Government of Western Australia
Department of Health

Nurse/Midwife to Patient Ratios: Wards/Units in Scope for Implementation

Chief Nursing and Midwifery Office

Purpose of Document

This document provides mandatory requirements to support Health Service Providers (HSPs) in the application of MP 0187/24 *Nurse/Midwife to Patient Ratios Policy* (policy). It outlines the current wards/units in scope for implementation of Nurse/Midwife to Patient Ratios (ratios).

This document must be read in conjunction with the policy. Relevant HSPs must enact their responsibilities under the policy in line with the ratio category and reporting dates outlined in this document.

This related document will be updated as required. HSPs must ensure that the latest version is accessed via MP 0187/24 *Nurse/Midwife to Patient Ratios Policy*.

Ratio categories

Table 1 describes the relevant ratio categories, and the definition for each category.

Table 1: Ratio categories and definitions

Category	**Minimum ratio**	**Description**
Medical and Surgical	1:4 + 1 Hands – Free Shift Coordinator (HFSC) (AM) 1:4 + 1 HFSC (PM) 1:7 (Night)	A multi-day inpatient ward, in which patient presentations include acute or chronic illness/injury, multiple comorbidities and patients recovering from surgery. Is also an area of a hospital into which patients admitted via the emergency department are transferred for the provision of high complexity acute health care.
Intensive Care Unit (ICU)	1:1, OR 1:2 for lower acuity ICU patients + 1 HFSC (AM, PM, Night) HSPs must consider the need for additional staffing as per the Australian College of Critical Care Nursing (ACCCN) Workforce Standards	A designated ward which is specially staffed and equipped to provide observation, care and treatment to patients with actual or potential life-threatening illness, injuries or complications from which recovery is possible.
Paediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU)	1:1, OR 1:2 for lower acuity PICU patients + 1 HFSC (AM, PM, Night) HSPs must consider the need for additional staffing as per the Australian College of Critical Care Nursing (ACCCN) Workforce Standards	A ward which is specially staffed and equipped to provide observation, care and treatment to children with actual or potential life-threatening illness, injuries or complications from which recovery is possible.
Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)	1:1, OR 1:2 for lower acuity NICU patients + 1 HFSC (AM, PM, Night) HSPs must consider the need for additional staffing as per the Australian College of Critical Care Nursing (ACCCN) Workforce Standards	Discrete, environmentally controlled units that are designed, equipped, and staffed to care for premature, medically unstable or critically ill neonates that require continuous respiratory support or other intensive interventions.
Coronary Care Unit	1:2 + 1 HFSC (AM) 1:2 + 1 HFSC (PM) 1:3 + 1 HFSC (Night)	A multi-day inpatient ward, or part of such a ward, of specialised critical care beds dedicated to acute care, treatment and monitoring of patients with serious or unstable cardiac diseases.

High Acuity Medical and Surgical	1:3 + 1 HFSC (AM) 1:3 + 1 HFSC (PM) 1:6 (Night)	A multi-day inpatient high acuity medical and surgical ward/unit providing significantly more complex nursing care and interventions to higher acuity patients within subspeciality medical and surgical categories. These wards provide ICU step down care and high dependency patient nursing care.
Rehabilitation (Sub Acute)	1:5 + 1 HFSC (AM) 1:5 + 1 HFSC (PM) 1:9 (Night)	A multi-day inpatient ward/unit, or part of such a ward/unit, providing slow stream/sub-acute rehabilitation programs for people of any age who have physical disability, are frail, chronically ill or recovering from traumatic injury of illness.

Assigned ratio category for wards/units in scope for implementation of ratios per Health Service Provider

Table 2 describes the wards/units in scope for implementation of ratios at Child and Adolescent Health Service (CAHS), their assigned ratio category and relevant dates regarding mandatory compliance reporting.

Table 2: CAHS -Assigned ratio category by ward/unit in scope for implementation

Hospital	Ward/Unit	Ratio Category	Ratios implementation commencement date	Grace period conclusion date	Compliance report due date
Perth Children's Hospital	Ward 1B	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	31 July 2026
Perth Children's Hospital	Ward 2A	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	31 July 2026
Perth Children's Hospital	Ward 2B	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	31 July 2026
Perth Children's Hospital	Ward 4A	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	31 July 2026
Perth Children's Hospital	Ward 4B	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	31 July 2026
Perth Children's Hospital	Ward 3A	Paediatric Intensive Care Unit	23 February 2026	23 June 2026	31 January 2027
Perth Children's Hospital	Ward 3B	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit	23 February 2026	23 June 2026	31 January 2027
King Edward Memorial Hospital	Special Care Nursery 3	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit	23 February 2026	23 June 2026	31 January 2027
Perth Children's Hospital	Ward 1A	High Acuity Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Perth Children's Hospital	Ward 3C	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027

Table 3 describes the wards/units in scope for implementation of ratios at East Metropolitan Health Service (EMHS), their assigned ratio category and relevant dates regarding mandatory compliance reporting.

Table 3: EMHS -Assigned ratio category by ward/unit in scope for implementation

Hospital	Ward/Unit	Ratio Category	Ratios implementation commencement date	Grace period conclusion date	Compliance report due date
Armadale Health Service	Campbell Ward	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Armadale Health Service	Canning Ward	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Armadale Health Service	Colyer Ward	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Royal Perth Hospital	Ward 6G	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Royal Perth Hospital	Ward 5G	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Royal Perth Hospital	Ward 3H	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Royal Perth Hospital	Ward 10C	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Royal Perth Hospital	Ward 9A	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Royal Perth Hospital	Ward 7A	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Royal Perth Hospital	Ward 8A	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Royal Perth Hospital	Intensive Care Unit	Intensive Care Unit	23 February 2026	23 June 2026	31 January 2027
Royal Perth Hospital	Coronary Care Unit	Coronary Care Unit	23 February 2026	23 June 2026	31 January 2027
Armadale Health Service	Intensive Care Unit	Intensive Care Unit	23 February 2026	23 June 2026	31 January 2027
Armadale Health Service	23 Hour Ward/Surgical Unit	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Armadale Health Service	Carl Streich Ward	Rehabilitation (Sub Acute) and Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Kalamunda Hospital	Anderton Ward	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Bentley Hospital	Ward 3	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Bentley Hospital	Ward 12	Rehabilitation (Sub Acute)	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Royal Perth Hospital	Ward 4A	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Royal Perth Hospital	Ward 4B	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Royal Perth Hospital	Ward 4F	High Acuity Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Royal Perth Hospital	Ward 10A	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027

Table 4 describes the wards/units in scope for implementation of ratios at North Metropolitan Health Service (NMHS) (includes contractual agreement between NMHS and Hollywood Private Hospital, Wood Ward) and their assigned ratio category and relevant dates regarding mandatory compliance reporting.

Table 4: Table 4: NMHS -Assigned ratio category by ward/unit in scope for implementation

Hospital	Ward/Unit	Ratio Category	Ratios implementation commencement date	Grace period conclusion date	Compliance report due date
Osborne Park Hospital	Ward 6	Medical and Surgical	7 October 2024	10 February 2025	10 August 2025
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	Ward C16	Medical and Surgical	7 October 2024	10 February 2025	10 August 2025
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	Ward C17	Medical and Surgical	7 October 2024	10 February 2025	10 August 2025
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	Ward G53	Medical and Surgical	7 October 2024	10 February 2025	10 August 2025
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	Ward G61	Medical and Surgical	7 October 2024	10 February 2025	10 August 2025
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	Ward G66	Medical and Surgical	7 October 2024	10 February 2025	10 August 2025
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	Ward G73	Medical and Surgical	7 October 2024	10 February 2025	10 August 2025
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	Ward G74	Medical and Surgical	7 October 2024	10 February 2025	10 August 2025
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	Hollywood Private Hospital - Woods Ward	Medical and Surgical	7 October 2024	10 February 2025	10 August 2025
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	Intensive Care Unit	Intensive Care Unit	23 February 2026	23 June 2026	31 January 2027
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	Coronary Care Unit	Coronary Care Unit	23 February 2026	23 June 2026	31 January 2027
King Edward Memorial Hospital	Adult Special Care Unit	High Acuity Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
King Edward Memorial Hospital	Emergency Centre	High Acuity Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Osborne Park Hospital	Ward 2	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Osborne Park Hospital	Ward 3	Rehabilitation (Sub Acute)	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Osborne Park Hospital	Ward 4	Rehabilitation (Sub Acute)	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Osborne Park Hospital	Ward 7	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	Ward G52	High Acuity Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027

Table 5 describes the wards/units in scope for implementation of ratios at South Metropolitan Health Service (SMHS), their assigned ratio category and relevant dates regarding mandatory compliance reporting.

Table 5: SMHS -Assigned ratio category by ward/unit in scope for implementation

Hospital	Ward/Unit	Ratio Category	Ratios implementation commencement date	Grace period conclusion date	Compliance report due date
Fiona Stanley Hospital	Ward 4A	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Fiona Stanley Hospital	Ward 6D	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Fiona Stanley Hospital Medihotel	Ward M6	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Fiona Stanley Hospital Medihotel	Ward M7	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Fremantle Hospital	Ward D5	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Fremantle Hospital	Ward B8S	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Rockingham General Hospital	Medical Ward	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Rockingham General Hospital	Multi Stay Surgical Unit	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Rockingham General Hospital	Moordibirdup Ward	Medical and Surgical	21 July 2025	21 November 2025	21 May 2026
Fiona Stanley Hospital	Intensive Care Unit	Intensive Care Unit	23 February 2026	23 June 2026	31 January 2027
Fiona Stanley Hospital	Coronary Care Unit	Coronary Care Unit	23 February 2026	23 June 2026	31 January 2027
Fiona Stanley Hospital	Ward 3B	Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and Special Care Nursery	23 February 2026	23 June 2026	31 January 2027
Rockingham General Hospital	Intensive Care Unit	Intensive Care Unit	23 February 2026	23 June 2026	31 January 2027
Fiona Stanley Hospital	Ward 5D	High Acuity Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Fiona Stanley Hospital	Ward 7D	High Acuity Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Fiona Stanley Hospital	State Rehabilitation Service Ward 2A	Rehabilitation (Sub Acute)	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Fiona Stanley Hospital Medihotel	Ward M5	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Fremantle Hospital	Ward B3	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Fremantle Hospital	Ward D4	Rehabilitation (Sub Acute)	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Fremantle Hospital	Ward B7N	Rehabilitation (Sub Acute)	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Fremantle Hospital	Ward B7S	Rehabilitation (Sub Acute)	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Fremantle Hospital	Ward B9N	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Fremantle Hospital	Ward B9S	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Peel Health Campus	Barker Ward	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Peel Health Campus	Cove Ward	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Peel Health Campus	Sarich Ward	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Peel Health Campus	Whelan Ward	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027
Rockingham General Hospital	Aged Care Rehabilitation Unit	Medical and Surgical	26 October 2026	26 February 2027	31 July 2027

Document Control

Version	Published Date	Amendments
1	30 September 2024	Original Version
2	1 July 2025	Inclusion of wards/units in scope across metropolitan HSPs, including CAHS ,EMHS, NMHS, CAHS and SMHS.
3	16 February 2026	Inclusion of ratios for Intensive Care Units, Coronary Care Units, Paediatric Intensive Care Units and Neonatal Intensive Care Units and associated wards/units in scope.
4	19 October 2026	• Inclusion of High Acuity Medical and Surgical Category and Rehabilitation (Sub Acute) categories and associated wards/units in scope. • New layout of tables and headings for policy related dates.

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