

Faster, Safer, Better Care

June 2010

What's been happening with the Medical Assessment Units?

MAU(s) were originally established in conjunction with the Physicians Taskforce and Acute Care Taskforce to deliver faster, safer, better care for the elderly and those with chronic disease and as an alternative to treatment in an ED.

"Patients can be admitted directly to the MAU, avoiding unnecessary delay in the ED, or can be quickly moved out of the ED for further management.

This is multidisciplinary care at its best, providing rapid and holistic medical, nursing and allied health care for the benefits of our patients and the

health service." (Dr Grant Pickard, Medical Director St George MAU)

MAU(s) were designed to provide rapid assessment, diagnosis and treatment by senior clinicians for non critical medical patients whose conditions are not categorised as priority patients at presentation to the hospital, and might previously have had to wait for treatment.

28 MAUs are now operational across NSW (Royal North Shore, Royal Prince Alfred, St Vincents, Prince of Wales, Westmead, Wollongong, Sutherland, St George, Bankstown, Canterbury, Liverpool, Concord, Gosford, Campbelltown, Children's Hospital Westmead, Nepean, John Hunter, Blacktown, Maitland, Wyong, Fairfield, Sydney Children's, Calvary Mater, Port Macquarie, Coffs Harbour, Orange, Mona Vale & Lismore).

1 more sites will be operational by the end of the 2009/10 financial year (Tweed).

Currently there are 340 MAU beds opened across the state.

"Since the MAU was established the efficiency of the admission, care and discharge processes has improved resulting in a 'better hospital experience' for the patients and their carers, from whom we've received very positive feedback" (Lynn McRitchie NRM Sydney Children's MAU)



What other resources are available?



Posters have been disseminated to MAU sites to post on entrance ways to their MAU(s) and ED(s). These posters inform staff and patients on the purpose of the MAU(s). For an electronic copy please go to the MAU website.

Patient brochures have been developed for each facility to adjust to their individual needs. For an electronic copy please go to the MAU website.



MAU Resources



The official NSW MAU website:
<http://www.archi.net.au/e-library/moc/complex/mau-nsw>

The Minister for Health discussed MAU in **state parliament** on 2 Dec 2009, 9 April 2008 & 23 Sep 2008, to see the transcripts visit:
<http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/parliament/hansart.nsf/V3Key/LA20091202019>

www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/parliament/hansart.nsf/V3Key/LA20080409022

<http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/prod/parliament/hansart.nsf/V3Key/LC20080923030>

The NSW Minister for Health announced the **2009/10 MAU Funded beds** on 13th June 2009. Visit:
http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/news/2009/20090613_01.html

The NSW Health **media announcement** of the 2008/09 MAU Funded beds was on 3 June 2008. Visit:
www.health.nsw.gov.au/news/2008/20080603_02.html

The MAU(s) featured in issue 3 of the **HCAC Newsletter** at:
www.health.nsw.gov.au/pubs/2008/hcac_newsletter.html

NSW Health also released a MAU **media announcement** on 9 April 2008. Visit:
www.health.nsw.gov.au/news/2008/20080409_00.html

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