Guideline: Professional Indemnity Insurance

Overview

- Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII) is not a requirement for the credentialing and scope of clinical practice (SoCP) process.

- Question 5 of the Applicant's Declaration and Authorisation section of the application for credentialing and SoCP form states:

  Has a medical defence insurer of which you have been a member ever applied conditions or refused to renew your cover or membership in Australia or overseas?

  It is important that the practitioner's PII is checked against their response to this question. Should the practitioner respond 'Yes' or have conditions applied to their current PII, then the details of the PII **must** be included in the application for credentialing and SoCP.

- A practitioner's PII details should still be checked in accordance with the Hospital and Health Service's relevant policies and procedures as part of recruitment, contacting or locum arrangements.

- In accordance with the ACSQHC the National Standard for Credentialing and Defining the Scope of Clinical Practice, S 8.5, the organisation must have a Policy on PII requirements. [1]

- The *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act* (Qld) 2009, Part 7, S 129 (1) states that: "A registered health practitioner must not practise the health profession in which the practitioner is registered unless appropriate professional indemnity insurance arrangements are in force in relation to the practitioner's practice of the profession." [2]

- The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) requires practitioners to have PII that meets the AHPRA PII Registration Standard. [3]

- Queensland Health HR Policy I2: Indemnity for Queensland Health medical Practitioners (QH-POL-153), details the indemnity arrangements for medical practitioners. [4]

- The Queensland Health Standing Offer Arrangement (SOA) HSQ78489 for Locum Medical Officers and recruiting Medical Officers through recruitment agencies, details the PII requirements for locum medical officers in Section 4.15. [5]

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[1] https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/credentialling/
[2] https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/legislation/health-portfolio#h
[3] https://www.ahpra.gov.au/Registration/Registration-Standards/PII.aspx
[4] https://www.health.qld.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0023/164093/qh-pol-153.pdf
[5] http://qheps.health.qld.gov.au/hsq/procurement/categories/locum-medical-officers.htm