

## 2.0 Role Delineation Guide

The health service requirements can be classified under broad categories such as Emergency Medicine, Inpatient Department, General Surgery, Intensive Care etc. Each of these may be designed for a particular level or standard of service. These are known as Role Delineation Levels (RDL) and numbered from one to six (including in-between numbers such as 4–5), with level one representing uncomplicated health facilities, ascending to level 6 representing complex specialist services and hospitals.

### 2.1 Role Delineation Level (RDL)

The RDL defines an Intensive Care Service provided by a major metropolitan hospital which also incorporates Teaching and Research at RDL 6. The same service provided at a small General hospital without Teaching and Research facilities is defined as RDL 4. At higher RDLs the service provision will require access to higher levels of skill and additional complementary services. For example, Surgery at RDL 5 will also require Intensive Care services plus many more supporting services.

The relationships and inter-dependence between all the services at each RDL results in a large matrix with services one side and six RDLs on the other side.

The operators of health facilities and/or the designers need to decide which services they wish to provide as well as the RDL for those services. Only then the facility requirements can be determined and verified. For example, the number, type and size of rooms for an Intensive Care Unit (ICU) service at RDL 6 will be different to those for RDL 4.

SHCC Guidelines provide a Role Delineation Guide which sets out the most common health services for each RDL; under each category the requirements and dependencies are stated. The Role Delineation Guide is enclosed at the end of this section.

A blank version of the Role Delineation Guide is available in an electronic spreadsheet format to allow the proposed services and RDLs to be listed. This is known as the Role Delineation Matrix. This RDL Matrix can be used by the Health Facility Planning team to prepare the Facility Brief and is also used by SHCC to assess applications for health facilities (refer to Part A of the SHCC Health Facility Guidelines).

### 2.2 Role Delineation Guide

The SHCC Role Delineation Guide is described in Part B, Version 1, Appendix A of this document.