Private hospitals service provision

APHA facts on private hospitals
About this document

Private hospitals provide a wide range of services and are an integral part of the Australian health system. For patients, it is important to have a range of choice, so it is possible to opt for the delivery of care that is best for them.

The following information describes the services provided by the private hospitals sector in Australia.
Private hospitals

• Provide 2 in 5 hospitalisations (41%) in Australia
• Employ 62,413 FTE staff including 35,408 FTE nurses (2013-14)
• Had an income of $12.7 billion and capital expenditure of $765 million (2013-14)
Admitted patient care

- Private hospitals treat **2 in 5** of all patients in Australia
Service categories

Private hospitals and day surgeries provide the following broad categories of service:

- Medical: 37%
- Surgical: 36%
- Specialist mental health: 4%
- Childbirth: 2%
- Other: 21%
Private hospital patient cohorts

- Private health insurance: 83%
- Self-funded: 7%
- Department of Veterans' Affairs: 4%
- Public patients: 4%
- Workers compensation: 1%
- Motor vehicle third party personal claim: 0%
- Other: 1%
Service provision

• In 2013–14, private hospitals provided procedures and treatments for 765 of the 771 Australian Refined Diagnostic-Related Groups (AR-DRGs) performed in public hospitals.

• The 6 treatments not performed in private hospitals included:
  – Liver transplants
  – Heart, lung or heart/lung transplants
  – Severe full thickness burns requiring ventilation $\geq$ 96 hours, or tracheostomy, or OR procedures
  – Skin Grafts for Other Burns W/O Catastrophic or Severe CC, Emergency
Private hospitals and day surgeries perform **2 in 3** elective surgeries in Australia.
Private hospitals and day surgeries perform 3 in 5 acute surgeries in Australia
Private hospitals and day surgeries perform **3 in 4** eye surgeries.
Cardiac procedures

Private hospitals and day surgeries perform nearly half (48%) of all heart surgeries in Australia.
Rehabilitation services

Private hospitals treat 3 in 4 of people admitted for rehabilitation.
Private psychiatric hospitals care for more than 36,000 people per year.
Private hospitals and day surgeries treat 2 in 5 hospitalisations where the patient is aged 65 or older.
Private hospitals and day surgeries admit **2 in 3 veterans** who need treatment.
Sources

