

Implementation guidelines for
Public Mental Health Services
and Private Hospitals

2010

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The revision of the National Standards for Mental Health services and the development of the corresponding Implementation Guidelines were funded by the Australian Government.

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Contents

This implementation guide for public mental health services and private hospitals accompanies the ten National Standards for Mental Health Services:

Standard 1. Rights and responsibilities

Standard 2. Safety

Standard 3. Consumer and carer participation

Standard 4. Diversity responsiveness

Standard 5. Promotion and prevention

Standard 6. Consumers

Standard 7. Carers

Standard 8. Governance, leadership and management

Standard 9. Integration

Standard 10. Delivery of care

10.1 Supporting recovery

10.2 Access

10.3 Entry

10.4 Assessment and review

10.5 Treatment and support

10.6 Exit and re-entry

The guide provides more detail about the implementation of the ten National Standards and how they apply to your service. It is one of three guideline documents developed by and for different sector groups. The other two are for:

- community (non-government) organisations
- private office based mental health services.

The guidelines were developed with input and recommendations from:

- the alcohol, tobacco and other drugs (ATOD) sector
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) community sector
- mental health consumers and carers.

The recommendations from these groups have been incorporated into each of the three implementation guidelines.

An electronic copy of the implementation guidelines, as well as the National Standards for Mental Health Services, can be downloaded from the Mental Health Standing Committee website:

➤ <http://www.health.gov.au/mhsc>

GUIDELINES AND SUGGESTED EVIDENCE FOR PUBLIC MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND PRIVATE HOSPITALS

The National Standards for Mental Health Services (the National Standards) and the supporting guidelines aim to continually improve the quality of mental health care for all Australians. They are underpinned by a recognised need to respond to the growing cultural and social diversity in the Australian community, including the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This diversity is reflected in mental health consumers and carers, as well as among professionals working in mental health services.

The National Standards and guidelines recognise that every interaction between consumers, carers, communities and service providers in the mental health care environment is influenced by a complex matrix of beliefs, values and attitudes towards health, illness and recovery.

Many of the criteria of the National Standards have similar themes or key issues. These are detailed in the cross-referencing table found at the back of this document.