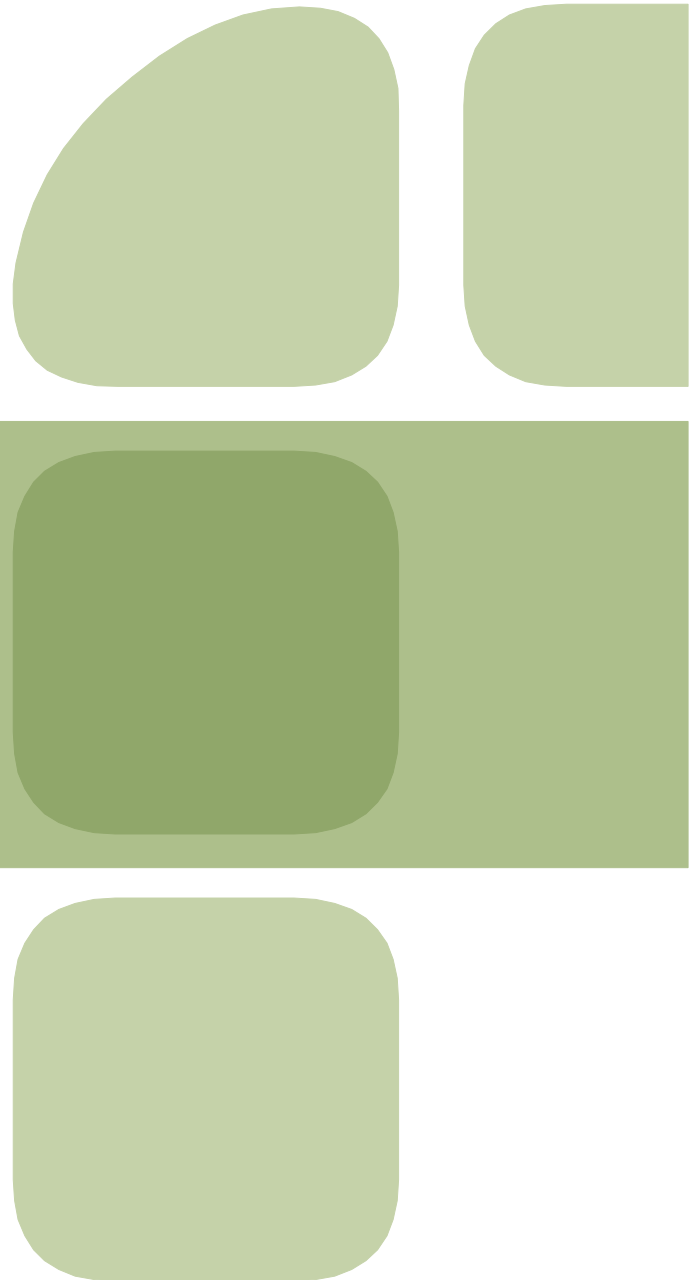




WA HEALTH DAY THERAPY UNIT SERVICE DELIVERY GUIDELINES 2014





WA HEALTH DAY THERAPY UNIT SERVICE DELIVERY GUIDELINES 2014

1. BACKGROUND

The WA Health Day Therapy Unit Service Delivery Guidelines 2014 (the Guidelines) have been developed to support service delivery at Day Therapy Units (DTUs) throughout WA Health.

The Guidelines aim to support the following key objectives for DTUs:

- Streamline services.
- Increase efficiency in service delivery.
- Maximise consistency.
- Improve equity.
- Enhance coordination.
- Delivery evidence-based best practice.

All WA Health DTUs are to develop and implement site specific processes to deliver safe, timely, efficient, and evidence-based services that align with the Guidelines.

2. POLICY

The DTUs provide services to (predominantly) older persons in the ambulatory care setting as part of the range of subacute care services across WA Health. They are located as part of public hospital sites or as part of the public component of a public-private partnership hospital arrangement.

DTU services support older persons, their families and carers during their transition from hospital admission to the community and can also be accessed directly from the community to prevent the need for a hospital presentation.

Demand for DTU services is expected to increase to meet the demands of increased pressure on inpatient services, demographic changes and the benefits of evidence-based care provided in the community.

The (WA Department of Health 2009), informed by the (Health Reform Committee 2004) and (WA Department of Health 2010) outlines the strategic framework to increase the range of subacute care services in the ambulatory care setting and enable service delivery to occur closer to where patients live.

The National Partnership Agreement (NPA) on Hospital and Health Workforce Reform (HHWR) – Schedule C: Subacute care provided substantial opportunity to expand and diversify WA subacute care services. Across WA, DTUs received funding to increase service delivery, particularly in areas of need.

The NPA on Improving Public Health Services (IPHS) – Schedule E: Subacute care provided further funding to establish or expand DTUs in country areas, enabling services closer to where patients live and enhancing the continuum of subacute care in the community.

The increased funding and subsequent increased range of DTU services across WA Health has seen the need to develop a formal set of guidelines specifically applicable to the operations of DTUs. Through aligning service delivery processes, the Guidelines assist in maintaining equitable and consistent care across DTUs.

A review of DTUs in 2009 was carried out by the Clinical Advisory Committee (Aged Care) at the request of the Director-General of Health. The Review of Day Therapy Units – June 2009 (WA Department of Health 2009) concentrated on recommendations to strengthen and expand the range of subacute rehabilitation provided by DTUs, promote service model development and provide system support.

Following the Review, the DTU Model of Service Delivery – June 2010 (WA Department of Health 2010) was developed to concentrate on standardising service delivery models, documentation, key performance indicators, outcome measures and reporting practices across all DTUs. Above all, it promoted the development of a comprehensive, integrated assessment for frail older people and a multidisciplinary approach to rehabilitation and management.

The WA Health Day Therapy Unit Service Delivery Guidelines 2014 builds on the previous recommendations and provide practical material and guidelines to support the consistent delivery of services across all DTUs in WA.

3. DEFINITIONS

Subacute Care	Care that aims to improve the quality of life for patients who have a functional impairment by maximising their functional capacity and independence through goal-oriented, time-limited multidisciplinary intervention and management
Day Therapy Unit	As part of the range of subacute care services, DTUs provide non-admitted services to predominantly older persons across WA. The services provided include geriatric evaluation and management clinics, nursing and allied health assessment and therapy. DTUs can be accessed following a hospital admission or directly from the community. Standard range of clinics that a DTU runs include: Falls clinic, Memory Clinic, Geriatric Medical Clinic, Continence Clinic.

4. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This document is applicable to all WA Health DTU services.

The Heads of Geriatric Medicine Department have the responsibility to:

- ensure the effective dissemination of this Operational Directive.
- ensure the observance of this Operational Directive.

DTU Coordinators have the responsibility to:

- ensure that all respective DTU staff have access to the Guidelines.
- coordinate the implementation of site-specific processes to align with the Guidelines.
- coordinate the ongoing audit and evaluation to ensure adherence to the Guidelines.

All WA Health DTU staff have the responsibility to:

- comply with this Operational Directive.
- assist in the implementation of site-specific processes to align with the Guidelines.
- provide feedback related to the Guidelines to their coordinators.

5. COMPLIANCE

Compliance with this Operational Directive is mandatory.

6. EVALUATION

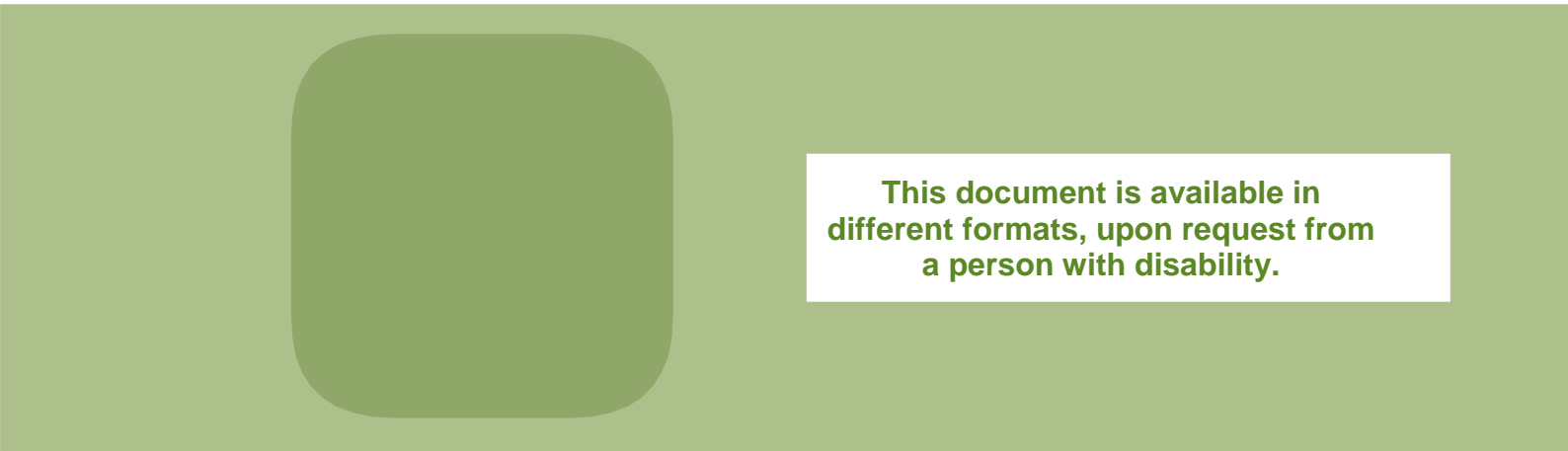
It is recommended that all WA Health DTU services undertake ongoing audit and evaluation to ensure adherence to the guiding principles detailed in the WA Health Day Therapy Unit Service Delivery Guidelines 2014.

The evaluation process should form part of each DTU's accreditation process under the:

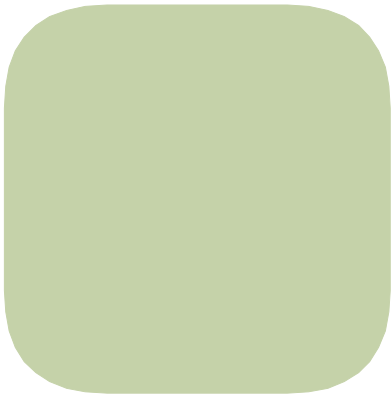
- [National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards](#) (ACSQHC 2011) criteria – 1.6.1, 1.6.2, 1.7.1, 1.7.2.
- [EQuIP National Standards](#) (ACHS 2012) criteria – 11.3.1, 11.4.1, 11.4.2, 11.5.1, 11.6.1, 11.7.1, 11.7.2, 11.8.1, 11.10.1, 12.1.2, 12.2.1, 12.2.2, 12.3.1, 12.4.1, 12.8.1, 12.8.2, 12.8.3, 12.10.1, 12.10.3, 14.1.1, 14.6.1, 14.6.2.

7. REFERENCES

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2. The Health Reform Committee. 2004. A Healthy Future for Western Australians. Perth: WA Department of Health.
3. Western Australia Department of Health, 2010. WA Health Clinical Services Framework 2010-2020. Perth: WA Department of Health.
4. Western Australia Department of Health. 2009. Review of Day Therapy Unit – 2009. Perth: WA Department of Health.
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