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16. NURSING HOMES

TRANSFER OF PATIENTS WITH METHICILLIN RESISTANT STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS (MRSA) TO NURSING HOMES

Complaints have been received from general hospitals that a patient’s discharge to a nursing home is frequently unnecessarily delayed because of colonisation with MRSA. This has also resulted in the inappropriate occupancy of surgical beds.

The presence of MRSA should not delay or preclude a patient’s admission to a nursing home where, in most cases, no special procedures or isolation are required. MRSA is no more virulent than other strains of Staphylococcus aureus and is no more likely to cause complications or disease.

NSW MULTIPURPOSE SERVICES - POLICY AND OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES (PD2010_049)

PURPOSE

The NSW Multipurpose Service policy and operational guidelines have been compiled to assist Area Health Services (AHS) and managers of existing and future Multipurpose Services (MPS) to provide health and aged care for their community in a flexible manner.

The attached document has been developed with significant involvement from a range of staff across government departments and Area Health Services.

It has been developed to support the functioning of an MPS in NSW. It is not intended to cover all aspects of service delivery, rather to cover broader concepts and complement current policy and procedure documents.

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

This policy establishes the standard procedures for the management of Multipurpose Services as described in the attached Multipurpose Service Policy and Operational Guidelines.

Management of Multipurpose Services is the responsibility of Area Health Services and Managers of MPSs, as part of the delivery of integrated health and aged care services providing flexible and sustainable service options for small rural and remote communities.

IMPLEMENTATION

Area Chief Executives are accountable for ensuring the requirements contained within this policy and operational guidelines are adhered to and communicated to all staff with responsibility for establishing or managing Multipurpose Services within the AHS.

The complete document can be downloaded at

95(15/07/10)