

Statewide and regional scope of clinical practice

Department of Health Standard

QH-IMP-390-3

1. Statement

Statewide and regional services are coordinated by the Department of Health (the department) or a Hospital and Health Service (HHS) and provided to multiple other HHSs across Queensland. Examples of these services are listed in HHS Service Agreements, Schedule 2 Funding and Purchased Activity and Services (Section 7), Purchased Services.

It is important to note this standard requires the collaboration of both the HHSs and the department to enact. Therefore, the content within this standard is also incorporated reciprocally in the *Health Service Directive: Credentialing and defining the scope of clinical practice* (QH-HSD-034) (the HSD). References to HHSs and the department within this standard are relevant.

2. Scope

This standard applies to all employees, contractors, and consultants within the department divisions and business units. Refer to the department standard *Credentialing and defining the scope of clinical practice process* (QH-IMP-390-2) for details of which health professionals require SoCP.

For a service to be eligible to approve statewide or regional SoCP, the service must require health professionals to travel to other HHSs and meet at least one of the following criteria:

- A statewide or regional service approved in accordance with the department's policy *Statewide services* (QH-POL-488)
- Listed in an HHS Service Agreement, Schedule 2 Funding, Purchased Activity and Services (Section 7), Purchased Services, as one of the following:
 - State-funded outreach services
 - Clinical statewide services
 - Clinical support statewide services
 - Regional services
 - Rural and remote clinical support services
 - Prevention services
- Operate an indisputable statewide or regional service by virtue of having a single service and single employer model whereby those health professionals travel across the state or to multiple HHSs.

The provision of these services requires health professionals to travel to facilities in other HHSs. These health professionals are therefore eligible to have an appropriate defined SoCP relevant to the service. Department divisions responsible for coordinating and managing a service listed in this standard can approve the relevant and appropriate statewide or regional SoCP.

3. Requirements

3.1. Amendments to statewide and regional services

Amendments to services listed in this standard must be reciprocated in Schedule A of the HSD.

An amendment to this standard will be done in accordance with the department's *Policy Management Implementation Standard (QH-IMP-042)*.

The relevant HHS/department division shall give two months' notice in writing to the Policy Custodian of any proposed changes to services listed in this standard.

The final policy and standard documents and the relevant approval form must be completed and forwarded to the policy custodian and departmental leadership team member for checking and approval.

3.2. Accountabilities

The Health Service Chief Executive of the HHS or the Deputy Director-General (or equivalent) of the department division who employs/engages a health professional with a designated approved statewide or regional SoCP shall:

- Ensure applications for credentialing and SoCP are considered and approved within appropriate policy frameworks.
- Ensure the health professional has appropriate SoCP for the service provided.
- Notify other relevant HHSs/department divisions of the health professional's statewide or regional SoCP status.
- As the employer, manage any clinical performance issues that may occur with the provision of services listed in this standard.

Where relevant, the recipient HHS to the statewide or regional service shall:

- Accept the credentialing and SoCP of health professionals for that service.

The recipient HHS may undertake additional assurance processes, in consultation with the employing/engaging HHS/department division, to ensure the approved SoCP aligns with the recipient HHS's Clinical Services Capability Framework (CSCF) and policy.

- Continue to exercise due diligence by monitoring the professional's SoCP at the local level.
- Manage any immediate local patient safety concern/s that may arise with a health professional, and immediately notify the HHS/department division which granted the statewide or regional SoCP of the concerns.

4. Statewide and regional services

Statewide and regional services include the following:

4.1. Department of Health

The Department of Health coordinates several statewide services and engages health professionals to undertake roles which have a statewide remit or responsibility.

Some departmental health professionals are engaged to undertake statewide roles that are authorised or delegated to function, as required, by legislation. The following positions do not require a statewide SoCP to enact their relevant statewide role:

- Chief Health Officer
- Deputy Chief Health Officer/s
- Chief Psychiatrist
- Executive and Medical Directors, Communicable Diseases Branch, Queensland Public Health and Scientific Services Division

The following department services are recognised as statewide for the purpose of credentialing and SoCP:

- BreastScreen Queensland
- Queensland Ambulance Service
- Retrieval Services Queensland
 - Medical coordination services
 - Pre-hospital and retrieval services.
- Pathology Queensland including Forensic Pathology and Coronial Services

4.2. Carins and Hinterland HHS

Regional services as follows:

- Community Forensic Outreach Service:
 - Services to Cairns and Hinterland and Torres and Cape HHSs.

- Court Liaison Service:
 - Services to Cairns and Hinterland and Torres and Cape HHSs.
- North Queensland Forensic Adolescent Mental Health Services:
 - Services to Cairns and Hinterland and Torres and Cape HHSs.
- Specialist outreach clinical services to Torres and Cape HHS:
 - Anaesthetics
 - Cardiology
 - Endocrinology
 - Gastroenterology/Endoscopy
 - General Medicine
 - General Surgery
 - Haematology
 - Immunology
 - Infectious Diseases
 - Nephrology
 - Obstetrics and Gynaecology
 - Oncology
 - Orthopaedic Surgery
 - Palliative care
 - Paediatrics and child health
 - Pain Management
 - Plastics and Reconstructive Surgery
 - Psychiatry
 - Respiratory Medicine
 - Urology
 - Vascular surgery
- Specialist Public Health Unit:
 - Services to Cairns and Hinterland and Torres and Cape HHSs.
- Respiratory Medicine Services (includes Thoracic, Tuberculosis and Sleep Medicine):
 - Services to Cairns and Hinterland and Torres and Cape HHSs, and parts of North West HHS.

4.3. Central Queensland HHS

Regional services as follows:

- Court Liaison Service:
 - Services to Central Queensland and Central West HHSs.
- Specialist Public Health Unit:
Services to Central Queensland and Central West HHS.
- Tuberculosis Services:
 - Services to Central Queensland and Central West HHSs.

4.4. Children's Health Queensland HHS

Statewide services are as follows:

- Consultation Liaison Child and Youth Psychiatry Services
- Cardiac Surgery for Children and Young People
- Cardiology Services for Children and Young People
- Child Development
- Deadly Ears Program
- Forensic Adolescent Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drugs Program
- General Paediatric Medicine
- Paediatric Allergy and Immunology
- Paediatric Burns and Trauma
- Paediatric Haematology
- Paediatric Infectious Diseases
- Paediatric Metabolic Medicine
- Paediatric and Neonatal Surgery
- Paediatric Nephrology
- Paediatric Neurosciences
- Paediatric Oncology
- Paediatric Ophthalmology
- Paediatric Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
- Paediatric Orthopaedic Surgery
- Paediatric Otolaryngology
- Paediatric Palliative Care
- Paediatric Psychiatry

- Paediatric Rehabilitation and Cerebral Palsy Health
- Paediatric Rheumatology
- Paediatric Respiratory
- Paediatric Sleep Medicine
- Paediatric Urology
- Queensland Children's Gender Service (QCGS)

Regional services are as follows:

- Assertive Mobile Youth Outreach Service (AMYOS):
 - Services to Children's Health Queensland, Metro North and Wide Bay HHSs.
- e-Child and Youth Mental Health Service (eCYMHS):
 - Services to Cairns and Hinterland, Central West, Children's Health Queensland, Mackay, North West and Townsville HHSs.
- Paediatric Anaesthesia:
 - Services to Children's Health Queensland and Metro North HHS
- Paediatric Endocrinology:
 - Services to Central Queensland, Children's Health Queensland, Mackay, North West and Wide Bay HHSs
- Paediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU):
 - Services to Children's Health Queensland, Gold Coast, Mackay, Sunshine Coast and Townsville HHSs.
- Paediatric Radiology:
 - Services to Children's Health Queensland and Metro North HHS

4.5. Darling Downs HHS

Statewide services as follows:

- Senior Medical Officer Relieving Program
- Queensland Country Relieving Doctors Program.

4.6. Gold Coast HHS

Regional services as follows:

- Eating Disorder Service:
 - Services to Darling Downs, Gold Coast, Metro South, South West, and West Moreton HHSs.

4.7. Metro North HHS

Statewide services as follows:

- Alcohol and Drug Service
- BreastScreen – Expanded Service Delivery Model: Breast Medicine
- Burns
- Cardiology (including Indigenous Cardiac Outreach Program (ICOP))
- Clinical Genetics
- Forensic Psychiatry
- Heart Transplantation Service
- Lung Transplantation Service
- Neonatology (including NeoRESQ)
- Nuclear Medicine (including Positron Emission Tomography (PET), specifically PET radiopharmaceutical production and manufacturing)
- Otolaryngology
- Queensland Eating Disorder Service
- Respiratory Medicine (including Indigenous Respiratory Outreach Program (IROC)).

Regional services as follows:

- Community Forensic Outreach Service:
 - Services to Central Queensland, Darling Downs, Gold Coast, Metro North, Metro South, Sunshine Coast, West Moreton and Wide Bay HHSs.
- Court Liaison Program:
 - Services to Darling Downs, Gold Coast, Metro North, Metro South, Sunshine Coast and West Moreton HHSs.
- Dual Disability Program:
 - Services to Central Queensland, Central West, Children’s Health Queensland, Metro North, Sunshine Coast and Wide Bay HHSs.

4.8. Metro South HHS

Statewide services as follows:

- Deafness and Mental Health Service
- Liver Transplantation Service
- Kidney Transplantation Service
- Oral Medicine

- Oral Medicine and Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
- Queensland Bone and Soft Tissue Tumour Service
- Queensland Spinal Cord Injuries Service
- Transcultural Mental Health Service.

Regional services as follows:

- Tuberculosis Service:
 - Services to Gold Coast, Metro North, Metro South, Sunshine Coast, West Moreton and Wide Bay HHSs, and to the communities of Cherbourg and Kingaroy (Darling Downs HHS).
- Specialist Older Adult Psychiatry Outreach Clinical Service:
 - Services to South West and Metro South HHSs.

4.9. South West HHS

Regional services as follows:

- Flying Specialist Service (specialist Obstetrics and Gynaecology, General Surgery and Anaesthetic services):
 - Services to Central West, Darling Downs and South West HHSs.

4.10. Torres and Cape HHS

Statewide services as follows:

- Royal Flying Doctor Service general practice and primary health care.

4.11. Townsville HHS

Regional services as follows:

- Community Forensic Outreach Service
 - Services to Mackay, North West, and Townsville HHSs.
- Dual Disability Program:
 - Services to Cairns and Hinterland, Mackay, North West, Torres and Cape, and Townsville HHSs.
- North Queensland Forensic Adolescent Mental Health Services:
 - Services to Cleveland Youth Detention Centre, Cairns and Hinterland, Mackay, North West, Torres and Cape, and Townsville HHSs.
- Secure Mental Health Rehabilitation Unit
 - Services to Cairns and Hinterland, Mackay, North West, Torres and Cape, and Townsville HHSs

- Specialist Public Health Unit:
 - Services to North West and Townsville HHSs.
- Tuberculosis Service:
 - Services to Mackay, North West and Townsville HHSs.

4.12. West Moreton HHS

Statewide services as follows:

- High Security Mental Health Inpatient Service
- Specialist Mental Health Intellectual Disability Service.

Regional services as follows:

- Prison Mental Health Service:
 - Services to Southern Queensland Correctional Centre (West Moreton HHS), Wolston Correctional Centre (West Moreton HHS), Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre (West Moreton HHS), Brisbane Correctional Centre (West Moreton HHS), Brisbane Women's Correctional Centre (West Moreton HHS), Woodford Correctional Centre (Metro North HHS), Borallon Training and Correctional Centre (West Moreton HHS)
- Secure Mental Health Rehabilitation Unit:
 - Services to Metro North, Metro South, Gold Coast and West Moreton HHSs

5. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander considerations

In adhering to this standard, department credentialing committees must consider the impact this standard may have on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders, particularly cultural impacts.

6. Human rights

Human rights are not engaged by this standard.

7. Legislation

- *Acts Interpretation Act 1954* (Qld)
- *Anti-Discrimination Act 1991* (Qld)
- *Australian Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation Authority Act 2008* (Cth)

- *Health Ombudsman Act 2013* (Qld)
- *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009* (Qld)
- *Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011* (Qld)
 - *Hospital and Health Boards Regulation 2012* (Qld)
- *Human Rights Act 2019* (Qld)
- *Information Privacy Act 2009* (Qld)
- *Judicial Review Act 1991* (Qld)
- *Major Events Act 2014* (Qld)
- *Medicine and Poisons Act 2019* (Qld)
 - *Medicine and Poisons (Medicines) Regulation 2021* (Qld)
- *Mental Health Act 2016* (Qld)
- *Public Health Act 2005* (Qld)
- *Public Sector Act 2022* (Qld)
- *Public Records Act 2002* (Qld)
- *Right to Information Act 2009* (Qld)
- *Public Health Act 2005* (Qld)
- *Transplantation and Anatomy Act 1979* (Qld)
- *Voluntary Assisted Dying Act 2021* (Qld)

8. Supporting documents

- Authorising policy
 - *Credentialing and defining the scope of clinical practice, Department of Health Policy (QH-POL-390)*
- Standards and guidelines related to this standard
 - *Credentialing and defining the scope of clinical practice process, Department of Health Standard (QH-IMP-390-2)*
 - *Credentialing and defining scope of clinical practice for medical practitioners and dentists in Queensland – a best practice guideline, Department of Health Guideline (QH-GDL-390-1-1)*
 - *Guideline for Credentialing, defining the scope of clinical practice and professional support for allied health professionals, Department of Health Guideline (QH-HSDGDL-034-1)*
- Health Service Directives:
 - *Credentialing and defining the scope of clinical practice (QH-HSD-034)*

- Department policies, standards and guidelines
 - Health Funding Policy and Principles
 - HHS Service Agreements
 - Statewide Services, Department of Health Policy (QH-POL-488)
 - Statewide Services, Department of Health Standard (QH-IMP-488)

9. Definitions

Term	Definition
Ambulance Services	Specialised out of hospital health services delivered by multidisciplinary Queensland Ambulance Service health professionals.
Engaged	Used in conjunction with employed, this refers to health professionals who provide services in a Queensland public health facility but are not employed by a HHS or the Department. This may include, but is not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contracted services • Third party providers • Outreach and visiting clinical services
Health professional	Health professional means: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a person registered under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law; (b) or a person, other than a person referred to in paragraph (a), who provides a health service, including, for example, an audiologist, dietician or social worker.
Regional scope of clinical practice	A SoCP which is valid in defined group of HHSs. The SoCP aligns with the regional service.
Regional service	A clinical service, which is the responsibility of a lead HHS or department division, that is delivered to a defined group of HHSs and locations.
Retrieval Services	Retrieval services includes a range of clinical practices including, but not limited to, Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO), adult, paediatric and neonatal care.
Scope of clinical practice (SoCP)	The extent of an individual health professional's approved clinical practice within an organisation based on the individual's credentials, competence, performance and professional suitability and the needs and capability of the organisation to support the health professional's SoCP.

Term	Definition
Ambulance Services	Specialised out of hospital health services delivered by multidisciplinary Queensland Ambulance Service health professionals.
Statewide scope of clinical practice	A SoCP which is valid across all Queensland Health facilities. The SoCP aligns with the relevant statewide service.
Statewide service	A clinical service, which is the responsibility of a lead HHS or a department division and is provided to multiple locations across all of Queensland. These services are typically highly specialised clinical services.

10. Approval and implementation

Policy Custodian	Policy Contact Details	Approval Date	Approver
<i>Assistant Deputy Director-General, Workforce Strategy Branch, Clinical Planning and Service Strategy Division</i>	<i>ADDGWS@health.qld.gov.au</i>	<i>3 January 2025</i>	<i>Acting Deputy Director-General, Clinical Planning and Service Strategy Division</i>

Version control

Version	Date	Comments
1	16 February 2022	New document
2	20 June 2023	Statewide and regional services updated in line with revised Health Service Directive: Credentialing and defining the scope of clinical practice (QH-HSD-034:2014) version 4
3	3 January 2025	Statewide and regional services updated following the minor amendment to the Health Service Directive: Credentialing and defining the scope of clinical practice (QH-HSD-034) version 5.