



North West Hospital and Health Service

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19 October 2016

Mr James Downie
Chief Executive Officer
Independent Hospital Pricing Authority
PO Box 483
Darlinghurst NSW 1300
submissions.ihpa@ihpa.gov.au

Dear Mr Downie,

I am writing on behalf of the North West Hospital and Health Service in response to the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA) Consultation paper on the pricing framework for Australian hospital services 2017-18.

The HSCE Forum (collaboration of the 16 Queensland public Hospital and Health Services chief executives) collectively provided a submission which specifically addressed seven sections of the consultation paper.

North West Hospital and Health Service (NWHHS) would like to highlight Section 6.2.2 Patient Remoteness Area Adjustment of the consultation paper. NWHHS has 11 regional facilities that fall into the rural and remote category and are subjected to very high patient costs which has the potential to impact on NWHHS. NWHHS agrees with the NEP17 proposal that all high cost outliers are included in the calculation of the Patients Remoteness Area adjustment is supported. In addition to that it is supported that IHPA use SA2 (rather than postcode) as an initial indicator of patient remoteness. This will provide improve the accuracy of determining the remoteness measure. The NWHHS would require further details in order to assess the likely impact.

Thank you for your consideration of this key area. Should you wish to discuss this further please do not hesitate to contact my office on 47444469.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Davies Jones
Health Service Chief Executive