



**Government of Western Australia
WA Country Health Service**

Your Ref : C05542
Our Ref : ED-CO-20-18977
Enquiries to : Sherilyn Mathewson 08 6553 0824

Professor Catherine Stoddart
Chief Executive Officer
Department of Health
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Dear Professor  Stoddart

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE WA COUNTRY HEALTH SERVICE AND THE TOP END HEALTH SERVICE FOR THE PROVISION OF INPATIENT SERVICES AT ROYAL DARWIN HOSPITAL

The agreement between the WA Country Health Service (WACHS) and the Top End Health Service (TEHS) for the provision of bed days at the Royal Darwin Hospital (RDH) has been in place since 1 February 2009.

Whilst the agreement supports a patient-centred approach and ensures that patients located in the Kimberley region of WA have access to tertiary care closer to home, the current system of coding and cost recovery is administratively burdensome to both parties.

I have been advised that a meeting occurred on 31 October 2019 which included Bec Smith, WACHS Kimberley Regional Director, Katrina Bosworth, TEHS Chief Finance Officer and Catherine O'Connell, TEHS Executive Director, Strategy and Planning and at the meeting an agreement was reached that the Cross Border Agreement is the most appropriate method of cost recovery for West Australian (WA) patients transferred to RDH.

I understand that RDH ceased billing WACHS Kimberly in October 2019, and that it is the TEHS preference for the Cross Border Agreement to be utilised for cost recovery for WA patients transferred to RDH. WACHS Kimberley will continue to liaise with TEHS regarding cost recovery.

I trust that the partnership established between WACHS and TEHS will continue, and thank you and NT Health/RDH for ensuring that patients located in the Kimberley region of WA continue to be accepted and treated at RDH.

Yours sincerely


Jeffrey Moffet
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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