



Fact Sheet: Royal Flying Doctor Service

Overview

- The Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) provide general practice/primary health care and medical retrieval services in some Queensland Health facilities.
- Medical practitioners working with RFDS are engaged to provide:
 - General practice services only
 - Retrieval services only
 - Both general practice and retrieval services
- Medical practitioners may be issued with up to three (3) separate scopes of clinical practice:
 - Approved by RFDS by their own internal committee. This SoCP is not valid in a Queensland Health facility.
 - Approved by the Rural and Remote Clinical Support Unit for general practice only and is valid across the State.
 - Approved by the Department of Health for retrieval services and is valid across the State.
- It is possible that all three (3) SoCPs may have different expiry dates.
- The RFDS application form and references are accepted by the RRCSU credentialing committee.
- A condition of the SoCP approved by RRCSU is that it is only valid for services provided by RFDS. If the practitioner works as a locum, or part time SMO, they will need a separate SoCP in the HHS where they work. If appropriate SoCP may approved in the HHS by Mutual Recognition.
- When a practitioner leaves RFDS (e.g. resigns) then the SoCP approved by RRCSU is to be terminated. Other SoCPs issued for other HHSs would still remain valid.
- RRCSU will coordinate the renewal applications for RFDS doctors in consultation with the RFDS Credentialing Officer.
- Employment Details in the Database should record that the practitioner is a Visiting Medical Officer and the external organisation as RFDS.