

2022

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**ACT LOCAL HOSPITAL NETWORK HALF YEARLY PERFORMANCE
REPORT (31 DECEMBER 2021)**

**Presented by
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ACT Local Hospital Network Statement of Performance For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Output Class 1: ACT Local Hospital Network

Output 1.1 ACT Local Hospital Network

Description:

The ACT Local Hospital Network receives funding under the National Health Reform Agreement (NHRA) and purchases public hospital services from the Canberra Hospital, University of Canberra Hospital, Calvary Public Hospital, Clare Holland House and Queen Elizabeth II Family Centre.

| | Original Target 2021-22 | Actual YTD Result 2021-22 | YTD Target | YTD Variance % | Notes |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------|----------------|-------|
| Accountability Indicators | | | | | |
| a. Admitted Acute Services - NWAU {21} | 105,100 | 51,134 | 52,550 | -3 | |
| b. Non-Admitted Services - NWAU {21} | 31,600 | 13,576 | 15,800 | -14 | 1 |
| c. Emergency Services - NWAU {21} | 20,300 | 9,235 | 10,150 | -9 | 2 |
| d. Acute Admitted Mental Health Services - NWAU {21} | 11,000 | 5,115 | 5,500 | -7 | 3 |
| e. Sub-Acute Services - NWAU {21} | 14,000 | 6,935 | 7,000 | -1 | |
| f. Total in scope - NWAU {21} | 182,000 | 85,995 | 91,000 | -6 | 4 |

The above Statement of Performance should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Explanation of Measures

Activity purchased by the LHN is consistent with the criteria in the NHRA. National Weighted Activity Unit (NWAU) is the 'currency' that is used to express the price weights for all services that are funded on an activity basis. NWAU {21} is the currency as defined by the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority in the National Price Determination 2021-22. NWAU {21} is not directly comparable to NWAU {20}. These measures combine the results for Canberra Hospital, University of Canberra Hospital and Calvary Public Hospital, Bruce for services that meet the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority's criteria for inclusion on the 'General List of In-Scope Public Hospital Services'. Reported results are inclusive of NWAU for suspected and confirmed COVID-19 activity, which are outlined in the table below.

- a. Excludes mental health and sub-acute services.
- b. Excludes community mental health services.

Explanation of Material Variance (>5%)

1. There are several factors that contributed to the variance against target for non-admitted activity:
 - a) The Administrator of the National Health Funding Body (NHFB) is required to identify potential instances where the same patient service has been funded both under the National Health Reform Agreement and other Commonwealth Programs, in this case the Medicare Benefit Scheme (MBS). This is in accordance with clause A11 of the 2020-2025 Addendum to the NHRA. The NHFB provides jurisdictions with potential data matches for their review and feedback. The ACT Health made data improvements for medical oncology and radiation therapy activity as per the data matching results provided by the NHFB. The improvements include reporting of accurate funding source as MBS or NHRA. Non-admitted

ACT Local Hospital Network

Statement of Performance

For the Year Ended 31 December 2021

activity with the funding source as MBS will no longer generate an NWAU as a result of this change. The 2021-22 NWAU targets were set prior to ACT Health's review of the data matching results which has contributed to the result being lower than target for non-admitted patient activity; and

- b) Non-COVID-19 non-admitted activity dropped by 11 percent in the first half of 2021-22 compared to the same period last year, due mainly to lower activity levels resulting from the COVID-19 outbreak. Significant increases in non-admitted activity have been recorded for COVID-19 testing and vaccination services, placing significant pressure on health services. However, these services are funded outside of the NHRA and do not generate NWAU.
2. The variance is driven by a six percent reduction in emergency activity in the first half of 2021-22 compared to the same period last year, due mainly to the COVID-19 outbreak in the ACT during the reporting period, resulting in fewer people presenting to the emergency departments.
3. The year-to-date result reflects a two percent reduction in the number of mental health separations in the first half of 2021-22 than in the same period last financial year.
4. The total NWAU results are affected by reductions in activity in all service streams, except for COVID-19 testing and vaccinations, compared to the same period last year (averaging six percent) due mainly to the COVID-19 outbreak during the reporting period. The changes in non-admitted data reporting are outlined in Note 1. Despite the reduction in NWAU-generating activities, health services are delivering against a significant demand for COVID-19 testing and vaccination services (non NWAU-generating), while managing workforce constraints resulting from the COVID-19 outbreak.

The below table shows the preliminary year to date COVID-19 activity by service category.

| | YTD NWAU attributed to COVID-19 activity (Preliminary only) |
|--|--|
| a. Admitted Acute Services - NWAU {21} | 3,454 |
| b. Non-Admitted Services - NWAU {21} | - |
| c. Emergency Services - NWAU {21} | 49 |
| d. Acute Admitted Mental Health Services - NWAU {21} | 469 |
| e. Sub-Acute Services - NWAU {21} | 653 |
| f. Total in scope - NWAU {21} | 4,625 |