
TITLE : CHEMOTHERAPY PROGRAM**DISTRIBUTION:** ALL PUBLIC HOSPITALS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

1. Purpose

The purpose of this program bulletin is to describe the chemotherapy program that will continue to be a study-only program in 2002/2003

2. Background

Activity in the chemotherapy program is monitored to ensure it develops in line with Department of Health (DOH) key allocation principles: equitable access, innovative service delivery and value and quality for money.

3. Program Development

Limited progress in program development occurred in 2001/2002. A number of issues were identified and listed for closer study. These include reporting methods, drug-pricing methods, and possible alternative models for the delivery of chemotherapy services.

The program will continue to be developmental only in 2002/2003. Work will focus on closer examination of chemotherapy costs and exploring cost effective and patient focused ways to provide services.

In 2002/2003 all chemotherapy activity in the public sector will be funded as episodes of care. Contractual arrangements will be made with private providers.

Chemotherapy activity under review includes specific services identified as nurse assisted outpatient day treatments, which are provided as occasions of service.

4. Specifications**Chemotherapy Activity Definition**

In 2002/2003, chemotherapy program activity is defined as those episodes of care falling under DRG R63Z. However other chemotherapy services falling under other DRGs will also be funded as episodes of care.

5. Reporting Requirements

All providers will be responsible for collating and forwarding activity reports as specified by:

- The Service and Financial Plans (SFPs), or
- A contractual arrangement between private sector providers and the DOH.

All reporting by providers will be in line with the following DOH Technical Bulletins (or any revisions as they are published from time to time):

Technical Bulletin	17/3	Admission Policy for WA Hospitals
Technical Bulletin	19/4	Scheduled Non-Admitted Patient Services Information Reporting

Special audits of chemotherapy activity will take place in the public sector every two years. These audits will be separate to other general activity audits. Providers are advised to refer to the following Technical Bulletin for further information:

Technical Bulletin	12/5	Auditing of Hospital Records and Procedures
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The Corporate & Finance Division will be responsible for analysing activity reports and reconciling activity and funds through resource allocation policy mechanisms and contractual arrangements.

6. Business Rules

The following business rules will apply to chemotherapy activity:

- Activity will be recorded at the site of service provision.
- Overall activity levels for 2002/2003 will be set by Health Services but will be capped at 2001/2002 levels. Planned and actual activity beyond the set level must be negotiated with the Corporate & Finance Division.
- All providers will meet reporting requirements as specified by the SFPs, contractual requirements and relevant Technical Bulletins as published from time to time.
- The Corporate & Finance Division will analyse activity reports and reconcile funding as per the resource allocation model or as provided under specific contractual arrangements.