

## Part B - Health Facility Briefing and Planning

### 140 ALLIED HEALTH UNIT

#### INDEX

##### Description

- 140 .1.00 INTRODUCTION  
Description
- PLANNING  
Functional Areas  
Functional Relationships
- DESIGN  
Environmental Considerations
- COMPONENTS OF THE UNIT  
Introduction  
Standard Components  
Non-Standard Components
- APPENDICES  
Schedules of Accommodation  
References and Further Reading  
Functional Relationships Diagram

#### INTRODUCTION

##### Description

- 140 .2.00 Allied Health Care covers a range of services which are primarily concerned with the provision of rehabilitation therapy.
- 140 .3.00 Facilities for most Allied Health Care Services may vary greatly, ranging from large, purpose designed, central facilities for inpatients and/or outpatients, to basic on-ward or bedside services.

#### PLANNING

##### Functional Areas

- 140 .4.00 Allied Health services may include Dietetics, Hydrotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Podiatry, Psychology, Speech Pathology, and Social Work.
- In general, the minimum requirement for provision of these services shall be the availability of appropriate Consult Rooms, Waiting Areas, Treatment/Therapy Areas, Group Activity area, access to Outpatient Facilities and storage for equipment and supplies.
- 140 .5.00 Where an Occupational Therapy service is to be provided the following functions or facilities shall be allowed for:
- Therapy areas
  - Office / administrative areas
  - Hand-washing facilities
  - Access to a Disabled Toilet
- 140 .6.00 Where a Physiotherapy service is to be provided the following facilities shall be allowed for:
- Individual treatment area or areas that provide for patient privacy
  - Staff hand-washing facilities close to each treatment space; this may serve several treatment spaces

## Part B - Health Facility Briefing and Planning

- An exercise area with facilities appropriate for the level of intended service
- Clean linen storage; in the form of built in cupboards, cabinets or on mobile storage trolleys
- Storage for equipment and supplies
- Storage for soiled linen and waste
- Patient dressing and changing with secure storage of clothing and valuables
- Showering and toilet facilities
- Ice-making facilities to be available in or near the department
- Wall oxygen in patient waiting areas depending on service mode, and access to appropriate outdoor therapy areas.

These requirements shall apply where the physiotherapy service is also for outpatient use and they shall be capable of access and use by the disabled.

### 140 . 7.00 HYDROTHERAPY POOL

The need for a hydrotherapy pool should be carefully considered. The cost per unit of treatment is high and conditions for which hydrotherapy is the only appropriate treatment are limited. Hydrotherapy pools should only be provided where patient numbers are appropriate and where the pool is required for a minimum of four hours per day, five days per week.

Hydrotherapy Pools must comply with AS 3979 - Hydrotherapy Pools.

### 140 . 8.00 POOL SIZE

The recommended pool size is 7500 mm x 4500 mm. A rectangular shape is recommended, with the length of the pool generally one and a half times the width.

### 140 . 9.00 POOL DEPTH

To optimise the use of a pool for therapeutic purposes, consideration should be given to the average height of both the smallest users and the tallest users. The recommended minimum depth is 800 mm at the shallow end and the maximum depth is 1500 mm at the deep end.

### 140 . 10.00 GRADIENT OF POOL FLOOR

The floor of the pool should contain no steps.

### 140 . 11.00 ENTRY TO POOL

Steps are the accepted method of entry and exit and can also provide functional training. Steps should be placed at the shallow end of the pool and should not intrude into the working area of the pool.

A hoist should be provided and placed at a depth where the therapist can stand and maintain body balance to float the patient off and on the hoist without difficulty.

### 140 . 12.00 TEMPERATURE

The water temperature should be maintained in the range of 30 to 35 degrees Celsius with an optimum temperature of 34-35 degrees for most conditions being treated. The ambient temperature should be lower than the water temperature for comfort of pool side staff and patients.

Humidity control needs to be provided to minimise condensation. A pool cover may be considered to assist in maintaining water temperature and to reduce heating costs.

### 140 . 13.00 REFLECTION

## Part B - Health Facility Briefing and Planning

- 140 .13.00 The lighting should allow the floor of the pool to be seen and should minimise reflection / glare off the surface of the water.
- 140 .14.00 **POOL SURROUNDS**  
Non-slip surfaces shall be used for the pool surrounds. Ample space should be provided around the pool for staff and patient movement as well as to provide space for patients who are waiting to enter the pool or relaxing after leaving the pool. The building structure, including all fittings, should be rust-proof.
- 140 .15.00 **CHANGE FACILITIES**  
Change facilities will be required for patients and staff; the size will be dependant upon the size of the pool and the expected number of users.
- 140 .16.00 **EMERGENCY CALL SYSTEM**  
Adequate emergency call points should be provided. Emergency call points should also be accessible from the concourse area and from within the pool.
- 140 .17.00 **PLANT ROOM**  
Consideration should be given to the requirements for water quality and the Plant Room requirements for associated equipment.
- 140 .18.00 **FOOTBATHS/ SHOWERS**  
Footbaths, foot sprays or showers may be considered in the design of the pool area.
- 140 .19.00 **SECURITY**  
Security design should address:
  - Personal security of patients and staff
  - Property security for patients and staff
  - Unit premises and equipment
  - Emergency access and egress
- 140 .20.00 **STORAGE**  
Design should address the following storage requirements:
  - Therapy equipment
  - Consumables, and pool supplies
  - Pool aids and exercise equipment
  - Personal property of patient and staff

### Functional Relationships

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- 140 .21.00 Allied Health Areas should be located close to Rehabilitation therapy, patient treatment, day patient and inpatient areas. Ready access to storage areas is required.

## DESIGN

### Environmental Considerations

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- 140 .22.00 Acoustic requirements of the Speech Pathology Service should be given special consideration since the effective provision of the service requires reduced intrusive noise levels.

### COMPONENTS OF THE UNIT

#### Introduction

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- 140 .23.00 Allied Health Units will consist of a combination of Standard Components and Non-Standard Components.

Standard Components must comply with details in Standard Components described in these guidelines. Refer also to Standard Components Room Data Sheets.

#### Standard Components

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- 140 .24.00 Provide the Standard Components as identified in the Generic Schedule of Accommodation. Provision of accommodation for Allied Health will be dependant on the Operational Policy and service demand.

#### Non-Standard Components

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- 140 .25.00 Provide the Non-Standard Components as described in this section, according to Operational Policy and service demand.

- 140 .26.00 ADL BEDROOM

##### DESCRIPTION AND FUNCTION

The ADL Bedroom is a domestic style bedroom for patient assessment and training purposes, to assist patients to return to normal living. The ADL Bedroom may require use of wheelchairs and lifting equipment and specially adapted equipment may also be demonstrated in this space.

The ADL Bedroom shall be a minimum of 13 m2.

- 140 .27.00 LOCATION AND RELATIONSHIPS

The ADL Bedroom may be located with other ADL facilities, in the Allied Health / rehabilitation patient treatment zone, with ready access to waiting and amenities areas.

- 140 .28.00 CONSIDERATIONS

Furniture and fittings may include:

- Domestic bed
- Bedside table
- Bedside chair
- A patient/nurse call and access to an emergency call point is required
- GPOs are required for bedside use
- Fittings and finishes should be domestic in nature; the floor should be carpeted

- 140 .29.00 ADL LOUNGE

##### DESCRIPTION AND FUNCTION

The ADL Lounge is a domestic style lounge provided for patient assessment and training purposes. The ADL Lounge will require seating of varying heights and types, and will require access for wheelchairs and other mobility aids. The ADL Lounge may be combined with other therapy areas.

- 140 .30.00 LOCATION AND RELATIONSHIPS

## Part B - Health Facility Briefing and Planning

The ADL Lounge may be located with other ADL facilities, in the Allied Health / rehabilitation patient treatment zone, with ready access to waiting and amenities areas.

### 140 .31.00 CONSIDERATIONS

The ADL Lounge will require the following fittings and furniture

- Lounge chairs of varying heights
- Dining chairs of varying heights

The area may be carpeted.

### 140 .32.00 AUDIOLOGY ROOM

#### DESCRIPTION AND FUNCTION

The Audiology Room is an acoustically isolated room containing an audiology booth and workstation area to undertake audiology testing and assessment.

### 140 .33.00 LOCATION AND RELATIONSHIPS

The Audiology Room should be located in a quiet zone within the Allied Health patient consult and treatment areas. It should have ready access to waiting and amenities areas.

### 140 .34.00 CONSIDERATIONS

The following fittings and equipment will be required:

- Soundproof booth
- Desk and chairs
- Staff handbasin with liquid soap and paper towel fittings
- GPOs for desk and booth
- Telephone and computer outlets

### 140 .35.00 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY AREA

#### DESCRIPTION AND FUNCTION

The Occupational Therapy area is a large open space provided to enable a range of static and dynamic activities to take place. The area may include space for table based activities, such as upper limb activities or functional mobility activities such as woodwork or splinting activities.

The Room area will be sized according to the number of patients to be accommodated and will be dependant on Operational Policy and service demand.

### 140 .36.00 LOCATION AND RELATIONSHIPS

The Occupational Therapy area may be located adjacent to rehabilitation therapy areas, with ready access to waiting and amenities areas.

### 140 .37.00 CONSIDERATIONS

Fittings and Equipment required in this area may include:

- Benches with inset sink, wheelchair accessible
- Shelving for storage of equipment or tools
- Tables, adjustable height
- Chairs, adjustable height

## Part B - Health Facility Briefing and Planning

- Hand-washing basin with liquid soap and paper towel fittings
- Pinboard and whiteboard for displays
- Sufficient GPOs for equipment or tools to be used in activity areas

### 140 .38.00 PODIATRY TREATMENT

#### DESCRIPTION AND FUNCTION

Treatment Room with a Podiatry chair for a Podiatrist to undertake assessment and treatment of the feet. The Room will also require a workstation area.

### 140 .39.00 LOCATION AND RELATIONSHIPS

The Podiatry Treatment Room should be located within the Allied Health patient treatment zone, with ready access to waiting and amenities areas.

### 140 .40.00 CONSIDERATIONS

The following fittings and services will be required:

- Bench with sink, cupboards and drawers for preparation, storage and cleaning
- Podiatry chair (may be electric and adjustable)
- X-ray viewing boxes
- Examination light to chair area
- Staff handbasin with liquid soap and paper towel fittings
- Workstation for writing-up with clerical chair
- GPOs for treatment and workstation areas
- Telephone and computer outlets

### 140 .41.00 STORE - LOAN POOL

#### DESCRIPTION AND FUNCTION

A secured room for storage of equipment and aids for loan to patients.

The room will be sized according to the amount of equipment to be accommodated.

### 140 .42.00 LOCATION AND RELATIONSHIPS

The Store - Loan Pool may be sited near the service entry for efficient transport of equipment for home assessments. Ready access to a cleaning area is required for cleaning equipment.

### 140 .43.00 CONSIDERATIONS

Fittings and services shall include:

- Shelving, heavy duty
- Hooks, for hanging equipment such as walking frames

### 140 .44.00 STORE - OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

#### DESCRIPTION AND FUNCTION

Secured room for storage of splinting equipment, mobility aids, adaptive equipment, demonstration equipment and appliances.

The room will be sized according to the amount of equipment and

## Part B - Health Facility Briefing and Planning

consumables to be accommodated.

### 140 .45.00 LOCATION AND RELATIONSHIPS

The Store should be located adjacent to the Occupation Therapy Room.

### 140 .46.00 CONSIDERATIONS

Fittings and services shall include:

- Shelving, heavy duty
- Hooks, for hanging equipment such as walking frames
- GPOs for recharging of equipment.

### 140 .47.00 STORE - PHYSIOTHERAPY

#### DESCRIPTION AND FUNCTION

Secured room for storage of electromedical equipment, mobility aids including crutches, and consumables used for Physiotherapy treatment.

The room will be sized according to the amount of equipment to be accommodated.

### 140 .48.00 LOCATION AND RELATIONSHIPS

The Store - Physiotherapy will be located with close access to the Gymnasium and other Physiotherapy treatment areas.

### 140 .49.00 CONSIDERATIONS

Fittings and services will include:

- Shelving, heavy duty
- Hooks, for hanging of equipment such as walking frames
- GPOs for recharging of equipment.

### 140 .50.00 TREATMENT CUBICLES

#### DESCRIPTION AND FUNCTION

Individual treatment cubicles are required that provide acoustic and visual privacy for the patient.

### 140 .51.00 LOCATION AND RELATIONSHIPS

Treatment Cubicles may be located in close proximity to the Gymnasium and other Allied Health/ Rehabilitation patient treatment areas. Close access to patient amenities is required.

### 140 .52.00 CONSIDERATIONS

Fittings and equipment include:

- Plinth, may be electric and/or adjustable
- Patient chair
- Clothes hooks for patient clothing
- Cubicle screen track and curtains
- Patient/nurse call point and access to an emergency call point
- Body protected power outlets
- Clinical handbasin in close proximity

## Part B - Health Facility Briefing and Planning

### Non-Standard Components

#### 140 .53.00 VIEWING ROOM

##### DESCRIPTION AND FUNCTION

A discreet room with one-way glass for unobserved viewing of patients in therapy.

#### 140 .54.00 LOCATION AND RELATIONSHIPS

The Viewing Room may be located adjacent to Speech Pathology Consult/ Treatment Rooms.

#### 140 .55.00 CONSIDERATIONS

The following features will be required:

- One way glass between therapy and viewing areas
- Separately controlled lighting
- Curtain track and light proof screen curtains to viewing window (both sides)
- Viewing area to be sound isolated
- Electronic sound system from treatment to viewing area

## APPENDICES

### Allied Health Generic Schedule of Accommodation

140 .56.00 A Generic Schedule of Accommodation for an Allied Health Unit in a Hospital providing Rehabilitation services, at Levels 3,4,5 and 6:

#### ALLIED HEALTH AREAS

ROOM / SPACE	Standard Component		Level 3 Qty x m2	Level 4 Qty x m2	Level 5 Qty x m2	Level 6 Qty x m2	Remarks
AUDIOLOGY ROOM				1 x 10 optional	1 x 10 optional	1 x 10 optional	
OFFICE - CONSULT	yes			1 x 12 optional	1 x 12 optional	1 x 12 optional	Speech Pathology
OFFICE - SINGLE PERSON 9 M2	yes		1 x 9 optional	1 x 9 optional	1 x 9 optional	1 x 9 optional	Dietetics
OFFICE - SINGLE PERSON 9 M2	yes		1 x 9 optional	1 x 9 optional	2 x 9 optional	2 x 9 optional	Social Work
OFFICE - SINGLE PERSON 12 M2	yes				1 x 12 optional	1 x 12 optional	Psychology
PODIATRY TREATMENT				1 x 14 optional	1 x 14 optional	1 x 14 optional	
VIEWING ROOM				1 x 6 optional	1 x 6 optional	1 x 6 optional	Adjacent to Audiology Room if required
CIRCULATION %				25	25	25	

#### 140 .57.00 OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY AREAS

ROOM / SPACE	Standard Component		Level 3 Qty x m2	Level 4 Qty x m2	Level 5 Qty x m2	Level 6 Qty x m2	Remarks



## Part B - Health Facility Briefing and Planning

ADL BATHROOM	yes			1 x 12 optional	1 x 12 optional	1 x 12 optional	
ADL BEDROOM				1 x 13 optional	1 x 13 optional	1 x 13 optional	
ADL KITCHEN	yes			1 x 12 optional	1 x 12 optional	1 x 12 optional	
ADL LAUNDRY	yes			1 x 8 optional	1 x 8 optional	1 x 8 optional	May be incorporated into Occupational Therapy Room
ADL LOUNGE				1 x 12 optional	1 x 12 optional	1 x 12 optional	
LOAN POOL EQUIPMENT				1 x 14 optional	1 x 18 optional	1 x 18 optional	May be located separately; requires vehicle access
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ROOM				1 x 30 optional	1 x 50 optional	1 x 50 optional	Size dependant on service demand
OFFICE - SINGLE PERSON 9 M2	yes		1 x 9 optional	1 x 9 optional			Occupational Therapist
OFFICE - 4 PERSON SHARED	yes				1 x 20 optional	1 x 20 optional	Will be dependant on staffing establishment
STORE - OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY			1 x 10 optional	1 x 14 optional	1 x 20 optional	1 x 20 optional	

### 140.58.00 PHYSIOTHERAPY AREAS

ROOM / SPACE	Standard Component		Level 3 Qty x m2	Level 4 Qty x m2	Level 5 Qty x m2	Level 6 Qty x m2	Remarks
GYMNASIUM	yes			1 x 45 optional	1 x 80 optional	1 x 80 optional	Size according to Operational Policy and service to be provided
OFFICE - 2 PERSON SHARED	yes			1 x 12 optional			
OFFICE - 4 PERSON SHARED	yes				1 x 20 optional	1 x 20 optional	Provision of offices will be dependant on staffing establishment
OFFICE - SINGLE PERSON 9 M2	yes		1 x 9 optional				
PATIENT BAY	yes			4 x 9 optional	5 x 9 optional	5 x 9 optional	Treatment Cubicles
PLASTER ROOM	yes			1 x 14 optional	1 x 14 optional	1 x 14 optional	
STORE - PHYSIO			1 x 9 optional	1 x 14 optional	1 x 20 optional	1 x 20 optional	Size will be according to equipment to be accommodated

### 140.59.00 SHARED AREAS

ROOM / SPACE	Standard Component		Level 3 Qty x m2	Level 4 Qty x m2	Level 5 Qty x m2	Level 6 Qty x m2	Remarks
BAY - BEVERAGE	yes			1 x 3	1 x 3	1 x 3	
BAY - LINEN	yes			1 x 2	2 x 2	2 x 2	
CLEANER'S ROOM	yes			1 x 4	1 x 4	1 x 4	
CONSULT ROOM	yes		1 x 12	1 x 12	2 x 12	2 x 12	
DIRTY UTILITY - SUB	yes			1 x 8	1 x 8	1 x 8	May be co-located with Disposal
DISPOSAL ROOM	yes			1 x 8	1 x 8	1 x 8	

## Part B - Health Facility Briefing and Planning

MEETING ROOM	yes			1 x 15	1 x 20	1 x 20	
PROPERTY BAY - STAFF	yes			1 x 6	1 x 6	1 x 6	
RECEPTION	yes			1 x 10	1 x 10	1 x 10	
TOILET - DISABLED	yes				1 x 5	1 x 5	
TOILET - PATIENT	yes			2 x 4	4 x 4	4 x 4	
TOILET - STAFF	yes			1 x 2	2 x 2	2 x 2	
WAITING	yes			1 x 8	1 x 10	1 x 10	

### Hydrotherapy Generic Schedule of Accommodation

140 .60.00 A Generic Schedule of Accommodation for a Hydrotherapy Pool in a Hospital with a Rehabilitation Unit at Levels 4, 5 and 6:

ROOM / SPACE	Standard Component			Level 4 Qty x m2	Level 5 Qty x m2	Level 6 Qty x m2	Remarks
OFFICE - SINGLE PERSON 9 M2	yes			1 x 9 optional	1 x 9 optional	1 x 9 optional	
OPEN SHOWER AREA				1 x 3 optional	1 x 6 optional	1 x 6 optional	This area may be included in the pool surround area
POOL AND SURROUNDS				1 x 90 optional	1 x 240 optional	1 x 240 optional	L5/6 pool size is 7.0 M x 15 M.
STORE - GENERAL	yes			1 x 9 optional	1 x 9 optional	1 x 9 optional	
SHOWER - DISABLED				1 x 5 optional	1 x 5 optional	1 x 5 optional	
TOILET - DISABLED	yes			1 x 5 optional	1 x 5 optional	1 x 5 optional	
TOILET / SHOWER / CHANGE - PATIENT				2 x 8 optional	2 x 24 optional	2 x 24 optional	
TOILET / SHOWER / CHANGE - STAFF				1 x 3 optional	1 x 6 optional	1 x 6 optional	
WORKSHOP EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS STORE				1 x 10 optional	1 x 12 optional	1 x 12 optional	
CIRCULATION %				25	25	25	

### References and Further Reading

- 140 .61.00
- DHS Victoria, Aged, Community & Mental Health Division, Community Rehabilitation Centres Generic Brief, 1999.
  - Health Department Western Australia, Private Hospital Guidelines, 1998.
  - NSW Health, DS-27 Health Building Guidelines, Rehabilitation/ Day Hospital, 1992.

## Part B - Health Facility Briefing and Planning

### FUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS DIAGRAM - ALLIED HEALTH UNIT

