

PNG National Patients presenting to Torres Strait Outer Island Clinics

Clinical Decision Process: Patient Admissions and Transfers 2006-07 to 2008-09

(Refer to Queensland Health Policy "Management of Papua New Guinea Nationals presenting to Queensland Health facilities in the Torres Strait")

Queensland Health Care Point	Condition type/ classification	Conditions	Comment
Outer Island Clinic eg Saibai / Boigu	Widely varied	Chronic, minor injuries, major trauma, ante/post natal, TB, emergencies	Acute / serious conditions transferred to Thursday Island or Medivac to southern facility. Patients able to be treated in PNG are referred back for ongoing management.
Thursday Island Hospital	MDR TB, difficult birth, trauma, minor surgery	TB (1 of these died in hospital), Malaria, Antenatal / Birth / Complicated birth. Pre-term delivery, Neonatal respiratory distress, Paraplegia, Hemiplegia, Meningitis, Head injury, Cranial/peripheral nerve disorder, Pneumonia (of these 1 child patient died), Pneumothorax, Convulsions, Epilepsy, Eye procedures, Eye infection, Head wounds, Cleft lip / palate, Asthma/ Status asthmaticus, Acute bronchiolitis, Pleural effusion / pulmonary oedema, Cardiac disorders, Heart failure, Congenital heart malformation, Acute appendicitis, Inguinal hernia, Abdominal pain, Serious Gastroenteritis, Digestive system disorder, Fractures / dislocations, Hand injuries, Osteomyelitis (infection of bone), Septic arthritis, Congenital deformities, Breast cancer. Dehydration / malnutrition, Renal infection, Female genital disorder, Wound infections, Toxic effect of venomous animals, Inguinal hernia, Umbilical hernia, Pyogenic arthritis, Foot / hand tendon / muscle injuries, SLE (lupus), Major orthopaedic post care, Post surgical care, Ulcers / Cellulitis/ skin infections, Skin malignancies, Genitourinary disorders, Anaemia, Acute Leukaemia, Schizophrenia, Open wounds, Traumatic amputation, Burns, Major trauma / fracture spine, Dental infection, non specific DRG (patient died in hospital)	Only 2 isolation beds to manage TB patients at TI, transfer to other facility is necessary when these are full. MDR TB patients require 6 months+ admission.
Cairns Hospital	Major trauma, MDR TB, ICU care Serious birth complications	TB, Hydrocephalus, Meningitis, Major trauma / skull fracture / multi fracture, Acute abdominal inflammation / infection, Renal infection, Renal disease, Acute renal failure, Complicated respiratory infection (often ventilated), Renal calculus, Complications of birth, Antenatal complications, Premature neonatal care, Acute leukaemia, Sepsis, Infant bronchiolitis /ventilation, Cerebral infarction, Encephalitis, Penetrating eye injury, Major trauma / skull fracture / spinal fracture, Respiratory infection, Heart failure and shock, Acute appendicitis, Bowel obstruction, Cellulitis, Burns, TII Diabetes with ventilation, Seizures, Myocardial infarction, Cardiac complication, Major abdominal injury, Acute gastroenteritis, Osteomyelitis, Metabolic disorder, Dengue fever, Pneumothorax	6 isolation beds, PNG patients transferred to Townsville Hospital if at capacity
Townsville Hospital	MDR TB Serious injury Serious birth complications	TB (Neurological – craniotomy), Respiratory conditions, Neonate testicular inflammation, Meningitis, Cerebral infarction, Cleft palate repair, Bone malignancy, Neonate brain malignancy, Pneumonia - major chest procedure, Acute myocardial infarction, Antenatal complications, Premature neonatal care, Burns	Transferred to Townsville when capacity at Cairns does not allow admission
Metro North (Incl Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, TPCH)	Major trauma, severe burns, critically ill, complex surgery	Cardiac congenital malformation, Bronchiectasis, Cardiac complications, Multiple major trauma, Renal obstruction, Retinal surgery, Sepsis, Cardiac valve disease, Multiple trauma / skull fracture, Complicated cervical cancer, Neurological / Congenital disorder, Heart failure and shock, Abdominal / Gastric complication, Acute respiratory condition, Infections female reproductive system	Tertiary referral facilities
Children's Hospitals	Serious paediatric conditions	Medical Care, Cerebral Palsy, Pre-term neonate, Respiratory disorders , Neurological disorders, Seizures, TB, Infant ventilated for bacterial Meningitis	
Other Districts	Transferred according to capacity / specialty eg Princess Alexandra	Pregnancy complications, abdominal surgery, acute respiratory conditions, chest pain, abdominal haemorrhage, heart conditions, infectious/parasitic conditions, complex injuries	

Notes:

1. MDR TB = Multi Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (treatment not available in PNG)