Health Service Directive

1. Statement
Health service directives shall be developed in consultation with Hospital and Health Services to promote service coordination and integration, optimal use of resources and the setting of standards and policies for the safe and high quality delivery of health services in Queensland.

2. Purpose
The purpose of this policy is to achieve:

- A consistent and rigorous approach to the development and review of health service directives
- Comprehensive consultation with Hospital and Health Services (HHSs) and relevant stakeholders during the development and review of health service directives
- Health service directives that can be effectively implemented, with due regard to risks and impacts
- Health service directives that are registered centrally and accessible to HHSs and the public

3. Scope
This policy applies to all employees, contractors and consultants within the Department of Health and commercialised business units.

4. Principles
Health service directives shall be developed with the following guiding principles:

- **Autonomy**: as the least intrusive option which enables and sustains the greatest benefit for patients and users of the Queensland public health system
- **Clinician-patient relationship**: to optimise the quality of clinician-patient interactions
- **Coordination**: to enable service coordination and integration between HHSs, Department of Health and other service providers
- **Efficiency**: to optimise the efficient and effective use of resources for health service delivery
- **Quality**: to enable and support safe, high quality delivery of health services
- **Consistency**: to ensure consistent approaches to the delivery of health services where necessary
- **Transparency**: to enhance accountability through openness and increased participation leading to better-informed decision making
- **Accessibility**: be accessible (available and understandable) for staff and the public
- **Alignment**: be lawful and consistent with any Whole-of-Government, cross agency or agreed national policy on the same matter
5. Legislative or other Authority

- Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011

6. Supporting Documents

- Standard: Health Service Directive Management
- Standard: Health Service Directive Consultation

Version Control

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