

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 State'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 State 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) undertaking all necessary tender/funding processes to acquire the technology. This may include using existing tender processes undertaken within other jurisdictions;
 - (e) providing training for staff to support safe, effective and consistent use of the digital technology;
 - (f) funding all ongoing operational costs throughout the life of the technology, and the cost of replacing any technology purchased through this project; and
 - (g) 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 State is responsible for ensuring that all digital mammography technology purchased:
 - (a) 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;
 - (b) meets BreastScreen Australia National Accreditation Standards;
 - (c) 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;
 - (d) has the capacity to accept and transfer mammography images and client information to and from other jurisdictions; and
 - (e) 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 \$2,520,000 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	Due date	Amount
(i) Replace obsolete Analogue technology with digital technology in two fixed sites and relocatable service	Mar 2010	\$720,000
(ii) Establish very remote area service delivery (Mobile 4WD van with digital connectivity)	May 2011	\$1,200,000
(iii) Establish CR satellite service in Palmerston	May 2013	\$600,000
	Total	\$2,520,000

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	Total
(i) Replace obsolete Analogue technology with digital technology	0.72				0.72
(ii) Establish 4wd mobile service		1.2			1.2
(iii) Establish satellite service in Palmerston (high growth area)				0.6	0.6
TOTAL	0.72	1.2		0.6	2.52

18. Having regard to the estimated costs of projects specified in the overall project budget, the State 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 State 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 State will provide performance reports to the Commonwealth to demonstrate its achievement of project milestones set out in Table 1.
20. Each performance report is to contain the following information:
 - a) a description of actual performance of the State in the period to date against the project milestones;
 - b) promotional activities undertaken in relation to, and media coverage of, the project during the reporting period;
 - c) a description of the work that will be undertaken to complete the remaining project milestones and any expected promotional opportunities during the next reporting period; and
 - d) confirmation of the technologies adherence 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.
21. The final project report is due within 60 Business Days of the completion of the project or termination of this Implementation Plan.
22. 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 notifies the State should be included in the final project report at least 30 days before it is due.