

Implementation Plan for Digital Technology for BreastScreen Northern Territory

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

PRELIMINARIES

1. This Implementation Plan is created subject to the provisions of the National Partnership agreement on Health Infrastructure and should be read in conjunction with that Agreement. The objective in the National Partnership Agreement on Health Infrastructure is to improve the health and wellbeing of Australians through the provision of high quality physical and technological health infrastructure.
2. The funding for this project has been allocated from the Health and Hospitals Fund (HHF). The objectives of the HHF, whilst not replacing State and Territory effort, are to:
 - invest in major health infrastructure programs that will make significant progress towards achieving the Commonwealth's health reform targets; and
 - make strategic investments in the health system that will underpin major improvements in efficiency, access or outcomes of health care.
3. This proposal provides one-off capital funding to enable states and territories to replace analogue mammography machinery with digital mammography systems for the BreastScreen Australia program.

TERMS OF THIS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

4. This Implementation Plan will commence as soon as it is agreed between the Commonwealth of Australia, represented by the Minister for Health and the Northern Territory, represented by the Minister for Health.
5. This Implementation Plan will cease on completion of the project as specified in this Implementation Plan, including the acceptance of final performance reporting and processing of final payments against project milestones specified in this Implementation Plan.
6. This Implementation Plan may be varied by written agreement between the Ministers.
7. Either Party may terminate this agreement by providing 30 days notice in writing. Where this Implementation Plan is terminated, the Commonwealth's liability to make payments to the State is limited to payments associated with project milestones achieved by the State by the date of effect of termination of this Implementation Plan.
8. The parties to this Implementation Plan do not intend any of the provisions to be legally enforceable. However, that does not lessen the parties' commitment to this Implementation Plan.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

9. The objective in this Implementation Plan is to assist in the roll-out of digital mammography technology for BreastScreen Northern Territory as part of the BreastScreen Australia program.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Role of the Commonwealth

10. The Commonwealth is responsible for reviewing the Northern Territory's performance against the project milestones specified in this Implementation Plan and providing any consequential financial contribution to the State for that performance.
11. The Commonwealth is to take a leading role in ensuring the development of national standards for image and patient information transfer between BreastScreen Australia services and other relevant service providers across Australia.

Role of the State

12. The Northern Territory is responsible for all aspects of project implementation, including:
 - fully funding the project, after accounting for financial contributions from the Commonwealth and any third party;
 - completing the project in a timely and professional manner in accordance with this Implementation Plan;
 - meeting all conditions including providing reports in accordance with this Implementation Plan;
 - undertaking all necessary tender/funding processes to acquire the technology. This may include using existing tender processes undertaken within other jurisdictions;
 - providing training for staff to support safe, effective and consistent use of the digital technology;
 - funding all ongoing operational costs throughout the life of the technology, and the cost of replacing any technology purchased through this project; and
 - implementing any changes or updates to the technology to meet the requirements for national technology configurations and standards for digital mammography technology and systems as and, when agreed by the Australian Population Health Development Principal Committee's Screening Subcommittee, to support national interoperability. The State is responsible for any costs associated with meeting any such nationally agreed requirements.
13. The Northern Territory is responsible for ensuring that all digital mammography technology purchased:
 - meets the national standards endorsed by the Australian Population Health Development Principal Committee's Screening Subcommittee, National eHealth Transition Authority (NEHTA) and/or Standards Australia for the transmission of images and patient information;
 - meets BreastScreen Australia National Accreditation Standards;
 - enables the electronic collection, storage and transmission of client information and mammography images in accordance with the national standards endorsed by the Australian Population Health Development Principal Committee's Screening Subcommittee, NEHTA and/or Standards Australia;
 - has the capacity to accept and transfer mammography images and client information to and from other jurisdictions; and
 - aligns with national standards or configurations as and when approved by the Australian Population Health Development Principal Committee's Screening Subcommittee developed

through the course of this project under the direction of the Department of Health and Ageing.

14. The Territory must provide advice to the Department of Health and Ageing of the anticipated date of installation of any technology or upgrades at least four weeks prior to the event.

PERFORMANCE REPORTING AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

15. The maximum financial contribution to be provided by the Commonwealth for the project is \$2.52 million payable in accordance with project milestones set out in Table 1. All payments are exclusive of GST.

Table 1: Project milestones and associated payments

Project milestone	Expected due date	Amount (\$m)
(i) Replace obsolete Analogue technology with digital technology in two fixed sites and a relocatable service	March 2010	\$0.72
(ii) Remote Area Mobile Service: tenders closed / or awarded	July 2013	\$0.6
(iii) Remote Area Mobile Service: commissioning of vehicle	May 2014	\$0.6
(iv) Establish CR satellite service in Palmerston	May 2014	\$0.6
16. Any Commonwealth financial contribution payable will be processed by the Commonwealth Treasury and paid to the State Treasury in accordance with the payment arrangements set out in Schedule D of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations.		

BUDGET

17. The overall project budget (exclusive of GST) is set out in Table 2.

Table 2: Overall project budget (\$ million)

Expenditure item	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Total
(i) Replace obsolete Analogue technology with digital technology	0.72	-	-	-		0.72
(ii) Remote Area Mobile Service		-	-	-	1.2	1.2
(iii) Palmerston satellite service		-		-	0.6	0.6
TOTAL	0.72	-	-	-	1.8	2.52

18. Having regard to the estimated costs of projects specified in the overall project budget, the Northern Territory will not be required to pay a refund to the Commonwealth if the actual cost of the project is less than the agreed estimated cost of the project. Similarly, the Northern Territory bears all risk should the costs of a project exceed the estimated costs. The Parties acknowledge that this arrangement provides the maximum incentive for the State to deliver projects cost-effectively and efficiently.

PERFORMANCE REPORTING

19. The Northern Territory will provide the Commonwealth with standard quarterly project status reports with reference to the project objectives due by the 10th business day in July, October, January and April each year. Each performance report is to contain the following information:

- a description of actual performance of the Northern Territory in the period to date against the project milestones;
 - details of any matter(s) that have arisen which could adversely impact on the delivery of the output, and how the Northern Territory proposes to resolve this/these matters; and
 - promotional activities undertaken in relation to, and media coverage of, the project during the reporting period and any promotional opportunities expected to arise during the next reporting period.
20. These reports are required to be submitted via the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing's Health and Hospitals Fund Capital Projects Reporting Online system. All quarterly reports must be certified by the chair of the projects governing body as being a true and accurate representation of the progress of the project for the relevant reporting period.
21. Each performance report is to confirm the technologies with existing and emerging specifications and standards endorsed by NeHTA and/or Standards Australia and BreastScreen Australia National Accreditation Standards, and the capacity for this technology to be modified to suit future standards or configurations as and when agreed by the Australian Population Health Development Principal Committee's Screening Subcommittee.
22. The Northern Territory will also prepare a final Project Report within 60 days on the completion of the project agreed under the Implementation Plan or termination of this Implementation Plan. The final Project Report will be a stand-alone document that can be used for public information dissemination purposes. The final Project Report will:
- describe the conduct, benefits and outcomes of the Project;
 - evaluate the Project from the responsible Party's perspective, including assessing the extent to which the project milestones in this Agreement and the Project Plan have been achieved and why any aspect was not achieved; and
 - include a discussion of any other matters relating to the project, limited to the minimum necessary for the effective assessment of performance, which the Commonwealth notifies the Northern Territory should be included in the final project report at least 30 days before it is due.