Credentialing and Defining Scope of Clinical Practice for Allied Health Professionals not Employed by a Hospital and Health Service

1. What is credentialing and defining scope of clinical practice?

Credentialing and defining scope of clinical practice is one component of the Allied Health Clinical Governance Framework.

Credentialing is the process used to make a determination about the individual’s competence, performance and professional suitability to practise safely.

Defining scope of clinical practice is a process separate to credentialing that determines the support services, staff profile, minimum safety standards and other requirements that ensure clinical services are provided safely and are appropriately supported.

2. Which allied health professionals need to be credentialed?

Credentialing and defining scope of clinical practice would be required for the following:

- allied health professionals employed by external organisations/agencies to provide direct clinical services in Hospital and Health Service facilities and services where there is no agreement with the Hospital and Health Service for the organisation/agency to conduct a credentialing process with its employees
- private allied health professionals providing services charged to individual patients
- private allied health professionals providing services to patients in private beds in Hospital and Health Service facilities
- private supervisors who provide supervision to Hospital and Health Service employees as part of the requirements of the employee’s registration
- external allied health professionals (including university employees) conducting research that involves direct practice or review of clinical records.

Credentialing and defining scope of clinical practice would not be required for:

- allied health professionals from other government and non-government organisations/agencies that have systems in place for the checking of registration (where applicable) or qualifications
- allied health professionals with appointments in non-clinical positions
university employees providing supervision to students (as per Section 4.4 of the Deed for placement of student health professionals in Queensland Public Health System Facilities)

- students and allied health professionals who are practising under a formal supervision arrangement (e.g. work experience, re-entry)
- allied health professionals undertaking research where the research involves no patient contact or responsibility
- allied health professionals working in private facilities accepting referrals for public patients from Hospital and Health Service practitioners
- allied health professionals who are employed by the Hospital and Health Service and provide relieving services through relief pool programs or exchange programs.

3. How do I find out about the process for credentialing applicants not employed by Queensland Health?

The Credentialing and Defining the Scope of Clinical Practice Health Service Directive (#QH-HSD-034:2013) identifies the mandatory requirements for credentialing and defining the scope of clinical practice for allied health professionals working in Queensland Health facilities. This is supported by the Guideline for Credentialing and Defining the Scope of Clinical Practice and Professional Support for Allied Health Professionals (#QH-HSCGDL-034-1:2013).

For further information contact:

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