

Physical Environment Standard (version 6)

STANDARD

- The proposed premises of and all means of access to the private health facility must be clearly described.
- The physical environment within the health facility must ensure the health and safety of patients, visitors and staff.

This Standard is not satisfied unless:

- Any application made under the *Private Health Facilities Act 1999*:
 - includes a real property description, building unit plan and/or volumetric title for the proposed private health facility and all means of access to it;
 - states the street address of the proposed private health facility.
- The proposed private health facility complies with the *Planning Act 2016* and the premises comply with the *Building Regulation 2006*.
- The premises in which the private health facility is operated are self-contained.
- The private health facility is in rooms used exclusively by the private health facility. This requirement will **not** be satisfied if the rooms in which the private health facility will be operated are used:
 - for another purpose at the same time as they are used for the private health facility. For example, the room/rooms are used at the same time by another health service provider to provide health services;
 - for certain periods of time during the period they are used for the private health facility, for purposes other than those of the private health facility. For example, if the private health facility uses a room one day a week as a ward and every other day of the week, the room is used by another health service provider as a ward.
- Access to the proposed/licensed private health facility:
 - safeguards the health of patients and visitors. Among other things, patients and visitors must be able to access the proposed/licensed private health facility without patients or visitors having to physically pass through clinical areas of the proposed/licensed private health facility, any other private health facility or a public hospital.
 - for patients or visitors, is from the street through common areas or by a route which the applicant has rights of egress and ingress under a lease.
- All equipment, furnishings and fittings in the facility comply with:
 - Queensland Development Code Private Health Facilities Part MP 5.5; and
 - relevant Australian Standards, National Health and Medical Research Council Guidelines and college/professional body guidelines¹.
- All curtains and bed screens consist of, or are treated with, fire retardant and are treated with fire retardant after laundering.
- In order to reduce the risk of scalding, a system exists to control the outlet temperature of hot water to every bath, shower and hand-basin used by patients and staff.

¹ All guidelines, standards and publications as updated from time to time

- The generating plant or other equipment capable of providing an emergency power supply to the facility is properly maintained and tested regularly.
- Buildings, equipment, apparatus, furniture, fittings, electrical installations and wiring, bedding and other articles used in connection with the provision of health services in the facility are:
 - maintained in good repair and operational order²; and
 - kept clean and free from hazards.
- Regular safety inspections of the facility are carried out and the findings documented and remedial action taken, where necessary, to ensure the health and safety of patients, visitors and staff.
- Every 3 years, the licensee must provide to the Chief Health Officer a report, issued by an authorised fire officer within the meaning of the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990*, stating that the licensee has complied with the requirements of Part 9A of that Act and with the *Building Fire Safety Regulation 2008*.

References:

- *Planning Act 2016*
- *Building Regulation 2006*
- Queensland Development Code Mandatory Part 5.5 - Private Health Facilities (2007)
- *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* and *Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011*
- *Food Act 2006* and *Food Regulation 2006*
- AS 1199 Series Sampling procedures and tables for inspection by attributes
- AS 1319 :1994 Safety signs for the occupational environment
- AS 1470 :1986 Health and safety at work - Principles and practices
- AS 1851 :2012 Routine service of fire protection systems and equipment
- AS 4428.4 :2004 Fire detection, warning, control and intercom systems - Control and indicating equipment - Intercommunication systems for emergency purposes
- AS 60849 :2004 (R2016) Sound systems for emergency purposes (IEC 60849:1998 MOD)
- AS 2675 :1983 Portable first aid kits for use by consumers
- AS/NZS 3816 :1998 Management of Clinical and Related Wastes
- HB 202:2000 (R2017) A management system for clinical and related wastes - Guide to application of AS/NZS 3816:1998, Management of clinical and related wastes
- AS 3745:2010 Planning for emergencies in facilities
- AS 3745 :2010/Amdt1-2014 Planning for emergencies in facilities
- AS 3780:2008 The storage and handling of corrosive substances
- AS 3780:2008/Amdt 1-2009 The storage and handling of corrosive substances
- AS 4083 :2010 Planning for emergencies - Health care facilities
- AS/NZS 2500:2004 Guide to the safe use of electricity in patient care
- AS/NZS 3009:1998 Electric installation – Emergency power supplies in hospitals
- AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 Risk management - Principles and guidelines
- AS/NZS 4452:1997 The storage and handling of toxic substances
- AS/NZS 4804:2001 Occupational health and safety management systems - General guidelines on principles, systems and supporting techniques
- Australian Government, enHealth, Guidelines for Legionella Control, 2015

² This is a condition of licensing under s.48(1)(g) of the *Private Health Facilities Act 1999*