

MEMO

T24/42562

To: General Manager -The Sutherland Hospital & Garrawarra Centre
General Manager - Prince of Wales Hospital and Sydney and Sydney Eye Hospital
General Manager - Calvary Health Care Kogarah
Executive Manager - War Memorial Hospital

From: Dr Marianne Gale, Director Population and Community Health

Date: 27 June 2024

Subject: Transition to a single unified Aged Care Assessment Program

The Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care (DoH) is implementing a new single aged care assessment system. Implementation will be phased from 1 July 2024 and will combine current Regional Assessment Service (RAS), Aged Care Assessment Services (ACAS) and the Australian National Aged Care Classification (AN-ACC) workforces.

The aim of the new single assessment system is to simplify and improve how older people access aged care services. The system aims to remove the need for older people to seek assessments through multiple assessment services as their needs change.

As a result of these changes, it is necessary for SESLHD to move to a single unified Aged Care Assessment Program (ACAP) for the district. After consideration of options, it has been mutually agreed by the Executive teams of SESLHD as well as War Memorial and Calvary Hospitals, that this single service should be managed by SESLHD Population and Community Health (PaCH).

To ultimately establish a single district service, PaCH will work closely to plan a transition with relevant managers and staff at the sites currently delivering ACAS and RAS (War Memorial, Prince of Wales, Sutherland, and Calvary Hospitals). We will work through a consultation process with staff and their representatives.

We acknowledge the dedication, skills and experience of all aged care assessment staff serving our local population and understand the uncertainty that has existed in this sector for some time. We will do our best to achieve a smooth transition to a single unified ACAP and will make every effort to support and retain the skills and experience of our teams in that process.

From July, I will be providing staff with a regular update on the transition planning process, including estimated timelines once these are known. There will also be opportunities to ask questions and share ideas in due course.

We understand the prospect of change can be difficult and we encourage staff members who may be concerned to seek support through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) or talk to their manager. If staff have any questions about this transition, please contact us at SESLHD-Unified-ACAP@health.nsw.gov.au

Kind regards



Dr Marianne Gale
Director, Population and Community Health