



Queensland

Health Services Amendment Act 2005

Act No. 58 of 2005



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Health Services Amendment Act 2005

Act No. 58 of 2005

An Act to amend the *Health Services Act 1991*

[Assented to 28 November 2005]

The Parliament of Queensland enacts—**1 Short title**

This Act may be cited as the *Health Services Amendment Act 2005*.

2 Act amended

This Act amends the *Health Services Act 1991*.

3 Amendment of s 2 (Definitions)

(1) Section 2—

insert—

‘elective surgery, for part 4A, see section 38A.

elective surgery waiting list, for part 4A, see section 38A.

health service area means a health service area declared under section 6A.

prescribed public hospital, for part 4A, see section 38A.

public hospitals performance report, for part 4A, see section 38A.

stated public hospital, for part 4A, see section 38A.

surgical outpatient waiting list, for part 4A, see section 38A.’.

(2) Section 2, definition, *public sector health service facility, ‘, for part 7,’—*

omit.

4 Amendment of pt 2 hdg (Health service districts and district health councils)

Part 2 heading, after ‘districts’—

insert—

‘and areas’.

5 Amendment of pt 2, div 1 hdg (Declaration of districts and establishment of councils)

Part 2, division 1 heading, after ‘districts’—

insert—

‘and areas’.

6 Insertion of new s 6A

After section 6—

insert—

‘6A Health service areas

‘The Governor in Council may, by gazette notice—

- (a) declare a health service area comprising 1 or more districts; and
- (b) assign a name to the health service area.’.

7 Insertion of new s 21A

Part 2, division 4, before section 22—

insert—

‘21A General managers

- ‘(1) There is to be a general manager appointed for each health service area.
- ‘(2) The general manager is to be a health service employee.
- ‘(3) The general manager’s functions are as follows—
 - (a) to lead the delivery of public sector health services in the general manager’s health service area to ensure the provision of quality, cost-effective services to patients;

- (b) to lead the delivery of particular public sector health services, within and outside the general manager's health service area, as directed by the chief executive;
 - (c) other functions as directed by the chief executive.
- '(4) In performing the functions, the general manager is subject to the chief executive.'

8 Amendment of s 22 (Managers for districts)

- (1) Section 22(3)(a), after 'chief executive'—
insert—
'and the relevant general manager'.
- (2) Section 22—
insert—
- '(5) In this section—
relevant general manager, for a district, means the general manager appointed for the health service area in which the district is included.'

9 Insertion of new pt 4A

After section 38—

insert—

'Part 4A Public hospitals performance reports

'38A Definitions for pt 4A

'In this part—

elective surgery means surgery that, in the opinion of the treating doctor, is necessary but for which admission to hospital can be delayed for at least 24 hours.

elective surgery waiting list means a register kept by a prescribed public hospital that lists each patient assessed as

needing elective surgery from the time the hospital accepts the referral of the patient for surgery until—

- (a) the surgery is performed; or
- (b) the patient's name is sooner removed from the register.

prescribed public hospital means—

- (a) a public sector hospital that falls within criteria prescribed under a regulation; or

Examples of what criteria included in a regulation may be about—

budget, type and volume of services offered, number of patients treated

- (b) the Mater Misericordiae Public Hospitals.

public hospitals performance report see section 38B(1).

stated public hospital means a prescribed public hospital that—

- (a) uses an electronic appointment scheduling system; and
- (b) collects data relating to surgery under guidelines established by the chief executive.

surgical outpatient waiting list means a register kept by a stated public hospital that lists each patient who requires an appointment at a surgical outpatient clinic from the time the hospital accepts the referral of the patient until—

- (a) the patient attends the initial appointment; or
- (b) the patient's name is sooner removed from the register.

'38B Chief executive to give Minister annual report about the performance of public hospitals

- '(1) The chief executive must prepare and give the Minister a report (a ***public hospitals performance report***) each year about the performance of prescribed public hospitals.
- '(2) The report must state the period it covers.
- '(3) The first report must be given in 2006.

‘38C Matters to be included in report—key indicators

- ‘(1) A public hospitals performance report must include information for each prescribed public hospital about the following key indicators—
- (a) clinical performance, including the quality of care and clinical practice;
 - (b) efficiency, including the cost of services and resource management;
 - (c) patient satisfaction, including patients’ views on the quality and outcomes of care and treatment received;
 - (d) system integration and change, including—
 - (i) the use of benchmarks and standardised approaches to clinical management; and
 - (ii) integration with the local community; and
 - (iii) quality and use of information; and
 - (iv) safety and quality of services; and
 - (v) work force management.
- ‘(2) By using the key indicators, the report must compare each prescribed public hospital—
- (a) with prescribed public hospitals that are of a similar type; and
 - (b) generally with all prescribed public hospitals.

‘38D Other information about surgery to be included in report

- ‘(1) A public hospitals performance report must also include the following information for each stated public hospital—
- (a) the number of patients on elective surgery waiting lists as at a date stated in the report;
 - (b) the number of patients on surgical outpatient waiting lists as at a date stated in the report;
 - (c) the number of patients who received elective surgery for a period stated in the report;

- (d) the number of patients who attended an appointment at a surgical outpatient clinic for a period stated in the report.
- ‘(2) A date or period mentioned in subsection (1) need not be in, or be the same as, the period stated in the report under section 38B(2).

‘38E Information relating to Mater Misericordiae Public Hospitals

‘This part is to be construed as requiring the chief executive to include information relating to the Mater Misericordiae Public Hospitals in a public hospitals performance report only to the extent the information is available to the chief executive.

‘38F Report may be included in department’s annual report

- ‘(1) A public hospitals performance report given to the Minister in a particular year may be included in the department’s annual report under the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1977* given to the Minister in that year.
- ‘(2) If the public hospitals performance report is not included, or to be included, in the department’s annual report, the Minister must table it in the Legislative Assembly within 7 sitting days after receiving it.’.