

Fact Sheet

Proposed changes to surgical services at Yorketown Hospital

Country Health SA is committed to providing safe, high quality surgical services for residents of the lower Yorke Peninsula.

Country Health SA is considering a proposed change whereby surgical services for Yorketown residents would be delivered at Wallaroo Hospital.

This fact sheet provides information about the proposed changes, how they might affect you if they are implemented and how you can provide your feedback about the proposed changes to Country Health SA.

What are the proposed changes to surgical services at Yorketown Hospital?

Yorketown Hospital provides between approximately 50 and 60 surgical procedures each year. Surgical procedures currently delivered at Yorketown Hospital include general surgery, gynaecology and urology.

It is proposed that general surgery, gynaecology and urology procedures will be performed at Wallaroo Hospital.

Colonoscopy procedures will continue to be performed at Yorketown Hospital.

Which services would still be delivered at Yorketown Hospital?

Accident and Emergency, overnight medical care and colonoscopy procedures, will continue to be provided at Yorketown Hospital and Health Service.

The proposed change will have no impact on these other vital health services, which will continue to be provided at Yorketown Hospital.

Why are these changes being considered?

Country Health SA is committed to ensuring patients experience services that are safe and of the highest quality. Too few general surgery, gynaecology and urology procedures are performed each year at Yorketown Hospital to ensure national safety and quality standards can be met.



What might this proposed change mean for me?

For people living in Yorketown who need to have a surgical procedure, your GP would continue to refer you to one of the visiting specialists who come to the Yorke Peninsula. Depending on the service you need, your specialist appointment would occur in either Yorketown or Wallaroo. If you were assessed as needing a surgical procedure, you would need to travel to another hospital, for example Wallaroo.

Wallaroo Hospital is able to accommodate additional procedures in its theatre lists with no anticipated additional waiting time for patients.

What transport options are available?

Country Health SA surgical patients are able to access a range of transport options to and from Wallaroo, which is 129 kilometres or approximately two hours by car from Yorketown.

Options include services provided by Yorke Peninsula (YP) Community Transport (contact number 1300 132 932), including the Yorke Peninsula Bus and volunteer driver services.

Patients may also be eligible for the Patient Assistance Transport Scheme (PATS). PATS is a subsidy program that provides funding for some travel, escort and accommodation costs when eligible rural and remote South Australians travel more than 100 kilometres each way to see a specialist.

How can I provide my feedback?

Feedback about the proposal to relocate surgical services can be provided to Country Health SA by e-mail sent to HealthCHSA@sa.gov.au

How can I find out more?

For more information about services at Yorketown Hospital and Health Service, visit www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/yorketownhospital

For more information about PATS:

- telephone 1300 341 684
- email CHSAPATS@sa.gov.au
- visit www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/PATS