Scope of Publicly Funded Services

Policy Statement
Clearly defining the role of public health facilities and the scope of services publicly funded and supported by these facilities enables allocation of resources to the greatest areas of benefit or need.

Intent of this policy
The aim of the policy is to:

- improve the effectiveness of public health services through the allocation of health resources where there is greatest health benefit or need
- define the scope of services that are to be publicly funded and supported within public health facilities.

Scope
This policy applies to all Queensland Health employees (permanent, temporary and casual) and all organisations and individuals acting as its agents (including Visiting Medical Officers and other partners, contractors, consultants and volunteers).

This policy applies to all contracted services, including Mater Health Services, for services delivered under contract to Queensland Health, as well as all clinical services provided by Queensland Health, regardless of the type of facility in which they are provided, including but not limited to community clinics, hospitals and in-home services.

Principles
- Effective – resources are allocated where the health benefit or health need is greatest
- Clarity – services that will not be undertaken in Queensland Health facilities (for either public or private patients) or subsidised by Queensland Health are clearly defined.
Related policy or documents
- Queensland Health Clinical Governance Policy
- Queensland Health Clinical Services Capability Framework
- National Healthcare Agreement 2011
- Cabinet Decision 8759, 27 April 2009, decided to endorse the Scope of Publicly Funded Services Policy and Implementation Standard.

Supporting documents
- Scope of Publicly Funded Services Implementation Standard

Review
This policy will be reviewed at least every three years.

Date of last review: new policy
Supersedes: new policy

Approval and Implementation

Policy Custodian
Director, Access Improvement Service

Responsible Executive Team Member:
CEO, Centre for Healthcare Improvement

Approving Officer:
Dr Grant Howard, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Centre for Healthcare Improvement

Approval date: 28 June 2011
Effective from: 1 April 2011

Definitions of terms used in this policy and supporting documents

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition / Explanation / Details</th>
<th>Source</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medicare Benefit</td>
<td>Refers to the benefit patients receive from Medicare based on a schedule of fees set by the Australian Government.</td>
<td>Medicare Australia</td>
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