

Highly Specialised Drugs Program

Pulmonary arterial hypertension designated treatment centre criteria

Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension treatment centres satisfy the following criteria:

- > facility which has access to PAH services such as:
 - Heart lung transplant unit
 - PAH management services/clinic
 - Scleroderma management services/clinic
 - State/Territory health recognised cardiovascular centre.
- > experience and expertise in managing patients with PAH:
 - Current PAH management protocol
 - Experience in prescribing PAH therapies.
- > the availability of diagnostic services and expertise with procedures such as right heart catheterisation (RHC), echocardiography (Echo), pulmonary function testing (PFT) and six minute walk test protocol (6MWT).
- > outpatient pharmacy services and pharmacy expertise in managing Section 100 listed drugs and other highly specialised therapy.

Each potential designated centre is rated as to their ability to satisfy the above criteria on a scale of 0, 1 or 2. A minimum rating of six out of eight could result in a hospital becoming a designated treatment centre.

The rating definitions are as follows for the above criteria:

Criteria	0 rating definition	1 rating definition	2 rating definition
Facility which has access to PAH services.	No established PAH management services. > No heart lung transplantation services > No scleroderma management services/clinics > No PAH management services/clinics	Some established PAH management services. > Scleroderma management services/clinics > PAH management services/clinics	Comprehensive PAH management services. > Heart lung transplant unit > PAH management services/clinic > Scleroderma management services/clinic > State/Territory health recognised cardiovascular centre

Criteria	0 rating definition	1 rating definition	2 rating definition
Experience and expertise in managing PAH patients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Hospital with no specialist, cardiology, respiratory or rheumatology services > No experience in prescribing PAH therapies > No PAH management protocol 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Hospital with some specialist services. Refers complicated conditions to hospital with established referral centres for the management of PAH > Current PAH management protocol > Limited experience in prescribing PAH therapies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Hospital with established referral centre for area health service/zone or network in the management of PAH > Current PAH management protocol > Experience in prescribing PAH therapies
Availability of diagnostic services (RHC, Echo, PFT, 6MWT protocol).	Nil listed diagnostic services available.	1 or 2 listed diagnostic services available.	3 or 4 listed diagnostic services available.
Outpatient pharmacy and highly specialised drug experience.	No outpatient pharmacy services.	Outpatient pharmacy services with limited section 100 experience.	Outpatient pharmacy services with extensive highly specialised drug experience.

For more information

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