Health Employment Directive
No. 03/18

Visiting Medical Officers: Professional development allowance

1. Compliance

Compliance with this Health Employment Directive (HED) is mandatory.

2. Purpose

To extend professional development allowance (PDA) entitlements to Visiting Medical Officers (VMOs) who are employed under non-contract employment arrangements.

3. Legislative provision

Section 51A of the Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011 (the Act).

4. Application

This HED applies to non-contracted VMO employees employed through a letter of engagement under the terms and conditions of employment specified in the letter, under the Act in Hospital and Health Services and the Department of Health.

5. Related documents

- Total remuneration framework conditions for Visiting Medical Officers

Directive:

6. Professional development allowance

This directive extends the payment of PDA to VMOs employed under non-contract employment arrangements, effective 1 September 2017.

The PDA will be paid annually as a lump sum.

The VMO will be eligible for full PDA if:

- employed for at least six hours weekly by the service; or
- employed for less than six hours weekly, if rostered on-call more than one in four.
7. Definitions

| Visiting Medical Officer | A person who is registered under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law to practice in the medical profession and who incurs ongoing private practice costs. This includes:  
- a visiting general practitioner (VGP)  
- a VGP with FRACGP  
- a VGP with FRACGP and/or Vocational Registration  
- a visiting senior specialist, or, a visiting specialist registered with the Medical Board of Australia under the provisions of the Health Practitioners National Law Act 2009. |

| Country area | Excludes those facilities operated by Metro North, Metro South, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, West Morton, Children’s Health Queensland, Darling Downs and CBUs. |

8. History

| HED No. 03/18 8 July 2018 | Issued under section 51A of the Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011 as a condition of employment for health service employees. |

9. Approval and implementation

**Directive custodian**

Chief Human Resources Officer

**Approval by Chief Executive**

Michael Walsh  
Director-General

**Approval date:** 8 July 2018