



Engagement of Medical Practitioners Under Contracts for Services Policy

1. Purpose

This Policy regulates and ensures uniform terms of engagement, by Health Service Providers, of Contracted Medical Practitioners to provide medical services to public patients admitted to a public health care facility.

This Policy is a mandatory requirement under the *Procurement Policy Framework* pursuant to section 26(2)(i) of the *Health Services Act 2016*.

2. Applicability

This Policy is applicable to Health Service Providers.

3. Policy requirements

When engaging a medical practitioner under a contract for services, Health Service Providers must ensure that the contracts entered into are consistent with the:

- [Fee For Service Medical Services Agreement Template no subcontractors](#)
- [Fee For Service Medical Services Agreement Template with subcontractors](#)
- [Day Rate Medical Services Agreement Template.](#)

Health Service Providers must adapt the standard templates and adopt Health Service Provider specific templates for all classes of Contracted Medical Practitioner engagement. Health Service Providers must obtain the prior approval of the Policy Owner for Health Service Provider specific templates.

4. Compliance monitoring

Health Service Providers are responsible for ensuring compliance with this Policy.

Health Service Providers must maintain comprehensive records of all engagements of Contracted Medical Practitioners. Health Service Providers must provide for systematic auditing of compliance with this Policy as part of the Health Service Providers' internal audit plans. The System Manager will use the results of Health Service Provider compliance audits and records relevant to the administration of Medical Services Agreement to monitor compliance with and evaluate the effectiveness of the Policy. The System Manager may also conduct audits into Health Service Provider compliance with the Policy.

5. Related documents

The following documents are mandatory pursuant to this Policy:

- [Fee For Service Medical Services Agreement Template no subcontractors](#)
- [Fee For Service Medical Services Agreement Template with subcontractors](#)
- [Day Rate Medical Services Agreement Template](#)

6. Supporting information

The following information is not mandatory but informs and/or supports the implementation of this Policy:

- N/A

7. Definitions

The following definition(s) are relevant to this Policy.

Term	Definition
Contracted Medical Practitioner (CMP)	A medical practitioner engaged by a Health Service Provider under a Medical Services Agreement to provide medical and other services in a Health Care Facility.
Medical Service Agreement (MSA)	A contract for the provision of medical services between a medical practitioner and a Health Service Provider.
Health Care Facility	A place or places (however titled) in which a medical practitioner undertakes clinical practice including, but not limited to, a hospital, a mental health facility or community health service under the control of a Health Service Provider.

8. Policy contact

Enquiries relating to this Policy may be directed to:

Title: Director Legal and Legislative Services

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9. Document control

Version	Published date	Effective from	Review date	Effective to	Amendment(s)
MP0079/18	14 February 2018	14 February 2018	January 2021	28 May 2019	Original version
MP0079/18 v.1.1	28 May 2019	28 May 2019	January 2021	30 June 2021	Minor amendment – fixed broken links
MP0079/18 v.2.0	30 April 2021	1 July 2021	June 2024	Current	Major amendment (details below)
• Policy transitioned to the current Policy template.					

- Related documents *Medical Services Agreement Templates* reviewed and updated to clearly define obligations of contracted medical practitioners, align with Mandatory Policy requirements and comply with legislative requirements.
- As a full Policy review was undertaken, a new review cycle will now commence.

10. Approval

Initial approval	Dr David Russell-Weisz, Director General, Department of Health
	12 February 2018
Current version approved	Nicole O’Keefe, Assistant Director General, Strategy and Governance, Department of Health
	29 April 2021

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