

Grey, Christine W (DHHS)

From: Scott Ragg <Scott.Ragg@utas.edu.au>
Sent: Thursday, 19 February 2015 1:57 PM
To: One Health System (DHHS)
Subject: Green paper feedback

I would like to provide feedback in regard to the Tasmania Role Delineation Framework, specifically what I view as anomalies in the level of Pathology Support Services proposed for some Core Services.

It is submitted that Level 6 Pathology Services are required to support Level 5 and Level 6 Trauma Services, Level 6 Renal Services, Level 6 Cardiology Services and Level 5 and Level 6 Infectious Diseases Services.

Trauma Services

Both Level 5 and Level 6 Trauma Services are proposed in the Tasmania Role Delineation Framework to require Level 5 Pathology Support.

On Page 38, a Level 5 Trauma Service is stated to require "Full transfusion service support including blood bank and specialist haematologist".

A "specialist haematologist" is a Pathology subspecialist, with the Level 5 Pathology Support descriptor making no provision for subspecialist pathologists. The Level 5 Pathology descriptor at p17 only requires "Formal access to sub-specialist pathology services from a Level 6 Pathology service within the network". As such, the Level 5 Pathology Service does not meet the requirements for a Level 5 Trauma Service. The Level 6 Pathology Service descriptor, at p18, provides for "subspecialist pathologists", which meets the requirement for support required by a Level 5 Trauma Service.

It is submitted Level 6 Pathology Support is required for a Level 5 Trauma Service.

Consequently, a Level 6 Trauma Service will then require a Level 6 Pathology Support.

An apparent omission from the Workforce Requirements for a Level 6 Trauma Service is "Specialist haematologists and transfusion medicine scientists for the management of massive blood transfusion". It is unclear how a Level 6 Trauma Service can not make provision for massive blood transfusion. Furthermore, a Level 6 Pathology Service is required, at p39, to support the Vascular Surgery services required by a Level 6 Trauma Service/

Renal Services

A Level 6 Renal Service requires, at p81, on-site specialist vascular surgical service and on-site neurosurgery, cardiothoracic surgery and tertiary level neonatal ICU. The present draft of the Tasmania Role Delineation Framework states all of these require Level 6 Pathology Support; therefore by extension, Level 6 Renal Service also requires Level 6 Pathology Support.

Cardiology Services

A Level 6 Cardiology Service requires "on-site cardiothoracic surgery". Cardiothoracic surgery requires the support of specialist haematologists (a Pathology subspeciality) to manage major bleeding and coagulation issues. As such, the level of Pathology Support Service Requirements should be increased to Level 6, as a Level 5 Pathology Support Service does not include subspeciality pathologists. It should be noted that both Cardiothoracic Surgery and Vascular Surgery require Level 6 Pathology Service in the draft Tasmania Role Delineation Framework and the same level of Pathology service is therefore required for a Level 6 cardiology service.

Infectious Diseases Services

Both Level 5 and 6 Infectious Diseases Services require, at p72, on-site clinical microbiologists. Clinical microbiologists are sub-specialist pathologists. As stated above, only the descriptor for a Level 6 Pathology Service provides for sub-specialist form part of the Level 6 Pathology Support Service descriptor.

As such, Level 6 Pathology Services are required to support Level 5 and Level 6 Infectious Diseases Services.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission in regard to the Delivering Safe and Sustainable Services Green Paper.

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