



COLLEGE OF INTENSIVE CARE MEDICINE OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

7 June 2024

Mr David Tune
Chair of the Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority
Via email: submissions.ihacpa@ihacpa.gov.au

Dear Mr Tune,

Re: 2025-26 Pricing framework for Australian public hospitals services

Thank you for providing interested parties with the opportunity to provide feedback regarding the Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority's (IHACPA) [consultation on the pricing framework for Australian public hospital services 2025-26](#).

About the CICM

The [College of Intensive Care Medicine of Australia and New Zealand](#) (CICM/the College) is the body responsible for intensive care medicine specialist training and education in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. Bi-nationally, we have over 1300 Fellows and over 1200 Trainees enrolled in our training program.

We set and maintain standards for intensive care units and provide continuing medical education, professional development, and advocate to governments and the community. We provide a high-quality training program, with supervision of clinical training, administration of assessments, and a range of workshops and courses.

CICM comments

The College values the work of the IHACPA in promoting efficiency and increasing transparency in the delivery and funding of public health and aged services across Australia.

We are aware that the [Australian New Zealand Intensive Care Society \(ANZICS\)](#) will be providing appropriate separate and detailed comment particularly around potential insights from ICU and patient data through their CORE data activities.

As mentioned above, a key role of the College is to set and maintain the standards for service delivery intensive care units in both Australia and New Zealand.

The College of Intensive Care Medicine acknowledges and pays respects to the traditional Custodians of the lands across Australia on which our members live and work, and to their Elders, past, present and future. We pay respect to the Wurundjeri Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which CICM's office stands. CICM acknowledges Māori as tangata whenua and Treaty of Waitangi partners in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Our foundational documents [IC-1- Minimum standards for intensive care units](#) (currently under review) and [IC-3 Minimum standards for intensive care units seeking accreditation for training in intensive care medicine](#) include detail on the equipment, organisation and staffing required to deliver both safe patient care and trainee support.

During our hospital training accreditation process, we attempt to detail both compliance with these standards and detail the teaching and training activities that occur within each hospital ICU. Data driven information on teaching and training can be difficult to obtain short of survey or interview of those directly involved.

We are pleased to note the consideration around efforts to improve the fidelity of identifying variations across hospitals and regions. While adjustments for pricing of care rely mainly on patient characteristics it is also likely that regional variations exist, particularly across rural and regional areas that warrant consideration.

Pricing for sentinel events and quality measures comes with the continued risk of redefining clinical syndromes around such initiatives which on occasions may limit their utility.

The College welcomes the opportunity to remain connected with the IHACPA regarding this current consultation and similar initiatives in the future. Should you wish to contact the CICM, please feel free to contact Ms Michelle Gonsalvez, Policy and Advocacy Advisor on +61 (03) 9514-2837 or via michelle@cicm.org.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Kruger', with a horizontal line underneath.

Dr Peter Kruger
President Elect

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