

Implementation Plan for National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON HEALTH SERVICES

PRELIMINARIES

1. This Implementation Plan is created subject to the provisions of the National Partnership Agreement on Health Services and should be read in conjunction with that Agreement. The objective of the Agreement is to improve the health and wellbeing of Australians through the delivery of high quality health services.
2. Based in Darwin, the National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre (NCCTRC) was established in 2005, and is maintained in a state of readiness as an effective and continually improving enabler of health responses to incidents of national significance.
3. The National Critical Care and Trauma Response Centre, provides a readiness capability and platform for the purpose of local and regional disaster and trauma responses, and a national training, education and research hub.

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 Ageing, 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 performance benchmarks 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 Northern Territory is limited to payments associated with performance benchmarks achieved by the Northern Territory 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 of this Implementation Plan is the continued development of the NCCTRC's regional response capability - as a northern hub of evidence based medical care, research and education, which is readily available to respond to major national health incidents.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Role of the Commonwealth

10. The Commonwealth is responsible for reviewing the Northern Territory's performance against the project benchmarks specified in this Implementation Plan and providing any consequential financial contribution to the Northern Territory for that performance.
11. The Commonwealth will Chair the Joint Governance Group (JGG) established to agree on joint planning and to discuss matters relating to this Project.

Role of the Northern Territory

12. The Northern Territory is responsible for all aspects of project implementation, including:
- (a) fully funding the project, after accounting for financial contributions from the Commonwealth and any third party;
 - (b) completing the project in a timely and professional manner in accordance with this Implementation Plan;
 - (c) meeting all conditions including providing reports in accordance with this Implementation Plan;
 - (d) participate as a member in the JGG established to discuss matters relating to this project; and
 - (e) ensure that prior agreement is reached with the Commonwealth on the nature and content of any events, announcements, promotional material or publicity relating to activities under this Implementation Plan.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

13. The maximum financial contribution to be provided by the Commonwealth under this Implementation Plan is \$73.8m as set out in Table 1.

Table 1: Overall project budget (\$73.8 million)

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-115	Total
Ongoing operations of the NCCTRC	14.212	14.481	14.756	15.007	15.307	73.763
Total project budget	14.212	14.481	14.756	15.007	15.307	73.763

14. 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 Northern Territory to deliver the project cost-effectively and efficiently.
15. Any Commonwealth financial contribution payable will be processed by the Commonwealth Treasury and paid to the Territory in accordance with the payment arrangements set out in Schedule D of the *Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations*.
16. Payments will be made with regard to the achievement of the performance benchmarks outlined in Clauses 16 and 17 below for the previous 6 month period. Payments will be made on acceptance by the Commonwealth of a performance report that includes satisfactory evidence that performance benchmarks have been met for that reporting period.

Table 2: Performance benchmarks and associated payments

Demonstrated achievement against the following performance benchmarks	Performance report due date	Amount \$000
Resource capability	15 May 2011	\$7106
National collaboration		\$7106
Resource capability	15 July 2011	\$3620
National collaboration		\$3620
Resource capability	15 January 2012	\$3620
National collaboration		\$3620
Resource capability	15 July 2012	\$3689
National collaboration		\$3689
Resource capability	15 January 2013	\$3689
National collaboration		\$3689
Resource capability	15 July 2013	\$3751
National collaboration		\$3751
Resource capability	15 January 2014	\$3751
National collaboration		\$3751
Resource capability	15 July 2014	\$3702
National collaboration		\$3702
Resource capability	15 January 2015	\$3702
National collaboration		\$3702
Final Report	15 May 2015	\$500

PERFORMANCE BENCHMARKS

17. *NT Response Capability*

- (a) NCCTRC is ready to respond to a major incident in the region – regional and Royal Darwin Hospital (RDH) emergency management plans, business continuity plans and the NCCTRC Notification and Activation Protocols are maintained and reviewed annually.
- (b) Completion of annual assessment of NCCTRC current and future human resource and critical infrastructure surge capacity.
- (c) The number of NCCTRC suitably trained operational personnel with appropriate experience, emergency medicine and trauma skills is equal to or greater than in 2008/09.
- (d) At least one NCCTRC response exercise is conducted annually.

18. *National collaboration*

- (a) Collaborative relationships with local, national and relevant health organisations (including response counterparts) are established and maintained to enhance the NCCTRC's role as the northern Australian hub of disaster response. The Department of Health and Ageing is informed, and where appropriate, involved in work with other Australian Government agencies and international organisations or countries.
- (b) NCCTRC provides input into the development and review of national response protocols
- (c) As a member, participate with the Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing and other jurisdictions on the Australian Health Protection Committee and Health All Hazards Working Group to ensure a consistent, strategic and effective response to national health emergencies.

REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

- 19. The Northern Territory will provide written performance reports every six months as outlined in Table 2 above.
- 20. Each performance report is to contain:
 - (a) Evidence of the level of performance against each of the performance benchmarks set out in Clauses 17 and 18 of this Implementation Plan;
 - (b) Details of strategies to ensure the completion of the remaining performance benchmarks; and
 - (c) The nature and content of any events, announcements, promotional material or publicity relating to activities under the Implementation Plan.

21. An activation report is to be provided with 40 days of an activation of the NCCTRC which includes a summary of the incident and relevant indicators and learnings from the incident.
22. The final project report must be provided on 15 May 2015 or within 60 Business Days of the completion of the project or termination of this Implementation Plan.
23. The final project report will be a stand-alone document that can be used for public information dissemination purposes regarding the project and must:
 - (a) Describe the conduct, benefits and outcomes of the project as a whole;
 - (b) Evaluate the project, including assessing the extent to which the objective in this Implementation Plan has been achieved and explaining why any aspects were not achieved; and
 - (c) Include a discussion of any other matters relating to the project, which the Commonwealth and the Northern Territory agree should be included in the final Report report at least 30 days before it is due.