plus:

- Provides pharmacotherapy for opioid dependence
- Assessment, brief interventions for alcohol, cannabis and other drugs
- Formal linkage with higher level specialist alcohol and drug treatment service

Workforce requirements

As for Level 1 plus:

- GPs and/or medical officers accredited to provide pharmacotherapy for drug dependence, including opioid dependence
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in drug and alcohol nursing; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to patients

- Specialist allied health drug and alcohol service providers
- Access to addiction medicine specialist visiting, via telehealth or telephone

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	3	4	-

Level 3 Drug and Alcohol Services

Service description

A Level 3 service provides inpatient and outpatient detoxification and support services for low risk patients.

Service requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Specialist assessment and treatment provided by multidisciplinary addiction medicine team
- Counselling and support for families and significant others affected by drug use
- Access to alcohol and drug residential rehabilitation services (may be off-site)
- Formal linkages with child protection and mental health for coordinated services, referral and case management
- Access to consultation liaison psychiatry

Workforce requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Management supervised by health professionals with specific drug and alcohol experience/training
- Access to allied health professional services (health, welfare, legal) within the network

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	4	3	-

Level 4 Drug and Alcohol Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at Level 3 plus comprehensive, multidisciplinary, extended hours alcohol and drug treatment services on-site, including medical detoxification for patients with multiple drug dependencies.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Multidisciplinary alcohol and drug teams available on-site
- Nurse-led detoxification service
- Inpatient beds suitable for patient detoxification

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Specialist alcohol and drugs multidisciplinary team available on-site
- Access to alcohol and drug specialist provider 24 hours in the network
- Access to specialist general medicine and gastroenterology services
- Access on-site to specialist mental health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
3	-	4	3	3

Level 5 Drug and Alcohol Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus a full range of alcohol and drug assessment and treatment services including assessment for brain injury, management of drug related brain injury, clinical supervision of staff, public education and prevention activities.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Accredited addiction medicine training program

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Specialist addiction medicine physicians on-site
- On-site addiction medicine specialist clinical psychiatry and psychology services
- Access to CNC

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	5	5

Level 6 Drug and Alcohol Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides a specialist addiction medicine service for complex conditions, research, planning, policy, resource allocation and coordination statewide.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Specialist drug and alcohol training program for all staff working with conditions related to drug and alcohol use and clinical supervision of these staff
- Clinical Support and training provided for community pharmacotherapy programs
- Specialist alcohol and drug services to patient groups with particular needs, including pregnant opioid dependent women and patients with HIV
- Specialist and integrated services available for young people
- Teaching and consultancy services to all other Levels (1-5)

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in drug and alcohol nursing on most shifts

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	5	5	5

Ear, Nose and Throat

Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Services treat diseases, injuries or deformations of the ears, nose, throat, head and neck areas. ENT surgical services encompass a broad range of complexity from uncomplicated day procedures and elective surgery to highly complex cases including intracranial procedures.

Higher level ENT services work in close partnership with other specialist medical and surgical services. In particular patients with complex ENT problems may require radiotherapy and plastic and reconstructive surgery to maximise the quality of the care they receive. . Patients with complex ENT problems may also require specialist allied health support from audiology, speech pathology, dietetics and physiotherapy services.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Ear, Nose and Throat

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Ear, Nose and Throat

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Ear, Nose and Throat

Service description

A Level 3 service provides ENT surgery for low risk patients undergoing SCI to SCIII procedures (refer to General Surgical Services framework). Surgery is performed by specialist ENT surgeons.

Service requirements

- At least one operating/procedure room with separate recovery area/room for post-operative care

Workforce requirements

- Visiting ENT surgeon
- On-site diagnostic audiology services for children and adults
- Medical practitioners credentialed to administer anaesthetic
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in post-operative nursing; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to inpatients
- Medical, anaesthetic and nursing pre-admission services
- 24 hour access to a medical practitioner (on-site or on-call)
- Access to some allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
3	-	4	3	3

Level 4 Ear, Nose and Throat

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at Level 3 plus surgery for low to moderate risk patients undergoing SCI to SCIII ENT procedures (refer to General Surgical Services framework). Surgery is performed by specialist ENT surgeons. No neuro-optic or intracranial surgery is performed.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Designated acute surgical inpatient unit with RNs/ENs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in perioperative and post-operative nursing

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Consultant surgeon on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Surgical registrar on-call 24 hours
- Consultant anaesthetist on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Anaesthetics registrar on-call 24 hours
- Access to designated allied health services, including speech pathology

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4	4

Level 5 Ear, Nose and Throat

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus surgery is performed on low to high anaesthetic risk patients undergoing SC IV and SCV ENT procedures (refer to General Surgical Services framework). Generally, a combination of procedures with a low to high level of complexity and risk are performed, and management of some patients with comorbidities and risk of intra- and post-operative complications occurs.

Surgery performed by one or more specialist ENT surgeons with the ability to support patients in the post-operative stage 24 hours.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- On-site ICU
- On-site plastic surgery service
- On-site oncology, radiation oncology and palliative care services
- May provide specialty ENT surgical training

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- On-site ENT surgeon on-call 24 hours
- Surgical RNs with specialist ENT expertise
- On-site plastic surgery, medical oncology, radiation oncology and palliative care specialist medical, nursing and allied health staff, including audiology, speech pathology, dietetics and physiotherapy
- Access to a CNC specialising in ENT and providing leadership for the service

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

Level 6 Ear, Nose and Throat

Service description

A Level 6 service provides all services at Level 5 plus the service has the ability to deal with a full range of complex cases in association with other specialists including neuro-optic and intracranial procedures,

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- On-site neurosurgical services
- Coordinates cochlear implant service delivery statewide face to face and / or via telehealth

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Neurosurgeon on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Neurosurgical registrar on-site 24 hours
- Allied health professionals available 24 hours, as required
- Allied health staff with specialist skills in the assessment and ongoing management of patients with cochlear implants, including specialist audiology, speech pathology and social work

- Audiometry service

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	6	6	6

Emergency Medicine

Emergency Medicine is the clinical specialty that is dedicated to the diagnosis and treatment of unforeseen illness or injury.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Emergency Medicine

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Emergency Medicine

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Emergency Medicine

Service description

A level 3 service is provided on-site for some low risk patients with uncomplicated minor acute illnesses without the need for referral to a higher level service and for the initial management of sick patients pending referral and transport to a higher level facility. A level 3 service does not manage major trauma.

Ambulance Tasmania patients are not managed on-site with the exception of suspected acute coronary syndrome and subacute patients.

Service requirements

- Formal linkage with Level 4, 5 and 6 Emergency Medicine services within the network
- Emergency department with resuscitation bays
- Access to retrieval services for urgent transfer of patients to higher level service
- On-site short stay unit
- Access to critical care facilities within the network

Workforce requirements

- Medically staffed by GPs/ registered medical practitioner with postgraduate training in emergency medicine
- Emergency trained nurse practitioners
- Fellow of the Australasian College of Emergency Medicine for clinical governance and education and training on-site during business hours
- RMO in emergency department 24 hours on-site
- On-site RNs with emergency medicine experience available 24 hours

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	3	3	3

Level 4 Emergency Medicine

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at level 3, plus is medically staffed by emergency physicians with on-call access to emergency physicians 24 hours.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- On-site short-stay unit
- On-site HDU or ICU
- Accredited for advanced training with the Australasian College of Emergency Medicine
- May have a Nurse Practitioner (Emergency)

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Emergency physicians on-site 16 hours a day and on-call 24 hours
- RNs with experience and/or post graduate qualifications in emergency nursing on-site 24 hours
- Emergency registrars/RMOs on-site 24 hours
- General surgeon on-site and on-call 24 hours
- General medicine specialist on-site and on-call 24 hours

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	-	4	4	4

Level 5 Emergency Medicine

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4, plus has access to on-site interventional cardiology and critical care medicine services 24 hours.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- On-site ICU

- On-site interventional cardiology service
- Accepts transfers from other hospitals in the region

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- General medicine specialist on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Critical care medicine specialist on-site/on-call after-hours
- On-site intervention cardiology services on-site / on-call 24 hours
- Clinical Nurse Consultant providing clinical leadership in emergency care
- Clinical Nurse Educator to support undergraduate and postgraduate nursing students and skill development of nurses
- Specialist pharmacist, emergency

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	5	5

Level 6 Emergency Medicine

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5, plus has capacity to manage complex trauma and provide a full range of time-critical medical services 24 hours.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- On-site back-up from a full range of medical and surgical sub specialists and diagnostic services, including neurosurgery, cardiothoracic surgery, vascular surgery and angiography

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- On-site medical and surgical sub-specialists to support emergency service, including neurosurgery, cardiothoracic surgery, vascular surgery and angiography

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

Endocrinology

Endocrinology is the branch of medicine that deals with the medical aspects of hormones and their associated diseases and conditions.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Endocrinology

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Endocrinology

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Endocrinology

Service description

A Level 3 service provides GP inpatient and outpatient care.

Outpatient care can be provided by an endocrinologist, a medical officer or specialist with skills in endocrinology or a diabetes nurse educator.

Service requirements

- Inpatient hospital beds
- Formal linkage with specialist endocrinologist
- Formal access to diabetes educators

Workforce requirements

- GP on-call 24 hours
- On-site RN 24 hours for inpatient services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	3	3	1

Level 4 Endocrinology

Service description

A Level 4 service provides endocrinology care by an endocrinologist or physician practicing in general medicine with dual training in endocrinology.

A Level 4 service should be accredited by the National Association of Diabetes Centre.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- On-site diabetes nurse-led education service
- On-site access to designated allied health services in particular to Dietetic and Psychologist services
- Formal network linkages with Level 6 Specialist Endocrinology Service

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- On-site endocrinologist or physician practicing in general medicine with dual training in endocrinology
- Endocrinologist or physician practicing in general medicine on-call 24 hours
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or extensive experience in endocrinological nursing; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to inpatients

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4	4

Level 5 Endocrinology

Service description

A Level 5 service provides inpatient care by resident endocrinologist.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- On-site nurse-led diabetes education service
- Formal network linkages with Level 6 Specialist Endocrinology Service
- An integrated hospital/community diabetes management service
- On-site specialist endocrinology allied health services

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Endocrinologist on-site
- Access to endocrinologist or physician practicing in general medicine with dual training in endocrinology on-call 24 hours
- Access to subspecialists surgeons with endocrine surgical expertise

- Medical registrar on-site and on-call 24 hours
- CNC/Educator specialising in endocrinology

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	5	4	5

Level 6 Endocrinology

Service description

A Level 6 service provides a full range of endocrinology services with endocrinology department and emergency care. It has a statewide referral role.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Statewide referral role
- Endocrinology department
- On-site access to staff and facilities for thyroid and endocrine cancer management, including direct access to an on-site nuclear medicine and PET service with radioiodine treatment and radiation isolation treatment rooms
- On-site neurosurgical services
- On-site access to laboratory service support specialist endocrine pathology testing
- Full on-site weekday supervision of clinical services and advanced training by specialists with credentialling in endocrinology
- Accredited endocrinology training program
- Research role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Endocrinologist on-call 24 hours and available to all services within the network for advice and support
- Endocrinology registrar on-site
- Neurosurgeon on-site
- Neurosurgeon on-call 24 hours
- Neurosurgical registrar on-call 24 hours
- Access to subspecialists surgeons with endocrine surgical expertise

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	6	6	6

Gastroenterology Services

Gastroenterology refers to a branch of medicine focused on the digestive system and its disorders.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Gastroenterology Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Gastroenterology Services

Service description

A Level 2 service provides inpatient care under the supervision of a visiting medical practitioner and 24 hour on-site access to a RN. The service provides care for minor, uncomplicated gastrointestinal illnesses. The service does not provide any procedural gastroenterology services.

Service requirements

- Formal network linkages with specialist gastroenterologist for consultation

Workforce requirements

- Visiting medical practitioner
- 24 hour cover by a RNs; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to inpatients

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	3	3	1

Level 3 Gastroenterology Services

Service description

A Level 3 service provides services at Level 2 plus same day and outpatient care by a visiting gastroenterologist and RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in gastroenterology.

Elective endoscopy services and outpatient gastroenterology services are provided by a specialist gastroenterologist. No overnight inpatient gastroenterology care is provided.

Service requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- On-site endoscopy suite and recovery area
- On-site resuscitation equipment
- Access to general surgical services and inpatient beds within the network

Workforce requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Visiting gastroenterologist
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in gastroenterology and credentialed to undertake associated procedures
- Medical officer credentialed to provide analgesia/sedation

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
3	-	4	3	3

Level 4 Gastroenterology Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at Level 3 plus inpatient care by a specialist gastroenterologist and credentialed RNs for patients with gastroenterology and hepatology care needs.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Inpatient general medical beds
- On-site general surgical services and operating theatres available 24 hours

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Appointed gastroenterologist
- On-site general surgeon available 24 hours
- On-site specialist anaesthetist available 24 hours
- On-site access to drug and alcohol counselling

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4	4

Level 5 Gastroenterology Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus inpatient care by a gastroenterology team. The service provides a full endoscopy service, including access to ERCP (endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography) services and hepatology services.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- On-site ICU
- Accredited gastroenterology training program

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- On-call gastroenterologist available 24 hours
- Gastroenterology registrar/RMOs
- Medical registrar on-site 24 hours
- Medical and surgical sub-specialists available on-site for consultation
- CNC specialising in gastroenterology and providing clinical leadership for the service

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	5	5	5

Level 6 Gastroenterology Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus the service provides a full range of gastroenterology and hepatology services, with a gastroenterology department and emergency care.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Access to medical sub-specialists from majority of disciplines on-site
- May have statewide role
- Research role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or extensive experience in gastroenterological nursing on all shifts
- Specialised gastroenterology allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	6	5

General Medicine

General medicine refers to the maintenance of health and the diagnosis, management and non-surgical treatment of diseases. General medicine care is provided to adult patients.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 General Medical Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 General Medical Services

Service description

A Level 2 service provides a low-acuity medical care service. It is a nurse-led service. A Level 2 service also has the ability to monitor sub-acute patients, with 24 hour access to a RN and access to a registered medical practitioner.

Service requirements

- Access to registered medical practitioner
- May host outreach service from higher level service within the network

Workforce requirements

- 24 hour access to a RN; nursing services also provided by enrolled nurses
- Access to a registered medical practitioner

Level 3 General Medical Services

Service description

A Level 3 service provides services at Level 2 plus it has the ability to provide acute resuscitation prior to transfer. It provides a low-acuity, multi-system medical condition ambulatory and/or inpatient service.

Service requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Has a designated emergency care area
- May host outreach service from higher level service within the network
- Must have telehealth linkages to some specialist medical services, including emergency care, from a higher level service within the network

Workforce requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Inpatient care by a general practitioner
- 24 hours nursing service provided by RNs and ENs
- Business hours access to limited allied health professionals
- Telehealth support from emergency medicine specialists

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	3	3	2

Level 4 General Medical Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides outpatient care by a visiting physician practicing in general medicine/general internal medicine specialist, including by telehealth or e-health. A Level 4 service has established linkages to a higher level general medical inpatient and ambulatory care service. No acute inpatient medical admissions occur at a Level 4 service.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Outpatient care provided by a physician practicing in general medicine
- Links to a service providing streamlined access to general medical inpatient care beds
- Links (telehealth, direct phone contact or patient access points) to sub-specialty medical services and allied health services within the network

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Visiting physician practicing in general medicine
- Specialist dietetics and nutrition, podiatry, social work, physiotherapy and occupational therapy services (visiting or on-site)
- RNs with experience and/or post graduate qualifications in nursing on-site
- Administrative staff on-site

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	4	4	3

Level 5 General Medical Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus inpatient care by a physician practicing in general medicine supported by inpatient and outpatient consultations for a (limited) range of medicine subspecialties.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Inpatient care provided by an on-site physician practicing in general medicine
- Inpatient consultation provided by limited number of on-site medical sub-specialist services
- Outpatient consultation provided by limited on-site medical sub-specialist services supplemented by visiting medical sub-specialists
- Access to networked sites for advice and consultation for inpatients and outpatients by full range of sub-specialty medical services utilising telehealth services where appropriate
- Endoscopy services (acute and elective)
- Formal linkage to interventional cardiology services within the network
- Access to on-site cardiac investigations, including exercise stress testing and echocardiography

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- 24 hour on-call roster for physicians practicing in general medicine
- Registered medical practitioner (junior doctors) on-site 24 hours
- Nursing staff with appropriate experience and post graduate qualifications
- Full range of generalist allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4	4

Level 6 General Medical Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus a multidisciplinary team approach to treat complex and critically ill medical patients. The service provides inpatient care by a team of on-site physicians practicing in general medicine with on-site access to a comprehensive range of sub-specialty medicine expertise.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Physicians practicing in general medicine providing consultative services to other departments for inpatients admitted from other sites requiring local expertise in these disciplines
- On-site access to a comprehensive range of medical sub-specialty services
- On-site interventional cardiology and bronchoscopy services
- Provider of general medicine consultation service by telehealth or via telephone to smaller sites and other services

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Medical registrar on-site 24 hours
- Sub-specialists available on-site for consultation
- RMOs in majority of sub-specialist medicine services
- Specialised allied health services on-site
- May have on-site NPs to supplement sub-specialty medicine roles

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

General Surgery

General surgery includes emergency and elective surgery with varying levels of surgical complexity.

The levels of surgical complexity indicate the requisite levels of clinical support services required in general surgery and are especially important in determining the appropriate levels of anaesthetic, perioperative and ICU services.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level I surgical complexity (SCI):

- is an ambulatory / office procedure
- requires local anaesthetic but not sedation
- requires a procedure room, aseptic technique but not an operating theatre
- requires access to resuscitation equipment.

Level II surgical complexity (SCII):

- is usually an ambulatory, day stay or emergency department procedure
- does not require general anaesthesia
- requires at least one operating or procedure room and separate recovery area.

Level III surgical complexity (SCIII):

- usually requires general anaesthesia or equivalent
- requires at least one operating room and a separate recovery room
- is usually an ambulatory or day stay procedure
- may have access to close observation care.

Level IV surgical complexity (SCIV):

- involves major surgical procedures with low to medium anaesthetic risk
- usually requires general anaesthesia
- has access (not necessarily on-site) to intensive care services
- has the capacity to provide emergency procedures.

Level V surgical complexity (SCV):

- major surgical procedures with high anaesthetic risk
- surgery and anaesthesia with the highest potential for intra- and post-operative complications
- provides specialist clinical staff, equipment and infrastructure
- on-site intensive care services
- extensive support services available.

Level 1 General Surgery

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 General Surgery

Service description

A Level 2 service performs low complexity surgery on low to medium-risk patients. Surgery is performed by a registered medical practitioner. The surgery is performed on a minor outpatient or same-day basis.

Service requirements

- On-site perioperative service
- Outpatient care
- Must have one procedure room

Workforce requirements

- Registered medical practitioner to coordinate care
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to low complexity general surgical patients
- General surgeon available for consultation

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
2	-	3	2	2

Level 3 General Surgery

Service description

A Level 3 service provides services at Level 2 plus surgery is performed on patients undergoing SCI to SCIII procedures. Surgery is performed by specialist surgeons on a day case basis.

Service requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- At least one operating/procedure room with separate recovery area/room for post-operative care
- On-site medical practitioners credentialed to administer anaesthetic

Workforce requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Visiting registered medical specialist with credentials in general surgery or other surgical specialties may be available

- Medical practitioners credentialed to administer anaesthetic
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in perioperative nursing; RNs may be supported by ENs
- Medical, anaesthetic and nursing pre-admission services
- Access to some allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
3	-	4	3	3

Level 4 General Surgery

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at Level 3 plus surgery is performed on low to medium risk patients undergoing SCIV procedures. Surgery is performed by one or more consultant surgeons.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Broad range of day and general surgery and some specialty surgery
- More than one theatre
- Designated acute surgical inpatient unit with appropriately qualified/experienced nursing staff
- Provides specialty surgical training

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Specialist surgeons on-site
- Specialist surgeons on-call 24 hours
- Surgical registrar on-call 24 hours
- Specialist anaesthetists on-site
- Specialist anaesthetists on-call 24 hours
- Anaesthetics registrar on-call 24 hours
- Critical care specialist on-site
- Critical care specialist on-call 24 hours
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or extensive experience in perioperative nursing; access/ on-call 24 hours
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in post-operative nursing; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to inpatients

- CNC providing leadership in perioperative and postoperative care
- Clinical Nurse Educator
- Access to designated allied health services appropriate to the level of general surgical services being provided

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	-	4	4	4

Level 5 General Surgery

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus surgery is performed on low to high anaesthetic risk patients undergoing SCV procedures. Generally, a combination of procedures with a moderate to high level of complexity and risk are performed, and management of some patients with comorbidities and risk of intra- and post-operative complications occurs.

Surgery is performed by consultant surgeons with the ability to support patients in the post-operative stage 24 hours. This service has the ability to undertake most emergency surgeries.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Has an active research role
- On-site ICU

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Access to specialised allied health services
- Access to a multiple surgical sub-specialties on-site and on-call 24 hours

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4	4

Level 6 General Surgery

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus this service manages the most complex and highly specialised surgical presentations with the highest level of risk in specified areas of expertise.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- On-site cardiothoracic and neurosurgical services
- Comprehensive acute and persisting pain management services
- PET scanning services

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Broad range of surgical sub-specialists available on-site
- Dedicated surgical staff with clinical competency in a range of sub-specialty areas available at close proximity 24 hours
- Allied health professionals available 24 hours, as required

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	6	6	6

Geriatrics

Geriatric medicine is a speciality that focuses on the health care of older people. It aims to promote health by preventing and treating diseases and disabilities in older adults.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Geriatrics

No level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Geriatrics

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Geriatrics

Service description

A Level 3 service provides inpatient and outpatient care by a physician practicing in general medicine. Access to geriatrician, either visiting or by telehealth, is available.

Service requirements

- Inpatient beds available within the facility
- Access to respite care and Rehabilitation Medicine Services within the network
- Formal network linkages with a geriatrician and psychogeriatrician
- Aged Care Assessment Program service

Workforce requirements

- Visiting GP
- 24 hour cover by RN; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to inpatients
- Access to some allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	3	3	3

Level 4 Geriatrics

Service description

A Level 4 service provides inter-disciplinary assessment and management of the care needs of older people. A Level 4 service provides services to day patients and inpatients and has consultation and referral links with a psychogeriatrics service.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- On-site clinics including memory, falls, continence clinics
- Inpatient subacute geriatrics bed
- Onsite GEM unit
- Most disciplines available for Aged Care Assessment Program
- Consultation and referral links to higher level services in the network

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Visiting specialist geriatrician on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Registered medical practitioner on-site 24 hours
- Nurse practitioner (aged) providing leadership of service
- CNC with relevant specialty expertise
- RNs or nurse practitioners with specialist expertise in continence and wounds
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in geriatric nursing
- On-site delivery of multidisciplinary allied health services including physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, social work, psychology, dietetics

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	3	3	3

Level 5 Geriatrics

Service description

A Level 5 service provides inpatient care by specialist geriatrician. It has links with inpatient rehabilitation and with geriatric psychiatry services and provides services at lower level services in the network.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Designated geriatric medicine beds
- Access to psychogeriatrics services
- Rehabilitation services available on-site
- Provides outreach services to lower level services
- Provides vocation specific specialist training

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Appointed geriatricians
- Geriatrics registrar/RMO
- Specialist geriatrics senior RNs
- Access to CNC providing leadership in geriatrics
- Access to specialised geriatrics allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4	4

Level 6 Geriatrics

Service description

A Level 6 service provides for acute patients under specialist geriatricians.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Access to medical sub-specialists on-site
- Research role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Staff specialist geriatricians
- Medical registrar on-site 24 hours
- May have Nurse Practitioner providing high level nursing expertise in geriatrics
- Senior allied health professionals with advanced specialty skills and involved in education and research appropriate to their specialty, as required

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	5	5	5

Gynaecology Services

Gynaecology is the branch of medicine that deals with the treatment of diseases of the female reproductive system. Services are delivered by registered medical practitioners who are credentialed in gynaecology.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Gynaecology Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Gynaecology Services

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Gynaecology Services

Service description

A Level 3 service performs minor procedures on low risk patients by an appropriately trained and credentialed health professional. There are no inpatient services provided at this level.

Service requirements

- Access to visiting outreach service that provides clinic-based office gynaecological procedures
- Formal linkages with higher level service if required

Workforce requirements

- Appropriately trained and credentialed health professional
- Access to gynaecologist visiting, via telehealth or via teleconference

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
3	-	3	3	3

Level 4 Gynaecology Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at Level 3 plus some major procedures on low and moderate risk patients performed by visiting gynaecologists. There are day case surgical services but no overnight inpatient gynaecological services provided at this level.

This unit must have the capacity to resuscitate patients and have access to an emergency theatre on a 24 hour basis. This unit must have access to a FRANZCOG on a 24 hour basis that is able to attend within 30 minutes. The only individuals credentialed to perform major gynaecology surgery must hold a FRANZCOG.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- At least one operating/procedure room with separate recovery area/room for post-operative care
- Network links with specialist medical oncology, radiation oncology and palliative care services

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Visiting consultant gynaecologists
- On-call gynaecologist accessible within 30 minutes if required
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in perioperative nursing

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	-	4	4	4

Level 5 Gynaecology Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus it provides a diagnostic service and performs surgery on all patients by specialist gynaecologists. It has the ability to manage a broad range of patients in association with other specialists, with appropriate formal links and referrals in place with higher level services for certain complex cases.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Inpatient surgical beds for gynaecology patients
- On-site Level 4 maternity service

- Provides medical specialty training in gynaecology
- Network access to gynaecology oncology specialists

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- On-site gynaecologists on-call 24 hours
- Gynaecology registrars on-site and on-call 24 hours
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in gynaecological nursing
- CNC providing leadership in gynaecological care
- Access to designated allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4	4

Level 6 Gynaecology Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus this service has the ability to manage complex cases in association with other specialists including reproductive endocrinology, infertility, and gynaecological malignancy.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Provides specialist consultation to lower level services
- Performs complex gynaecological surgery
- On-site ICU
- Gynaecologic oncology multidisciplinary team with representation from medical oncology, radiation oncology and gynaecologic oncology
- Designated gynaecological cancer care coordinators
- Dedicated women's health ward
- Ability to accept referrals for complex cases from lower level services
- Research role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- On-site gynaecological oncologist
- On-site gynaecological registrar with gynaecologic oncology responsibilities
- On-site gynaecologists with sub-specialty interest in uro-gynaecology, minimally invasive surgery and reproductive endocrinology

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

Hyperbaric and Diving Medicine

State Referral Centre

Hyperbaric and Diving Medicine Services

Hyperbaric and diving medicine is a specialised area of clinical practice involving the diagnosis, management and treatment of dysbaric illness of all levels of severity and for patients with medical conditions that respond to hyperbaric oxygen, including arterial gas embolism, gangrene and necrotizing infections, complex problem wounds, radiation injury and necrosis, acute ischaemic conditions and trauma.

Hyperbaric oxygen treatment is administered in a pressurised hyperbaric chamber capable of delivering 100% oxygen at 2.8 atmospheres absolute pressure for medical cases and up to 6 atmospheres absolute for divers.

The scope of this framework describes the service, its requirements and the staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Hyperbaric Medicine Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Hyperbaric Medicine Services

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Hyperbaric Medicine Services

No Level 3 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 4 Hyperbaric Medicine Services

No Level 4 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 5 Hyperbaric Medicine Services

No Level 5 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 6 Hyperbaric Medicine Services (single site service)

Service description

A Level 6 service has critical care capability and manages the highest level of patient acuity and complexity with an extensive range of comorbidities. The service provides emergency recompression treatment for all divers (up to 6 atmospheres absolute pressure) and acute hyperbaric oxygen treatment to medical and surgical patients of all illness severity.

A Level 6 service also provides a tertiary wound care service in association with medical hyperbaric treatment of hypoxic complex wounds, trauma and radiation injury.

To be defined as a comprehensive hyperbaric facility the service needs to be capable of providing hyperbaric oxygen therapy at a treatment pressure of at least 2.8 atmospheric pressure absolute (180 kilopascal gauge pressure), and capable of managing critical care patients with mechanical ventilation and invasive monitoring. The precise definition of a comprehensive hyperbaric facility is governed by Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing Medicare regulations.

Service requirements

- State-wide referral and network role
- Linkage to Level 6 integrated retrieval service with direct rotary wing access for time critical cases
- Hyperbaric facility with full critical care capability delivering hyperbaric oxygen treatment to ventilated patients with or without circulatory and inotropic support, in support of other specialities managing patients with multisystem disease, or specialities such as cardiac surgery where specific complications require emergency hyperbaric treatment
- On-site Level 6 Emergency Department with resuscitation and monitoring facilities available
- On-site Level 6 critical care support
- Hyperbaric medical specialist and registrar cover, 24 hours for emergencies
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or extensive experience in hyperbaric medicine and technical cover, 24 hours for emergencies
- Broad range of surgical sub-specialties on-site and available at close proximity 24 hours
- Capability of treatment of divers with serious neurological injury, unconscious and those requiring critical care or ventilation
- Capability of procedural interventions such as intubation and ventilation, invasive monitoring, and thoracostomy tubes
- Provides specialist advice and diving medicine support for Tasmania's diving industry
- Provides specialist technical support in forensic investigation of diving accidents
- Provides specialist and complex wound management
- Accredited for post-graduate specialist registrar training and post-graduate nurse training
- Has an active research role

Workforce requirements:

- Medical Director with postgraduate qualifications in Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine
- Hyperbaric specialists with postgraduate qualifications in Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine and Acute Care Speciality training (Anaesthesia, Emergency Medicine or Critical Care) on – call 24 hours
- Director of clinical training for supervision of registrar training

- Registrar on-call 24 Hours
- Specialist RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or extensive experience in critical care and wound care on-call 24 hours (Minimum 30% of nursing staff with critical care post graduate qualifications)
- Full time Specialist technical staff with hospital based Hyperbaric technical training, including advanced commercial and/or Navy diving experience on-call 24 hours
- Administrative support on site

Support Service Provision requirements

Anaesthesia	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Radiology
5	6	5	4	5

Infectious Disease

Infectious Diseases is the discipline of medicine that provides specialised diagnosis and management of illness resulting from pathogenic micro-organisms

The scope of this Framework describes infectious diseases services, including inter-related areas of clinical microbiology and sexual health medicine, service requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Infectious Disease

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Infectious Disease

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Infectious Disease

A Level 3 service provides outpatient care by a visiting infectious medical diseases specialist. A level 3 service does not provide inpatient management of infectious diseases.

Level 4 Infectious Disease

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at Level 3 plus it provides ambulatory and inpatient consulting services provided by a physician practicing in general medicine.

Service requirements

- General inpatient beds for the care of patients with infectious diseases
 - Isolation room(s) with internal wash basins and toilets
 - Staff wash basins immediately outside the room
 - Separate ventilation for isolation room(s)
- Formal access to specialist infectious diseases and sexual health physicians within the network
- On-site infection prevention and control service

Workforce requirements

- On-site physician practicing in general medicine
- Appointed infection prevention and control personnel
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in sexual health nursing

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	4	4	4

Level 5 Infectious Disease

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus has on-site specialist infectious diseases personnel and appointed sexual health medicine personnel.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Facilities to treat transmissible diseases (including negative pressure rooms and appropriate isolation facilities)
- Has a research role
- On-site comprehensive infection control service

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Appointed on-site infectious diseases and on-site or visiting sexual health physicians
- On-site clinical microbiologist
- Medical registrar on-site 24 hours
- CNC providing clinical leadership in infectious diseases
- Specialist infectious diseases pharmacist

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	5	5	5

Level 6 Infectious Disease

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus there is a Medical Registrar on site 24 hours with specialist Infectious Diseases Physicians ON CALL 24/7 and advanced trainee Infectious Diseases Registrar(s) and fellow(s) available

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Accredited infectious diseases medical training program
- Facilities to treat most transmissible and quarantinable diseases
- Major teaching and research role
- Has statewide referral role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- On-site infectious diseases registrars
- On-site infectious diseases physicians on-call 24 hours

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	6

Maternity services

Maternity services provide care for mother and baby along the continuum of care. This includes during pregnancy, during labour and birth, and during the postnatal period.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level. Safety in the provision of maternity care depends upon appropriate consultation and / or referral and transfer of patients consistent with well-defined clinical pathways.

This framework is consistent with the National Maternity Services Framework.

Level I Maternity Services

Service description

A Level I service provides community antenatal and/or postnatal care for women and infants who have normal care³ needs for antenatal and postpartum care. Outpatient and ambulatory care are available. There are no planned birthing services. The service has capacity to provide emergency resuscitation and care to critically ill mother and babies until transfer or retrieval takes place. A Level I service accepts back transfer of physiologically stable women and neonates from a higher level service, following midwifery/obstetric consultation.

Service requirements

- Emergency resuscitation equipment (adult and neonate)
- Basic equipment for antenatal and postnatal care
- Access to offsite pathology and medical imaging services
- Network access to high level maternity services
- Access to specialist obstetric services via telehealth / telephone

Workforce requirements

- Registered midwives or RN with access to midwifery support where registered midwives are not available
- Visiting GP obstetricians/specialist obstetricians
- Access to allied health professionals including physiotherapy, social work, continence advisors and dietitians
- Access to maternal and child health nurses and perinatal mental health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	3	1	3

³ As per National Capability Framework for Maternity Services

Level 2 Maternity Services

Service description

A Level 2 service provides services at Level 1 plus antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal inpatient services for normal women from 37 weeks gestation. A Level 2 service must have immediate transfer arrangements in place for retrieval and transfer to appropriate higher level service. A Level 2 service provides referral for planned lower segment caesarean section (LSCS) ⁴.

Service requirements

As for Level 1 plus:

- Dedicated birthing rooms for planned births for gestation of 37 weeks or more
- Antenatal cardiotocograph (CTG) monitoring with access to remote assessment and interpretation
- Access to consultation from higher level services within the network face to face or by telephone or telehealth
- On-site Level 3 or above neonatology service (as per this role delineation framework)

Workforce requirements

As for level 1 plus:

- Registered midwives available on-site and on-call 24 hours
- 24 hour on-site access to a DRANZCOG⁵ registered medical practitioner who is able to attend within 30 minutes

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	4	2	3

Level 3 Maternity Services

Service description

A Level 3 service provides services at Level 2 plus it provides services for planned normal births for women ≥ 37 weeks gestation where the mother and baby have normal care needs.

Service requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Service can perform continuous electronic foetal monitoring in labour where clinically indicated
- On-site facilities for emergency delivery (abdominal or vaginal)

⁴ As per National Capability Framework for Maternity Services

⁵ Diploma of Obstetrics and Gynaecology from the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (DRANZOG)

- Able to support vaginal birth after following ≥ 39 weeks of pregnancy
- Able to support induction of labour following ≥ 39 completed weeks of pregnancy
- Able to perform elective caesarean section at ≥ 39 weeks gestation
- Urgent retrieval to Level 4 or above Maternity Service available
- Formal linkages with higher level services within the network

Workforce requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- 24 hour access to a registered medical practitioner with credentials in anaesthetics who can attend within 30 minutes
- 24 hour access to a registered medical practitioner credentialed to provide care to the neonate and who can attend within 30 minutes

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
3	-	5	3	3

Level 4 Maternity Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at Level 3 plus it is able to provide intrapartum care for low and moderately complex mothers and babies with pregnancy ≥ 34 weeks gestation.

In utero transfer of neonates should be undertaken where there is a risk of delivery below this threshold when this is clinically and logistically possible. When this is not possible and the neonate is close to the transfer criteria threshold, clinical discretion should be applied to the decision to transfer dependant on the condition of the neonate, in consultation with a qualified neonatologist and the Level 5 or Level 6 maternity and neonatology service as appropriate.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- 24 hour on-site access to foetal scalp pH or lactate sampling
- Access to on-site urgent blood and specimen testing, blood and volume expanders
- Blood storage facilities on-site and cross-matched blood readily available
- Access on-site to 24 hour ultrasound services
- Access to consultation from higher level services within the network face to face or by telephone or telehealth
- Provides training of specialist obstetricians and midwives
- On-site Level 4 Neonatology Service (as per this role delineation framework)

- Access to Level 4 or above ICU/HDU services within the network
- Access to genetics service in the network
- Access to perinatal mental health service

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Appointed FRANZCOG (Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists) or equivalent registered medical specialist with credentials in obstetrics on-site and on-call 24 hours who can attend within 30 minutes
- Nominated Obstetric Clinical Leader for the service
- Obstetric registrars and RMOs
- On-site specialist anaesthetist on-call 24 hours and able to attend within 30 minutes
- On-site specialist paediatrician with experience in neonatal care on-call 24 hours and able to attend within 30 minutes
- 24 hour access to Level 4 or above General Surgical Service in the network
- Resident medical officer on-site 24 hours
- Registered midwives on-site 24 hours
- Access to allied health professionals as required, including physiotherapy and social work
- On-site access to perinatal mental health professionals able to provide perinatal mental health assessment and support for perinatal loss
- Nominated Midwifery Clinical Leader
- Access to a midwifery educator

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	5	4	4

Level 5 Maternity Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus it is capable of providing intrapartum care for low, moderate and high complexity mothers and babies with gestation ≥ 32 weeks gestation. This service is a multidisciplinary service with the capacity to manage all unexpected pregnancy and neonatal emergency presentations.

In utero transfer of neonates should be undertaken where there is a risk of delivery below this threshold when this is clinically and logistically possible. When this is not possible and the neonate is close to the transfer criteria threshold, clinical discretion should be applied to the decision to transfer dependant on the condition of the neonate, in consultation with a qualified neonatologist and the Tasmanian Level 6 maternity and neonatology service.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- A full range of antenatal, birthing and postnatal care facilities, including dedicated birth suites, an antenatal day assessment unit, allocated inpatient beds within a maternity unit and dedicated maternity beds for the acute care of high-acuity patients
- On-site Level 5 Neonatology Service (as per this role delineation framework)
- On-site Level 4 or above General Surgery Service (as per this role delineation framework)
- The capacity to measure and permanently document foetal scalp sampling and cord blood gases
- Portable ultrasound in birth suite 24 hours used by practitioners credentialed in ultrasound
- Access to interventional radiology and vascular services within the network
- Provides training of specialist obstetricians and midwives
- May have research role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Clinical leadership roles in Obstetrics, Midwifery, Nursing and Neonatology
- Obstetric registrars and RMOs
- Paediatrics registrars and RMOs
- Anaesthetics registrars and RMOs
- On-site allied health professionals including occupational therapy, continence advisors, dietitians and drug and alcohol services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

Level 6 Maternity Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus it provides all levels of care, including the highest level of complex care for women with serious obstetric and foetal conditions that require high-level multidisciplinary care.

A Level 6 service provides clinical advice and support by a consultant registered medical specialist credentialed in obstetrics 24 hours.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- A 24 hour maternity service that provides comprehensive specialist services, including, but not restricted to, midwifery, obstetric, mental health and surgical care for women with high-risk and complex needs
- On-site dedicated acute observation area within the maternity unit
- On-site 24 hour access to obstetric imaging service
- On-site Level 6 Neonatology Service (as per this role delineation framework)
- Access to maternal foetal medicine specialty services
- Access to foetal surgical services
- On-site perinatal mental health service
- On-site vascular surgery and interventional radiology services
- Support and statewide clinical leadership provided to lower level services
- Active research role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Specialist neonatologists on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Obstetricians with certification or special interest in maternal foetal medicine and obstetric ultrasound
- 24 hour on-site access to consultant-level medical imaging, paediatrics, anaesthetics and adult ICU staff

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	6	5	5	6

Mental Health Inpatient Services

Mental Health is a specialist area of health care that promotes recovery to enable people living with mental disorders or mental health problems to lead a contributing life. Mental health services are concerned with the clinical assessment, diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of people who have a mental illness or disorder.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Mental Health Inpatient Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Mental Health Inpatient Services

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Mental Health Inpatient Services

Service description

A Level 3 service provides mental health care to low complexity mental health patients. It has the capacity for non-authorised mental health treatment only.

Service requirements

- Capacity for non-authorised mental health treatment only
- Admission and management by GP or other medical officers
- Capacity to cope with acutely unwell pending transfer
- Limited assessment and treatment for severe and persistent mental health conditions
- Limited access to mental health multidisciplinary team

Workforce requirements

- GP or other medical officers
- Access to psychiatrist within the network
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in mental health nursing; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to patients
- Limited access to mental health multidisciplinary team

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	3	3	2

Level 4 Mental Health Inpatient Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at Level 3 plus it provides mental health care to moderate complexity mental health patients. It has the capacity for dedicated but non-authorised mental health treatment only.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Capacity for dedicated but non-authorised mental health treatment only
- Assessment and treatment for severe and persistent mental health conditions

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Multidisciplinary staff available 24 hours, seven days a week on call
- Clinical pharmacist

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	5	4	3

Level 5 Mental Health Inpatient Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus it has the capability of providing mental health care to low, moderate and high complexity mental health patients. It has the capacity for authorised mental health treatment.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Capacity for authorised mental health treatment
- Comprehensive multidisciplinary team routinely available on-site
- Consultation liaison services to general health wards
- May have secure mental health unit

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Comprehensive multidisciplinary team routinely available on-site

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging

3	-	5	4	3
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Level 6 Mental Health Inpatient Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus it has the capability of providing mental health care for patients who present with the highest level of mental health risk and complexity. This service provides mental health care 24 hours.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Assessment and treatment for complex mental health conditions
- Comprehensive multidisciplinary teams available 24 hours, seven days a week on-site
- Secure mental health unit
- Psychiatric consultation liaison services available to general wards
- Psychiatric intensive care service on-site

Workforce requirements

- Comprehensive mental health multidisciplinary teams available 24 hours, seven days a week on-site
- Specialist pharmacist, mental health

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	5	5	5

Neonatology Services

Neonatology Service provides a range of care from well infant care to highly specialised care, for sick, low birth weight and/or premature infants, and/or infants born with congenital or other conditions.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level. Safety in the provision of neonatal care is depends upon appropriate consultation and / or referral and transfer of patients consistent with well-defined clinical pathways.

The proposed framework is consistent with the National Maternity Services Framework.

This Framework also describes a Level 6 paediatric ICU role delineation, which is co-located with Level 6 neonatology services.

Level 1 Neonatology Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Neonatology Services

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Neonatology Services

Service description

A Level 3 service has the ability to initiate and maintain intravenous therapy and for all births greater than 37 weeks gestation and with a birth weight greater than 2500 grams. At least one clinician is available exclusively for neonatal resuscitation.

Service requirements

- Well-equipped special care nursery
- Provides phototherapy and controlled oxygen therapy in consultation with a higher level of service

Workforce requirements

- Nursing ratio of 1:4 cots; access to RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in neonatal nursing; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care
- 24 hour on-site access to a health professional skilled in initiating (accredited) neonatal resuscitation
- On-site medical practitioner with credentials in advanced neonatal resuscitation and the necessary skills in post-resuscitation assessment, stabilisation and potential referral for emergency retrieval to a centre at a higher service level. Medical practitioner should be on-call 24 hours and available within 30 minutes of hospital

- Access to outreach, community or hospital based health professionals such as dietitians, physiotherapists and social workers
- Access to infant and child neuropsychology services for cognitive and developmental assessment and management of at-risk and symptomatic infants
- Access to paediatric medical Rehabilitation Medicine Services, including occupational therapy for patients with rehabilitation needs and / or who require specific medical intervention and surveillance
- Access to perinatal mental health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	-	3	3	3

Level 4 Neonatology Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at Level 3 plus has the capability to plan and deliver care for infants greater than or equal to 34 weeks with minimal complications or who are back-transferred from a higher level service.

In utero transfer of neonates should be undertaken where there is a risk of delivery below this threshold when this is clinically and logistically possible. When this is not possible and the neonate is close to the transfer criteria threshold, clinical discretion should be applied to the decision to transfer dependant on the condition of the neonate, in consultation with a qualified neonatologist and the Level 5 or Level 6 maternity and neonatology service as appropriate.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Commences mechanical ventilation in consultation with a higher level neonatal service pending transfer to a higher level service
- On-site neonatal facilities for apnoea monitoring, low level oxygen therapy (including monitoring) and nasal/orogastric feeding
- Short-term intravenous therapy available
- All patients managed by attending paediatrician
- Accredited paediatrics training program

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- On-site paediatrician with experience in neonatology on-call 24 hours
- Access to dietetic, physiotherapy, social work and speech pathology services
- Access to a lactation consultant

- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in neonatal nursing; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care
- Specialist pharmacist

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4	4

Level 5 Neonatology Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus it has the capability to plan and deliver care for infants with risk factors or complex care needs who were born at the hospital or back transferred from a higher level service and who are greater than or equal to 32 weeks gestational age.

In utero transfer of neonates should be undertaken where there is a risk of delivery below this threshold when this is clinically and logistically possible. When this is not possible and the neonate is close to the transfer criteria threshold, clinical discretion should be applied to the decision to transfer dependant on the condition of the neonate, in consultation with a qualified neonatologist and the Tasmanian Level 6 maternity and neonatology service.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Specialist nursery beds to manage increased workload associated with regional referral role
- Provision of short-term mechanical ventilation (<6 hours) pending transfer
- Nasal CPAP (continuous positive airway pressure) with facilities for arterial blood gas monitoring
- Non-invasive BP monitoring
- Receives transfers from lower level services and back-transfer from higher level services

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Neonatal nursing staff to provide back-transfer support, local education and training
- Consultant paediatrician with scope of practice including neonatology
- On-site paediatrics registrar on-call 24 hours
- Specialist neonatology allied health providers

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	4	5	5	5

Level 6 Neonatology Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus it provides the highest level of care to infants and has personnel and equipment to provide continuous life support and comprehensive multidisciplinary care for newborns, including those less than 32 weeks gestation.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- On-site neonatal intensive care unit (NICU)
- Provision of medium to long-term mechanical ventilation and full life support
- Supports infants of high-risk pregnancies and births
- On-site 24 hour access to neonatal echocardiography services
- Provides consultation and leadership for emergency neonatal transport
- On-site neonatal emergency transport team on-call 24 hours
- On-site neonatal surgery
- Active participation in clinical trials and research

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- On-site specialist neonatologists on-call 24 hours
- Advanced trainees in neonatology
- Neonatology registrars/RMOs
- Specialist nursing positions including neonatal intensive care nurse educators and intensive care equipment nurse
- RNs with post graduate qualifications and/or experience in neonatal intensive/critical care nursing on-site 24 hours
- Specialist pharmacist

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	6	6	6

Level 6 Paediatric Intensive Care Service

Service description

A Level 6 neonatology service also provides Level 6 paediatric intensive care services within this framework.

Service requirements

- On-site paediatric intensive care unit (PICU)
- Provision of medium to long-term mechanical ventilation and full life support for paediatric patients
- Provides consultation and leadership for emergency paediatric transport
- On-site paediatric emergency transport team on-call 24 hours
- On-site paediatric surgery

Workforce requirements

- On-site specialist paediatric intensive care specialists on-call 24 hours
- Paediatric intensive care registrar
- Neonatology registrars/RMOs
- Data collector for reporting to national benchmarking organisations, data audit and to support active research role
- Specialist nursing positions including paediatric intensive care nurse educators and intensive care equipment nurse
- RNs with post graduate qualifications and/or experience in paediatric intensive/critical care nursing
- Specialist pharmacist

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	6	6	6

Neurology Services

Neurology is the specialty that deals with diseases of the nervous system (including the brain, spinal cord and peripheral nerves) especially those due to vascular, inflammatory, autoimmune or degenerative causes (e.g. stroke, epilepsy, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson’s disease and neuropathy).

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level. Stroke services are referred to separately in the Stroke Services framework.

Level 1 Neurology Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Neurology Services

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Neurology Services

Service description

A Level 3 service provides inpatient care by a visiting registered medical practitioner for low acuity neurological conditions with 24 hour cover by a RN/EN.

Service requirements

- Inpatient care by visiting registered medical practitioner
- 24 hour cover by RN/EN
- Access to specialist advice off-site through telehealth/teleconference
- Established referral relationship with higher level services including defined transfer policies and protocols
- Access to clinical advice and education from a higher level service through telehealth / teleconference
- Access to some allied health services off-site

Workforce requirements

- Registered medical practitioner
- RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to inpatients

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	3	3	1

Level 4 Neurology Services

Service description

A Level 4 services provides services at Level 3 plus inpatient care by an on-site physician practicing in general medicine and outpatient medical consultation by a visiting specialist neurologist.

This level of service is able to manage uncomplicated presentations relating to common neurological conditions. Outpatient electroencephalogram (EEG) is available via visiting service.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Outpatient visiting EEG testing
- Consultation with neurologist for management decisions for complex patients
- Access to neurological advice through higher level service in the network

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- On-site physician practicing in general medicine on-call 24 hours
- Medical practitioner on-site 24 hours
- Visiting specialist neurologists
- Access to designated allied health services
- Visiting neurophysiology scientist for visiting EEG service

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4	4

Level 5 Neurology Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus it provides inpatient care by neurologist(s).

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Inpatient care by neurologists
- 24 hour access to CT and MRI
- May provide undergraduate teaching
- May have a research role

- Inpatient and outpatient EEG and nerve conduction studies (NCS) / electromyography (EMG) available

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Neurologist available on-site
- Network access to on-call neurologist at Level 6 service 24 hours
- On-site access to medical specialist with neurology scope of practice 24 hours
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or extensive experience in neurological nursing; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to inpatients
- Access to CNC providing leadership in neurology
- Access to specialised allied health services
- On-site rehabilitation specialist
- On-site neurophysiology scientist for EEG services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

Level 6 Neurology Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus it provides most neurological services within designated neurology department.

Assessment and surgery for epilepsy surgery and movement disorders will be referred interstate by a neurologist from a Level 5 or Level 6 service.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Statewide and interstate referral role
- Designated neurology beds
- A Level 6 HDU for neurology inpatients
- Inpatient and outpatient EEG and specialised neurophysiological testing
- Capacity for 24 hours inpatient video EEG monitoring with appropriate infrastructure and staffing support available
- Brain PET scanning available
- Provides clinical advice, education and training to lower level services

- Accredited neurology training program
- Access to on-site neurosurgical services
- Active research role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Consultant neurologists on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Neurology registrars / RMOs
- Access to on-site and on-call neurosurgeons
- On-site neurophysiology scientists for EEG, NCS/EMG and evoked potential (EP) testing

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	6	6	6

Neurosurgery

Neurosurgery is the surgical specialty that deals with the diagnosis and treatment of disorders which affect any portion of the nervous system, including the brain, spinal cord, peripheral nerves and extra-cranial cerebrovascular system.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Neurosurgery

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Neurosurgery

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Neurosurgery

No Level 3 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 4 Neurosurgery

No Level 4 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 5 Neurosurgery

Service description

A Level 5 services provides elective uncomplicated minor neurosurgical services. Elective services include spinal and peripheral nerve surgery. A Level 5 service does not perform elective cranial procedures. Urgent procedures may be performed only after discussion with a Level 6 service. A consultant neurosurgeon participates in the credentialing and scope of practice decisions regarding neurosurgery.

Service requirements

- Network access to Level 6 specialist neurosurgical service 24 hours
- Outpatient clinics by a visiting neurosurgeon
- Multidisciplinary spinal assessment clinic
- Link with a Level 4 Rehabilitation Medicine Services

Workforce requirements

- Surgeons whose scope of practice includes minor neurosurgical procedures
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in neurosurgical nursing
- Access to designated allied health services with specialist skills in the management of patients with neurosurgical care needs

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4	5

Level 6 Neurosurgery

Service description

A Level 6 service is a specialist neurosurgical service that has the capability to deal with all elective and emergency neurosurgical cases.

A Level 6 service is responsible for coordinating all neurosurgical interstate transfers.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Provides statewide advice on all neurosurgical interstate transfers
- On-site interventional neuro-radiology
- Designated neurosurgical ward
- Designated neurosurgical ICU / HDU
- One or more dedicated neurosurgical theatres
- Link with Level 5 rehabilitation service
- Neurosurgical training program
- Active research role
- Comprehensive clinical assessment and triage of chronic spinal pain conditions with access to pain management multidisciplinary team on-site
- On-site access to medical subspecialties including infectious disease and neurology

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Neurosurgical consultant on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Neurosurgical registrar on-site and on-call 24 hours
- CNC providing leadership in neurosurgical care
- On-site specialist infectious diseases and neurology services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	5	5	6

Ophthalmology Services

Ophthalmology deals with diseases of the eye. Ophthalmology services are delivered by medical practitioners who are specialists in the medical and surgical care of the eyes and visual system and in the prevention of eye diseases and injury.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Ophthalmology Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Ophthalmology Services

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Ophthalmology Services

No Level 3 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 4 Ophthalmology Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides common diagnostic and treatment ophthalmological procedures on low and moderate risk patients performed by visiting ophthalmic surgeons.

Service requirements

- Appropriately equipped treatment rooms
- Operating theatre

Workforce requirements

- Visiting ophthalmologist
- Accredited medical practitioner in anaesthetics
- Medical officer on-call 24 hours
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in ophthalmology
- Access to orthoptists

Level 5 Ophthalmology Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus it provides diagnostic services and surgery on low, moderate and high risk patients, procedures by appointed ophthalmologists.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Accredited ophthalmology medical training
- Research role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- 24 hour access to on-call ophthalmologist
- Ophthalmology registrar
- Appointed anaesthetists on-call 24 hours
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in perioperative and postoperative nursing Access to Orthoptists

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	-	4	3	4

Level 6 Ophthalmology Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus this service has the ability to manage complex major diagnostic and treatment procedures in association with other specialties.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- On-site neurosurgery
- On-site radiation oncology
- Ability to accept referrals for complex cases from lower level services
- May provide interstate referral role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

Oral Health Services

Oral health includes emergency and elective treatment of oral health problems of varying levels of clinical complexity.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Oral Health Services

A level 1 service is provided by non-oral health professionals that are trained to identify disease and refer to a Level 2 Service.

Level 2 Oral Health Services

Service description

A Level 2 service performs low complexity oral health care to paediatric patients. Clinical care is provided by dental therapists or oral health therapists on a minor outpatient or same-day basis. Treatments provided include dental hygiene, restorations for patients aged <18 years and extractions of deciduous teeth. A level 2 service does not extract permanent teeth, but refers these patients to a Level 3 service.

Service requirements

- On-site or mobile dental services
- Outpatient care in a community setting
- Infrastructure required to provide routine oral health services including:
 - Dental chair
 - Compressor
 - Evacuation facilities
 - Dental light
 - Operator and assistant chairs
 - Intra-oral x-ray machines

Workforce requirements

- Dental and oral health therapists with skills in low complexity general oral health services
- Dentist available for consultation or referral

Level 3 Oral Health Services

Service description

A Level 3 service provides services at Level 2 plus services are provided to adult and paediatric patients by registered dentists credentialed to provide community dental services.

Service requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Access to dental laboratory within the network

Workforce requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- On-site prosthetists
- Registered dentists
- Dental nurse with the appropriate education and expertise

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	-	-	2

Level 4 Oral Health Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at Level 3 plus inpatient and outpatient dental services for patients with complex medical and/or dental care needs.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Dental suite with two or more dental chairs
- At least one operating/procedure room with separate recovery area/room for post-operative care
- Access to designated acute surgical inpatient unit with RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in post-operative nursing; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to inpatients

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Specialist paediatric anaesthetists on-site for children under 3 years of age
- On-site medical practitioners credentialed to administer anaesthetic

- Access to maxilla-facial services in the network or on-site

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	-	3	3	4

Level 5 Oral Health Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus moderate to high level of complexity and risk. Dento-alveolar, osteotomy and oral oncology procedures are performed, and management of some patients with comorbidities and risk of intra- and post-operative complications occurs. This service has the ability to undertake most emergency surgeries.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Outreach services to lower level services in the network
- On-site facio-maxillary surgery service
- Formal linkage with interstate Level 6 service

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- On-site facio-maxillary surgeon
- Formal access to oral medicine specialist
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in perioperative and post-operative nursing

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	-	4	4	5

Level 6 Oral Health Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus this service manages the most complex and highly specialised oral health problems with the highest level of risk in specified areas of sub-specialty expertise. (Not currently provided in Tasmania).

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Dedicated inpatient oral health ward

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Full range of dental sub-specialists on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Allied health professionals available 24 hours, as required

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	4	5	5	5

Orthopaedics Services

Orthopaedics is the clinical specialty involving the treatment of diseases and abnormalities of the musculoskeletal system due to trauma, congenital developmental abnormalities, degenerative or disease processes.

Depending on the role level of service, this service may include general orthopaedics, trauma, joint replacement, orthotics and a range of other specialised components. Treatment ranges from non-surgical management to surgical management on an emergency, acute and elective basis. Higher level orthopaedic services rely on access and links to other appropriate specialists.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Orthopaedics Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Orthopaedics Services

Service description

A Level 2 service provides minor reduction of fractures performed on low-risk patients by a registered medical practitioner or visiting general surgeon with experience in orthopaedics. Regional or general anaesthesia is given by accredited medical practitioner. An orthopaedic consultation service is also available.

Service requirements

- Treatment rooms with plaster equipment

Workforce requirements

- Registered medical practitioner
- May have plaster technician
- Access to advice from specialist orthopaedic specialists
- Access Allied Health outpatient services as required including physiotherapist led musculoskeletal clinic with links to pain management service

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
3	-	3	3	2

Level 3 Orthopaedics Services

Service description

A Level 3 service provides services at Level 2 plus it performs common and intermediate day procedures on low or moderate risk patients by a visiting orthopaedic or general surgeon credentialed in orthopaedics. A Level 3 service does not provide overnight inpatient orthopaedic services.

Service requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- General orthopaedic equipment and theatre x-ray available.

Workforce requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Visiting orthopaedic surgeon
- RNs with appropriate qualifications and/or experience; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to patients
- Medical practitioner accredited to provide anaesthetic
- Medical practitioner on-site 24 hours and on-call within 30 minutes
- Access to some allied health services including physiotherapist

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
3	-	4	3	3

Level 4 Orthopaedics Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at Level 3 plus it performs common and intermediate procedures on low or moderate risk patients by an orthopaedic surgeon.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Access to Level 4 Rehabilitation Service
- Dedicated orthopaedic inpatient beds
- Accredited orthopaedics surgical training site

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Appointed orthopaedic specialists on-site
- Appointed specialist anaesthetists on-site and on-call 24 hours
- RNs with appropriate orthopaedic post graduate qualifications and/or experience
- Designated orthopaedic allied health services for inpatients at a Level 3 service or above and provision of musculoskeletal outpatients at a Level 2 service or above
- Some specialist allied health outpatient services for pre-surgical and post-surgical follow up

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4	4

Level 5 Orthopaedics Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus it provides a full range of major diagnostic and treatment procedures on low, moderate and high risk patients performed by orthopaedic surgeons.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- On-site ICU
- May research role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Orthopaedic surgeons on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Radiologist on-call 24 hours
- Specialist intensive care physician on-site 24 hours
- On-site infectious diseases physician
- CNC providing leadership in orthopaedic care
- Access to specialised allied health services Level 3 service and above for inpatients. More access to pre and post-surgical allied health programs is available for outpatients i.e. Level 4 service and above

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	4	4	4	5

Level 6 Orthopaedics Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus it has the ability to deal with all cases including full range of complex cases (and all emergencies) in association with other specialists.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Statewide referral role
- Research role
- Links/access to comprehensive acute and persisting pain management and rheumatology services
- Use of consultant led but allied health delivered comprehensive clinical assessment and triage systems for degenerative musculoskeletal and soft tissue conditions
- Link to Level 5 Rehabilitation service

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Dedicated surgical staff with clinical competency in a range of sub-specialty areas available at close proximity 24 hours
- Allied health professionals available for weekend/after-hours service for inpatients as required

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	5	5	5	5

Paediatric Services

Paediatrics is a medical specialty that manages medical conditions affecting babies, children and young people.

The scope of this Framework describes each level of paediatric service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Paediatrics Medicine

Service description

A Level 1 service has no planned inpatient medical service or designated inpatient beds.

A Level 1 service provides outpatient care and stabilisation for children prior to moving to appropriate higher level of service.

Service requirements

- Services delivered in an accredited health care facility
- Access to paediatric HDU/ ICU at higher level services
- Formal link to community child and family health service

Workforce requirements

- Registered medical practitioner delivering services
- Formal consultative links with paediatrician

Level 2 Paediatrics Medicine

Service description

A Level 2 service has a designated inpatient area where care can be provided to paediatric patients with minor medical conditions or convalescence following referral from a higher level unit.

Service requirements

As for Level 1 plus:

- Accredited medical practitioner available 24 hours

Workforce requirements

As for Level 1 plus:

- Registered medical practitioner delivering services
- Medical practitioner available on-call 24 hours, seven days a week
- Formal consultative links with paediatrician
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in paediatric nursing; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to inpatients

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	3	2	2

Level 3 Paediatrics Medicine

Service description

Specialist paediatric providers care for paediatric patients, including within a designated paediatric inpatient area. A Level 3 services has formal linkages with higher level services.

Service requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Designated paediatric ward/area where children and adolescents are physically separated from adult patients
- Isolation capacity in separate rooms
- Access to audiology services
- Access to allied health services for children including physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech pathology, dietetics, mental health and social work

Workforce requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Specialist paediatricians on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Specialist paediatric registrars and RMOs on-site
- Access to allied health professionals with paediatric knowledge/experience

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	-	4	5	4

Level 4 Paediatrics Medicine

Service description

A Level 4 service is an integrated hospital inpatient paediatric unit able to deliver care for paediatric patients with higher levels of clinical complexity than can be delivered by Level 3 services. A Level 4 service has formal linkages with Level 5 and 6 services.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Access to appropriate Level 6 sub-specialty outreach services allowing for CPD for staff

- Access to educational program within hospital
- Provides child protection assessments and referral as necessary

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- CNC specialising in and providing leadership in paediatric care
- Designated specialist Paediatric Allied Health Professionals available on-site
- Educator and diversional therapy staff for patients

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

Level 5 Paediatrics Medicine

Service description

As Level 4, plus a Specialised Paediatric Inpatient Unit with medical, surgical, intensive care and neonatology sub-specialty services. Formal linkages with a Level 6 service.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- On-site paediatric ICU and neonatal ICU
- On-site paediatric mental health services
- Provides some statewide services
- Provides 24 hour Child Protection Services with consultant paediatrician and social worker
- Active program of research
- Access to designated Adolescent Unit so adolescents and small children are cared for in separate spaces
- On site school facility

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- On-site paediatric surgeons and specialist anaesthetics (paediatric)
- On-call paediatric surgical and ICU specialists available 24 hours, seven days a week
- Paediatric surgical, anaesthetics, intensive care, neonatology and mental health medical sub-specialists
- Specialist pharmacist
- Allied health professionals on-staff with specialist paediatric skills, including recreational staff and education professionals

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	6	6	6

Level 6 Paediatrics Medicine

Service description

As for Level 5 service, plus most paediatric medical and surgical sub-specialities are available.

Service requirements

As for Level 5:

- Full suite of clinical and diagnostic sub-specialty services provided by appropriately trained sub-specialty providers
- Sub-specialty consultants available on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Designated sub-specialty registrars
- School service for inpatients provided by Department of Education
- Has sub-specialist paediatric research and teaching role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5:

- Sub-specialist paediatricians in all clinical sub-specialties
- Sub-specialty paediatric registrars and RMOs
- CNCs specialising in sub-specialty paediatric care and providing leadership within the service
- Allied health professionals on staff with sub-specialist paediatric skills

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	6	6	6

Level 1 Paediatric Surgery

Service description

No inpatient services available. Provides primary and emergency outpatient care prior to transfer only.

Service requirements

- Services delivered in an accredited health care facility
- Access to more specialised paediatric surgical care at a higher level service
- Requires formal referral pathway for surgical patients

Workforce requirements

- Registered medical practitioner delivering services
- Formal consultative links with paediatrician and or paediatric surgeon

Level 2 Paediatric Surgery

Service description

No planned inpatient paediatric surgical service. Provides primary and emergency care for stabilisation and transfer only.

Service requirements

As for Level 1 plus:

- Accredited medical practitioner available 24 hours

Workforce requirements

As for Level 1 plus:

- Registered medical practitioner delivering services
- Medical practitioner available on-call 24 hours, seven days a week
- Formal consultative links with paediatrician and or paediatric surgeon
- RNs with appropriate postgraduate qualifications and/or experience in paediatric nursing; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to patients

Level 3 Paediatric Surgery

Service description

Except in emergencies, children under the age of one year should not be admitted for paediatric surgery. Minor elective surgical procedures only are performed for children over the age of 1 year.

Service requirements

- Appropriate surgical, anaesthetic and resuscitation equipment available

- Formal consultative links with paediatric surgeons
- Continuing nursing educational programs available specific to the needs of the service
- Designated children’s ward with parent amenities
- Facility to isolate in single room
- Operating suite and recovery room provide for the special needs of children and carers
- Amenities for parents or carers

Workforce requirements

- General surgeons credentialed in minor elective paediatric surgery, with scope of practice determined in conjunction with specialist paediatric surgeon
- Anaesthetists with appropriate paediatric anaesthetic experience and/or qualifications as determined by the credentialling process
- Paediatrician on-site during normal hours
- Paediatrician available on-call 24 hours
- Paediatrics registrar available on-call 24 hours
- Medical officers on-site 24 hours
- Access to specialist paediatric allied health providers

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4	4

Level 4 Paediatrics Surgery

Service description

Except in emergencies, children under the age of one year should not be admitted for paediatric surgery. Non-complex elective surgical procedures only are performed for children over the age of 1 year. Emergency procedures performed where stabilisation and transfer to a higher acuity facility is not feasible or warranted.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- On-site paediatric services able to stabilise paediatric surgical patients, including patients between 1 month and 1 year of age, prior to transfer to Level 5 or 6 service
- Formal consultative links with paediatric surgeons 24 hours

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- General surgeons credentialed in non-complex elective and emergency paediatric surgical procedures, with scope of practice determined in conjunction with specialist paediatric surgeon
- Paediatric CNC
- Specialist paediatric allied health professionals on-site

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

Level 5 Paediatric Surgery

Service description

As Level 4 plus specialised paediatric inpatient unit with nominated Director of Paediatric Surgical Services. Provides most major diagnostic and treatment procedures on ASA⁶ categories 1 to 5 children excluding complex major paediatric surgery on rare complex congenital malformations (frequency of less than one in 2,500 births).

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Designated paediatric surgical ward area
- Specialist paediatric surgeons and specialist anaesthetists (paediatric) available 24 hours
- Provides some statewide services
- On-site specialist neonatal and paediatric ICU services
- Postgraduate paediatric surgical teaching and research role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Statewide Director of Paediatric Surgery
- Credentialed paediatric surgeons available on-site
- Credentialed paediatric surgeons on-call 24 hours
- Specialist anaesthetists (paediatric) on-site
- Specialist neonatologists on-site
- Paediatric intensive care specialists on-site

⁶ American Society of Anaesthesiologists Score - a global score that assesses the physical status of patients before surgery

- Paediatric surgical registrar during business hours. After-hours on-call paediatric surgical specialist reported to by the on-call general surgical registrar
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or extensive experience in paediatric nursing

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	6	6	6

Level 6 Paediatric Surgery

Service description

As Level 4 plus has sub-specialty units in most areas of Paediatric Surgery (e.g. may have paediatric neurosurgery, cardiac surgery).

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Designated sub-specialty paediatric surgical wards with parent amenities
- Paediatric surgeons on-site 24 hours
- General paediatricians on-site 24 hours
- Sub-specialty paediatric surgeons on-call 24 hours, seven days a week
- Specialist anaesthetists (paediatric) on-site 24 hours
- Designated paediatric surgical sub-specialty registrars in sub-specialty units
- Active program of paediatric surgical sub-specialty teaching, research and development

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Sub-specialty paediatric surgeons
- Paediatric surgical sub-specialty registrars
- Paediatric surgical sub-specialty nurses
- Sub-specialist allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	6	6	6

Palliative Care Services

Palliative care services refer to a group of services that cover the continuum of care required for all people who are experiencing a life limiting illness with little or no prospect of a cure. Services also extend to the patient's family, friends and their carers and are provided in acute hospital, sub-acute and community settings.

The scope of this Framework recognises that:

- Patients with life-limiting illnesses require different levels of involvement from the Department of Health and Human Services Palliative Care Service (Palliative Care Service) based on their needs and the primary care provider's capability and capacity to meet those needs;
- Many patients receive primary palliative care without having any contact with the Palliative Care Service (Level 1) and makes a clear distinction between the consultation-liaison (Level 2), shared care (Level 3) and services provided directly by the Palliative Care Service (Level 4); and
- The Palliative Care Service supports palliative care service provision across all four levels.

Level 1 Palliative Care Services

Service description

A Level 1 service provides culturally appropriate palliative care for the patient, carer and family in accordance with the National Standards for Palliative Care by a primary care provider. This includes patients, carer and family being informed and involved in decision making. The primary care provider is the designated Coordinator of Care.

A Level 1 service can consult with a higher level service if information is needed or refer the patient for assessment if the patient needs exceed the primary care provider's capability and/or capacity.

Service requirements

- Assess patient needs
- Pain and symptom control
- Provides social, spiritual and emotional support to patients and their carers and family
- Patient risk assessments
- Agreed care plans
- Provides after-hours support
- Co-ordination of patient, carer and family needs
- Offers bereavement support

Level 2 Palliative Care Services

Service description

A Level 2 service coordinates and manages all the patient's needs using a palliative care approach by a primary care provider but with consultation and liaison from a higher level service.

A Level 2 service can consult with a higher level service if information is needed or re-refer the patient for further assessment if the patient needs exceed the primary care provider's capability and/or resources.

Service requirements

As for level 1. Care provided in accordance with the National Standards for Palliative Care.

Level 3 Palliative Care Services

Service description

A Level 3 service provides multidisciplinary services to patients with complex and unstable conditions to receive ongoing high level care. Level 3 patients have been admitted to the Palliative Care Service. Care of patients is shared between the primary care provider and the Palliative Care Service.

A Level 3 service negotiates and formalises arrangements to meet the patient's needs with the primary care provider, patient, carer and family. The designated co-coordinator of care (lead agency) may be a palliative care physician.

Service requirements

- Patient assessment and care coordination and management shared between the Palliative Care Service and the primary care provider
- 24 hours, seven days a week support and advice to the patient, carer and primary care provider
- Provide episodic assessment, care planning and/or advice to lower level services (primary care providers)
- Provide after-hours services
- Regular reviews of the plan of care with the primary care provider, patient, carer and family as required
- Access to bereavement support
- Provide training and professional development for lower level services (primary care providers) through the provision of resources and information
- Access to some allied health services and social worker for psycho-emotional, social and spiritual problems

Workforce requirements

- Access to a palliative medicine specialist

- 24 hour cover by RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in palliative care nursing; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to inpatients
- CNC specialising in palliative care and providing leadership across the service
- May have Nurse Practitioner
- Social worker with palliative care expertise

Level 4 Palliative Care Services

Service description

A Level 4 service is provided predominantly by the multidisciplinary Palliative Care Service to patients with complex and unstable conditions to receive ongoing high level care.

A Level 4 service negotiates and formalises arrangements to meet the patient's needs with the primary care provider, patient, carer and family and assumes primary responsibility for patient management, usually in its dedicated inpatient specialist palliative care unit.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- 24 hour clinical management by the specialist palliative care team
- Team consists of allied health members with specialised palliative care experience and knowledge
- Research and development

Workforce requirements

As for level 3.

Plastic and reconstructive surgery

Plastic and reconstructive surgery refers to the surgical discipline that delivers services to repair, remodel and / or restore body parts.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Plastic and reconstructive surgery

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Plastic and reconstructive surgery

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Plastic and reconstructive surgery

Service description

A Level 3 service provides minor plastic and reconstructive surgery outpatients and same day procedures by a visiting plastic surgeon.

Service requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- At least one operating/procedure room with separate recovery area/room for post-operative care
- On-site medical practitioner credentialed to administer anaesthetic
- Medical, anaesthetic and nursing pre-admission services
- IV (intravenous) fluid therapy available

Workforce requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Visiting specialist plastic surgeon
- Medical practitioner credentialed to administer anaesthetic
- Perioperative trained RNs
- 24 hours access to a medical practitioner (off-site or on-call)
- Access to some allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
3	-	4	3	3

Level 4 Plastic and reconstructive surgery

Service description

A Level 4 service provides selected procedures on low and moderate risk patients by visiting plastic surgeons.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Designated acute surgical inpatient unit with appropriately trained surgical specialist nursing staff.

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Visiting plastic surgeon
- General surgeon on-call 24 hours
- Surgical registrar on-call 24 hours
- Specialist anaesthetists on-site
- Specialist anaesthetists on-call 24 hours
- Anaesthetics registrar on-call 24 hours
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or post-operative experience in plastics and reconstructive care

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	-	4	4	4

Level 5 Plastic and reconstructive surgery

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus a full range of major diagnostic services and surgery on low, moderate and high risk patients by specialist plastic surgeons.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- On-site ICU
- Links to Level 5 Rehabilitation Medicine Services

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Appointed plastic surgeon on-site and on-call 24 hours

- Plastic surgery registrar
- Access to CNC providing leadership in plastics and reconstructive care
- Specialist allied health staff, including physiotherapy, occupational therapy and psychology

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

Level 6 Plastic and reconstructive surgery

Service description

A Level 6 service provides all forms of plastic and reconstructive surgery and offers a full range of microsurgery techniques, hand surgery, cleft and craniofacial surgery, brachial plexus and peripheral nerve surgery.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Dedicated plastic surgery ward
- Post-operative rehabilitation and comprehensive scar management services

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Plastic surgery registrar on-site 24 hours
- Subspecialist hand surgeon available 24 hours

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	6	6	6

Persistent Pain Medicine

Pain management specialists are experts in the diagnosis of causes of pain and in the management of pain. Anaesthetists, rheumatologist, neurologists and sub-specialist surgeons may specialise in pain management. Specialist pain services are comprised of multidisciplinary teams of medical practitioners, specialist nurses, allied health professionals, and psychologists.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Persistent Pain Medicine

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Persistent Pain Medicine

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Persistent Pain Medicine

A Level 3 service provides appropriate referral of patients by a medical practitioner, and outpatient management by designated nursing, psychology and allied health services, for patients who have been assessed by a higher level Persistent Pain Medicine Service.

A Level 3 service may participate in multi-disciplinary meetings regarding patient management.

Under a Level 3 service, management of treatment is supervised by a health professional team with persistent pain medicine experience/training.

Level 4 Persistent Pain Medicine

Service description

A Level 4 service provides ambulatory persistent pain medicine services by a multidisciplinary team led by a specialist medical practitioner with sub-specialty training in pain medicine. No inpatient pain medicine services are provided.

A Level 4 service has strong network linkages with a higher level Persistent Pain Medicine Service.

Service requirements

- Formal network linkage with Level 6 service for the referral of patients with pain management conditions (as specified in designated statewide musculoskeletal clinical pathways)
- Access to visiting pain management specialist
- Access to Level 6 interdisciplinary Persistent Pain Medicine team
- On-site medically supervised ambulatory service, with therapies determined in consultation with Level 6 Persistent Pain Medicine Service

Workforce requirements

- Visiting Medical practitioner with sub-specialty training in pain medicine

- Designated allied health professional team on site, supported by visiting specialist team
- On site care co-ordinator

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	-	-	4	4

Level 5 Persistent Pain Medicine

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus may provide some procedural pain management services.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Pain management services provided by designated multidisciplinary team with formal network linkage to Level 6 Persistent Pain Medicine Service
- Access to interventional radiology in the network
- Access to neurosurgery and spinal orthopaedics in the network
- May have research role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Designated pain management multidisciplinary team including pain medicine consultant
- Access to pain medicine CNCs is desirable
- Medical registrar on-call 24 hours
- Sub-specialists available on-site for consultation
- Specialised allied health services on-site

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	5	4

Level 6 Persistent Pain Medicine

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus a full range of pain medicine services including clinical supervision, education and prevention activities.

A Level 6 service provides Persistent Pain Medicine inpatient services.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Statewide referral role
- On-site interdisciplinary pain management service (with a minimum of pain medicine, rheumatology, anaesthetics, specialist physiotherapy and psychology expertise)
- On-site neurosurgery and spinal orthopaedics
- On site interventional radiology and day case procedure facilities
- Accredited pain medicine training programs
- Research role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- On-site pain medicine registrar
- Medical registrar on-site 24 hours
- Specialist pain medicine CNC
- Specialised psychology services
- Physiotherapists with advanced scope of persistent pain practice

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	4	5	5	5

Rehabilitation Medicine Services

Rehabilitation Medicine Services provides care for patients to improve functional status by reducing impairment, activity limitation and participation restriction. Services provided in this category range from outpatient services or those delivered in a community setting, to inpatient Rehabilitation Medicine Services with access to dedicated multidisciplinary teams for those with complex care needs.

Service networks and interfaces are of paramount importance in delivering Rehabilitation Medicine Services as is access to an appropriate mix of allied health professionals (depending on the role level of service being delivered).

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Rehabilitation Medicine Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Rehabilitation Medicine Services

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Rehabilitation Medicine Services

Service description

A Level 3 service provides interdisciplinary care for functional restoration in patients following an episode of disability.

Service requirements

- Designated therapy areas and equipment
- Interdisciplinary team with access to medical, nursing and allied health staff
- May have access to hydrotherapy
- Access to clinical support services and post-hospital services to facilitate ongoing community management

Workforce requirements

- On-site consultant physician with knowledge and skills in rehabilitation
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in rehabilitation nursing; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	-	3	-

Level 4 Rehabilitation Medicine Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides specialist rehabilitation with specialist assessment and management of a full range of programs across all settings (admitted, outpatient, community and home).

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Inpatient and community therapy areas
- Access to manufacture of specialist aids and equipment
- Access to hydrotherapy
- Strong interdisciplinary team involvement and case management approach and provides in-reach across the acute, residential facility and home settings
- Outpatient services for ongoing management of patients
- Day therapy services

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Access to specialist rehabilitation physician
- Visiting specialist consultant rehabilitation physician
- On-site CNC and / or nurse practitioner providing leadership in rehabilitation
- On-site neuropsychology, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, dietetics

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
3	-	4	3	3

Level 5 Rehabilitation Medicine Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides rehabilitation service focusing on the most complex patients for targeted rehabilitation streams.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Designated rehabilitation unit
- Dedicated multidisciplinary team led by a rehabilitation physician and comprising specialists with extensive senior experience in all disciplines (medical, allied health, nursing) that are involved in leadership, liaison, research and support for other services
- Specialist rehabilitation team provide outreach services to lower level services in the network
- Accredited training site for Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine trainees
- Involvement of clinical and neuropsychologists, prosthetist, orthotists, CNCs
- Additional infrastructure and equipment commensurate with rehabilitation needs of most complex patients

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Consultant rehabilitation physician
- Rehabilitation registrar
- Geriatrician
- Clinical and neuropsychologists

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

Level 6 Rehabilitation Medicine Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus it provides specialist services for clients with care needs of the highest complexity, including those with traumatic brain injury, brachial plexus injury, spinal cord injury, multiple fractures, complex multi-trauma and limb amputation care needs.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- A range of diagnostic services relating to the individual specialty available on-site
- Networked with hydrotherapy and work conditioning programs
- Designated daily living and therapy areas for activities of daily living and group programs
- Specialist consultancy services, and specialty outreach services are provided
- Access to a pool of specialty equipment pertaining to specialty areas
- Has a step down unit
- Has a teaching role
- Has a research role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Sub-specialty rehabilitation physicians , including in brain injury, spinal cord injury and amputee management
- Access to a paediatric rehabilitation specialists
- An extensive range of allied health professionals available on-site, with demonstrated specialist-level knowledge and skills pertaining to casemix
- On-site physiotherapist available 7 days a week during business hours, and access to a social worker, 7 days a week during business hours
- A rehabilitation engineer

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	6	6	6

Renal Service

Renal medicine is a specialised area of clinical practice involving the diagnosis, management and treatment of complications for patients with kidney impairment and/or disease. Kidney disease can involve a sudden onset episode (acute) or develop over months or years (chronic).

Care is typically delivered in a range of health settings by numerous health professionals and through varying treatment modalities, including surgery, dialysis and supportive care.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level for renal medicine and renal dialysis.

Level 1 Renal Service

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Renal Service

Service description

A Level 2 service supports community-based satellite dialysis in exclusively self-caring, stable patients with chronic renal failure. This is a nurse-led service.

Service requirements

- Access to self-care dialysis unit, including training and support
- Formal links to a service that offers adult patient education and training in independent home/self-care dialysis

Workforce requirements

- Access to renal specialist visiting or by telehealth
- Access to other relevant allied health professionals experienced to manage patients with chronic renal failure
- Care is provided by RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or extensive experience in renal nursing

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	3	3	3

Level 3 Renal Service

Service description

A Level 3 service provides services at Level 2 plus inpatient registered medical practitioner-led services with links to a higher level renal service for specialist renal advice.

Service requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Formal network linkage to higher level renal service
- Manages renal patients with non-complex comorbidities

Workforce requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Inpatient care by physician practicing in general medicine
- Outpatient consultation by visiting renal specialist or via telehealth or telephone
- Does not have staff nephrologist
- Allied health services on-site

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
3	-	3	3	3

Level 4 Renal Service

Service description

A Level 4 service provides community-based satellite dialysis services in stable patients with chronic renal failure supervised by Level 5 and Level 6 services.

Service requirements

- Formal links to a service that offers adult patient education and training in independent home/self-care dialysis

Workforce requirements

- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or extensive experience in renal nursing
- Access to renal specialist visiting or by telehealth or telephone
- Outpatient care by visiting renal specialist
- Access to other relevant allied health professionals experienced to manage patients with chronic renal failure

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	3	3	3

Level 5 Renal Service

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus it provides definitive renal medical care by an appointed renal physician for patients with acute and chronic renal disease.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Nephrology department
- Accredited renal medicine training program
- Manages a home therapies service (providing education, and professional and technical support) to allow independent or dependent in-centre haemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis locally or in other locations
- Access to visiting vascular surgeons and interventional radiology
- Active research role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- 24 hour access to a registered medical specialist with credentials in renal medicine
- Medical registrar on-site 24 hours
- CNC that complements RNs dedicated for vascular access, chronic kidney disease education, transplantation coordination and home therapies training
- Access to specialised allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	5	5	5

Level 6 Renal Service

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus it provides on-site access to all tertiary level non-renal subspecialties. This service is the highest level referral centre for patients with acute renal failure, chronic kidney disease and end-stage kidney disease.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- On-site specialist vascular surgical service
- On-site neurosurgery, cardiothoracic surgery and tertiary level neonatal ICU
- Statewide or interstate referral role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- 24 hour access to specialist vascular surgeon
- 24 hour access to neurosurgeon, cardiothoracic surgeon and specialist neonatal intensivist

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	4	5	5	6

Respiratory Medicine

Respiratory Medicine is the branch of medicine that diagnoses and manages diseases of the respiratory system. The service can be delivered by respiratory specialists at larger hospitals, performing emergency care and diagnostic tests through to registered medical practitioner providing outpatient services in smaller facilities.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Respiratory Medicine

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Respiratory Medicine

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Respiratory Medicine

Service description

A Level 3 service provides ambulatory respiratory care. Patients requiring admission for inpatient respiratory care should be transferred to a Level 4 or higher facility.

Service requirements

- Access to spirometry
- Access to some allied health services
- If there is a visiting respiratory specialist service, there is a need for a visiting basic lung function laboratory

Workforce requirements

- Visiting registered medical practitioner
- 24 hour access to a RN; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care
- Access to some allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	3	3	1

Level 4 Respiratory Medicine

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at Level 3 plus it provides care by a resident physician practicing in general medicine and / or specialist respiratory physician. Outpatient consultation is provided by respiratory physicians.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Access to a basic lung function laboratory (spirometry, volumes and gas transfer)
- Link with sleep service
- Designated allied health services

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Physician practicing in general medicine on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Access to a respiratory physician via telehealth or telephone
- Access to RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or extensive experience in respiratory nursing
- Access to designated allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4	4

Level 5 Respiratory Medicine

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus it provides inpatient care by a resident respiratory physician.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Strongly linked with Level 6 respiratory services in the network
- Category 3 or above respiratory function unit on-site and a bronchoscopy suite
- Ward-based non-invasive ventilatory capability
- Access to specialist cardiology and cardiothoracic surgery services on-site or within the network

- Provision of specialist pulmonary Rehabilitation Medicine Services
- Accredited respiratory advanced training program
- Strongly linked with sleep service
- Access to specialised allied health services

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- On-site respiratory physician
- Network access to respiratory physician on-call 24 hours
- Accredited respiratory medicine registrar
- Medical registrar on-site 24 hours
- CNC specialising in respiratory nursing and providing leadership for the service
- Access to specialised allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

Level 6 Respiratory Medicine

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus it provides a complete range of diagnostic services, a full range of respiratory services, with a respiratory department and provision of emergency care. This service plans and delivers statewide services and develops protocols for management of respiratory conditions that are used statewide.

The following procedures are not currently performed in Tasmania and are sent interstate:

- a) Bronchial thermoplasty
- b) Endobronchial lung volume reduction techniques.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Category 4 Respiratory function unit on-site
- Provides full diagnostic procedures
- Provides advanced bronchoscopy
- Integrated public sleep service with laboratory on-site
- Specialised medical ward with non-invasive ventilation (NIV) capability/area

- On-site Cardiothoracic Surgery and PET scanning
- Statewide and interstate referral role
- Active research role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- On-call respiratory medicine specialist
- Accredited respiratory medicine registrar(s)
- Advanced bronchoscopy provider(s)
- CNC position that complements RNs with specialist skills e.g. Lung cancer, Tuberculosis
- Specialist Respiratory Physiotherapist

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	6	5	6

Rheumatology

Rheumatology is a sub-specialty in internal medicine that diagnoses and manages non-surgical joint, muscle and bone conditions, and other rheumatic diseases.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Rheumatology

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Rheumatology

A Level 2 service provides outpatient management and appropriate referral of patients by a medical practitioner for patients who are under the care of a Level 5 or Level 6 Rheumatology service.

A Level 2 service has links with community nursing and allied health services.

Level 3 Rheumatology

A Level 3 service provides outpatient management and appropriate referral of patients by a physician practicing in general medicine or equivalent, and nurse-led ambulatory rheumatology services, for patients who are under the care of a Level 5 or Level 6 Rheumatology service.

A Level 3 service may participate in multi-disciplinary meetings with higher level services regarding patient management and has links with community nursing and allied health services.

Level 4 Rheumatology

Service description

A Level 4 service, in consultation with a visiting rheumatologist from a higher level service, provides on-site ambulatory rheumatology services.

The visiting rheumatologist from higher level service is responsible for clinical decisions regarding treatment and co-ordinating care.

A level 4 service is responsible for referring patients to a visiting rheumatologist from a higher level Rheumatology service for diagnosis, assessment and management of their condition.

Service requirements

- Designated ambulatory day beds with capacity to provide day case therapies in consultation with a higher level Rheumatology service, under medical supervision by an on-site physician practicing general medicine.
- Access to visiting rheumatologist for outpatient care (includes telehealth)
- Formal network linkage with higher level service for the referral of patients with rheumatological conditions (as specified in designated statewide musculoskeletal clinical pathways)

- Access to allied health services within the network

Workforce requirements

- Medical officer on site 24 hours
- Visiting specialist rheumatologist
- 24 hour access to physician practicing in general medicine (on call)
- Qualified and/or experienced RNs in the administration of biological and other therapies
- Access to designated allied health professional and psychological services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4	4

Level 5 Rheumatology

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus may provide some inpatient rheumatology services. This service has access to rheumatology multi-disciplinary teams.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Ambulatory and inpatient rheumatological care provided by appointed rheumatologist
- Access to multidisciplinary team including specialised allied health services and pharmacy
- Formal network linkage to Level 6 rheumatology service
- Access to infectious diseases service
- Access to on-site orthopaedic service
- Access to PET scanning and interventional radiology in the network
- Access to neurosurgery, spinal orthopaedics, vascular surgical services and pain management service in the network
- May have research role
- Access to rheumatology clinical trials service in the network

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Appointed rheumatology specialist
- Access to specialist rheumatology CNCs is desirable
- Medical registrar on-site and physician practicing in general medicine on call 24 hours

- Sub-specialists available on-site for consultation
- Access to designated specialised allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	5	5

Level 6 Rheumatology

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus a full range of clinical rheumatology services with 24 hour clinical and laboratory services available on-call.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Rheumatology department with Statewide referral role
- Provision of inpatient and ambulatory services
- Specialist rheumatology advice and support available 24 hours
- On-site pain management, infectious diseases, renal, and respiratory services
- On-site neurosurgery and spinal orthopaedics
- On-site PET scanning and interventional radiology
- On-site vascular surgical service
- Accredited rheumatology training programs
- Local clinical trials service

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- On-site rheumatology registrar
- May have rheumatologist on call 24 hours
- Specialist rheumatology RNs
- Specialist allied health services on-site
- Designated Physiotherapists with advanced scope of musculoskeletal practice on-site

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

Trauma Services

Trauma services provide initial assessment, stabilisation and management of patients presenting with trauma.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Trauma Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Trauma Services

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Trauma Services

Service description

A Level 3 service provides care for minor trauma only, and an initial trauma response including reception, assessment, resuscitation and stabilisation for major trauma and who require emergency transfer to a higher level trauma centre in accordance with state major trauma bypass procedures.

Service requirements

- Primary response for trauma cases that do not activate state major trauma bypass criteria
- Stabilisation prior to retrieval by road, fixed wing or rotary wing retrieval service
- Helicopter landing site
- Initial disaster response in a multi casualty event where the centre is the nearest emergency health service
- May have a access to emergency blood stock (e.g. O negative units) if supported by a higher centre blood service
- Contributes data to state trauma registry

Workforce requirements

- Medical doctor with postgraduate training in emergency management in attendance within 30 minutes
- On-site RN available 24 hours

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
-	-	3	2	2

Level 4 Trauma Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides services at Level 3 (i.e. primary response for trauma cases that do not activate state major trauma bypass criteria) plus the options for:

- 1) limited emergency surgical resuscitation and bleeding control of exsanguinating major trauma; and
- 2) limited local holding for stable major trauma cases for up to 24 hours in ICU.

Paediatric and obstetric major trauma may have primary trauma care, and management of immediately life threatening conditions only, prior to transfer to a Level 6 facility.

A Level 4 service is able to receive patients from a Level 3 service where transfer to a Level 5 or 6 service is not feasible or not warranted.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- On-site emergency and surgical management of non-major trauma
- Operating suites with 24 hour availability
- Prompt assessment, resuscitation and stabilisation of seriously injured patients prior to transfer to higher level service
- Trauma reception capability based on trauma team response
- Formal transfer arrangements in place with Level 5 and Level 6 Trauma Services
- On-site emergency department with 24 hours, seven days a week medical staffing
- On-site Critical Care Service with limited holding capacity
- Emergency blood stocks and limited blood product availability supported by a higher centre blood service
- Access to sub-speciality surgery services (e.g. neurosurgery and cardiothoracics) services within the network
- Role in management, assessment and treatment of minor trauma in multi-casualty disaster response

Workforce requirements

- Consultant surgeon (Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons) available within 30 minutes 24 hours
- Consultant anaesthetist (Fellow of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists) available within 30 minutes 24 hours
- Emergency medicine personnel available 24 hours
- RNs with experience and/or post graduate qualifications in emergency nursing

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4	4

Level 5 Trauma Services

Service description

A Level 5 service is a major trauma service that may provide primary response for trauma cases that do not activate state major trauma bypass criteria. This service also provides comprehensive clinical care for major trauma patients whose care needs do not include neurosurgery (including spinal injuries), cardiothoracic surgery, paediatric trauma, obstetric trauma and any other services and interventions not provided by the Level 5 service.

These cases may have primary trauma care and management of immediately life threatening conditions prior to transfer to the Level 6 facility.

A Level 5 service is able to receive patients from Level 3 or 4 services where transfer to a Level 6 service is not feasible or not warranted.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- On-site surgical specialty and sub-speciality disciplines available 24 hours
- Emergency department, operating theatres, adult ICU available 24 hours for trauma
- Role in management of major trauma cases up to 72 hours according to State Incident Management directives and longer if directed during multi-casualty disaster response mandating whole-of-state response
- Access to transfusion service support in the network, including blood bank and specialist haematology
- Medical imaging including MRI and limited interventional radiology services

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Specialist general, orthopaedic, urology and plastic-reconstructive surgeons available or on call 24 hours seven days a week
- 24 hour availability of consultant specialist anaesthetists in general capacity (Fellows of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists), emergency medicine physicians (Fellow of the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine) and critical care medicine physicians (Fellowship of the CICM of Australia and New Zealand)
- Director of Surgery (Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons) as Head of Trauma
- CNC specialising in trauma

- General surgery registrar, anaesthetic registrar, emergency department registrar, ICU registrar on site 24 hours, seven days a week
- Speciality registrars on-call 24 hours, seven days a week
- All surgical, anaesthetic, ICU and emergency department consultants on-call 24 hours, seven days a week
- Critical care medicine specialist (Fellow of the CICM of Australia and New Zealand) available 24 hours
- Access to specialist haematologist and transfusion medicine scientist in the network

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

Level 6 Trauma Services

Service description

A Level 6 service is a major trauma service that provides a full spectrum of care for the most critically injured patients, from initial reception and resuscitation through to discharge and rehabilitation

It is the principal hospital for all major trauma cases across the state, including capacity to receive of inter-hospital transfer of major trauma patients from all other levels of care

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- On-site elective and emergency surgery and perioperative care for statewide surgical services: neurosurgery, cardiothoracics, vascular, , oral and maxillofacial surgery
- On-site state services for neonatal and paediatric intensive care, and high risk obstetrics
- Interventional radiology services capable of intravascular intervention
- State trauma outreach responsibilities, both in terms of consultation and advice, as well as capability for pre-hospital responses, transport and intra-hospital retrieval
- Lead role in the coordination and management of mass casualty and disaster preparedness scenarios
- Responsibility for coordination of out of state transfers
- Trauma education: trauma curriculum including Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Emergency Management of Severe Trauma course centre, access to immersive simulation
- Research role

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- 24 hour availability of all senior consultant level surgical disciplines
- 24 hour availability of senior consultant specialist anaesthetists with both general and subspecialty capacity (Fellows of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists), emergency medicine physicians (Fellow of the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine) and critical care medicine physicians (Fellowship of the CICM of Australia and New Zealand)
- 24 hour availability of neonatologists, paediatric intensive care specialists, and obstetricians
- State major trauma service: appointed Director of Trauma Services; trauma nurse consultant; research, administrative and support staff
- On-site specialist haematologist and transfusion medicine scientists

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	5	6	6

Urology Services

Urology deals with the diagnosis and treatment of diseases of both the male and female urinary tract as well as the male reproductive tract. Depending on the role level of service provided, service components may range from day stay surgery and basic endoscopic procedures to elective and acute procedures including trans-urethral or trans-rectal procedures and trauma cases.

Appropriate levels of clinical support service provision are extremely important especially for anaesthetics, perioperative, pathology, imaging and Pharmacy as well as access to appropriate allied health services. Higher level urologic services rely on access and links to other appropriate specialists.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Urology Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Urology Services

No Level 2 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 3 Urology Services

No Level 3 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 4 Urology Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides common and intermediate day procedures on low risk patients performed by a visiting urologist or general surgeon credentialed in urology

Workforce requirements

- Visiting urologist or general surgeon credentialed in urology
- RNs with appropriate qualifications and/or experience; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care to patients
- Access to some allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
3	-	4	3	3

Level 5 Urology Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus it performs procedures on low or moderate risk patients by a visiting urologist.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Designated acute surgical inpatient unit with appropriately trained surgical specialist nursing staff
- Has links with cancer service and palliative care services

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Visiting urologist
- On-site general surgeon on-call 24 hours
- Surgical registrar on-call 24 hours
- Specialist anaesthetists on-site
- Specialist anaesthetists on-call 24 hours
- Anaesthetics registrar on-call 24 hours
- RNs/ENs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience in urology
- Access to CNC specialising in urology
- Access to designated allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	-	5	4	4

Level 6 Urology Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus it has the ability to deal with a full range of complex cases on low, moderate and high risk patients performed by an appointed urologist in association with other specialists.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Accredited urology surgical training program

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus:

- Urology consultant on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Urology registrars on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Dedicated CNC specialising in urology and providing leadership within the service
- Comprehensive continence service
- Access to specialised allied health services

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

Vascular Surgery Services

Vascular surgery is a specialty of surgery in which diseases of the venous, lymphatic, and arterial systems are diagnosed and managed. Depending on the level of service provided, vascular surgical services may include medical, minimally invasive endovascular and open surgical procedures.

Appropriate levels of infrastructure and clinical support service provision are important in vascular surgical services, especially anaesthetics, perioperative, intensive care, imaging, renal medicine, endocrinology and pharmacy services. Higher level vascular surgery services rely on access and links to other appropriate specialists, including cardiothoracic and interventional radiology services.

The scope of this Framework describes the service, its requirements and the minimum staffing needs and clinical support services required within each level.

Level 1 Vascular Services

No Level 1 service. Refer to higher level.

Level 2 Vascular Services

Service description

A Level 2 service provides routine day case vascular surgery for low risk patients requiring low complexity surgery.

Service requirements

- Appropriate vascular surgical and anaesthetic equipment available on-site
- Formal consultative links with specialist vascular surgeons 24 hours

Workforce requirements

- Visiting vascular surgeons
- General surgeons credentialed to perform low complexity vascular surgical procedures with scope of practice determined by the relevant credentialing committee with advice where deemed necessary from a specialist vascular surgeon
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or experience; RNs may be supported by ENs in providing care
- On-site allied health professionals with knowledge and experience caring for patients who receive vascular surgery

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
3	4	3	3

Level 3 Vascular Services

Service description

A Level 3 service provides inpatient, ambulatory and outpatient consulting for vascular surgery. General surgeons may perform basic vascular surgical procedures.

Service requirements

As for Level 2 plus:

- Appropriate vascular surgical and anaesthetic equipment available on-site
- Routine, day case and short stay superficial venous procedures
- On-site high dependency or intensive care services available to stabilise vascular surgical patients with emergency vascular surgical needs prior to their transfer to a higher level service
- Formal consultative links with specialist vascular surgeons 24 hours
- Specialist inpatient and outpatient consultations by visiting vascular surgeons
- Ability to receive back from a Level 5 centre patients requiring low level rehabilitation

Workforce requirements

- General surgeons credentialed to perform vascular surgical procedures with scope of practice determined by the relevant credentialing committee with advice where deemed necessary from a specialist vascular surgeon
- General surgeon available on-site
- General surgeon available on-call 24 hours
- RNs with post graduate qualifications and/or experience in vascular nursing
- On-site allied health professionals with knowledge and experience caring for patients who receive vascular surgery
- Specialist vascular sonographers

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
4	4	4	4	4

Level 4 Vascular Services

Service description

A Level 4 service provides elective vascular surgical procedures performed by appropriately credentialed general surgeons or by visiting vascular surgeons. Emergency vascular surgical services are provided within the scope of practise for on-site surgeons.

Service requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Routine vascular procedures
- Management of vascular trauma
- Surgical management of diabetic foot
- Elective renal access surgery performed by visiting vascular surgeons
- Hybrid operating theatre or appropriate angiography suite

Workforce requirements

As for Level 3 plus:

- Anaesthetists with appropriate vascular surgical anaesthetic experience and/or qualifications as determined by the credentialing process

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
5	5	5	5	5

Level 5 Vascular Services

Service description

A Level 5 service provides services at Level 4 plus it performs minor, moderate and major complexity elective vascular surgical procedures on low, moderate and high risk patients by vascular surgeons credentialed to perform vascular and endovascular surgical procedures. Emergency procedures are performed by vascular surgeons.

Service requirements

As for Level 4 plus

- Complicated open vascular surgery
- Highly complex endovascular procedures
- Statewide provision of emergency vascular surgery services
- Outreach elective renal access surgery performed at lower level vascular sites in the network
- Management of complex vascular trauma
- Surgical management of complex diabetic foot
- Link with Level 5 Rehabilitation Service
- Multidisciplinary meeting with associated specialties e.g. medical imaging, renal medicine, stroke medicine
- Hybrid operating theatre or appropriate angiography suite

Workforce requirements

As for Level 4 plus:

- Appointed vascular surgeons on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Accredited vascular surgery trainee
- Level 6 Interventional Radiology
- Specialist vascular sonographers
- RNs with appropriate postgraduate qualifications and/or perioperative experience in vascular surgery
- CNC specialising in and providing leadership in vascular surgical nursing
- Specialist vascular surgery nurses in the operating theatres and outpatient clinics

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	6	6	6

Level 6 Vascular Services

Service description

A Level 6 service provides services at Level 5 plus it has the ability to deal with complex, infrequent major vascular surgical diagnostic and treatment procedures in association with other specialties.

Service requirements

As for Level 5 plus

- Dedicated vascular surgical ward
- On-site interdisciplinary amputee service
- On-site Level 6 Rehabilitation Service

Workforce requirements

As for Level 5 plus

- Advanced vascular surgery fellow on-site and on-call 24 hours
- Credentialed specialist vascular anaesthetists on-call 24 hours
- RNs with appropriate post graduate qualifications and/or extensive experience in vascular surgery on-site 24 hours
- Specialist vascular allied health professionals available on-site 24 hours

Support service requirements

Anaesthetics	ICU/HDU	Pathology	Pharmacy	Imaging
6	6	6	6	6

