



Country WA PHN Activity Work Plan

Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services

**Summary View
2021/2022 – 2023/24**

**Presented to the Australian Government Department of
Health and Aged Care**

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AOD 1100 – Specialist treatment (Core)

Activity Title

Specialist Treatment (Core)

Activity Number

1100

Existing, Modified or New Activity

Existing

PHN Program Key Priority Area

Alcohol and other Drugs

Aim of Activity

To increase the availability of evidence-based drug and alcohol treatment services for individuals, their families/significant others and communities experiencing harm from alcohol and drug use.

To facilitate support for individuals with co-morbid mental, physical health and substance use issues.

To continue to build links across the broader treatment sector including with primary health care providers and mental health services.

Description of Activity

Accredited drug and alcohol specialist service providers will continue to be contracted to deliver direct alcohol and drug treatment activity.

Activities will be adjusted where necessary to ensure they align with local need and identified priorities. In scope treatment activities will be undertaken from either community-based facilities or via outreach as appropriate by suitably qualified and experienced staff.

The Primary Health Network (PHN) will focus on the management of the performance of the contracted provider/s including reviewing, monitoring and evaluating service provision; taking into account the requirements of the Australian Government Department of Health's PHN Program Performance and Quality Framework to determine how well targeted and efficient services are delivered; and taking into account the requirements of the National Treatment Framework and National Quality Framework for Alcohol and Other Drugs.

Using the new WA Primary Health Alliance Performance Management Framework, the PHN will measure and monitor provider's performance to evaluate and manage services and determine whether, and to what extent, a reshaping of the structure of supply is required.

Service providers are expected to work collaboratively with others in the region to help facilitate system integration and actively seek to engage with primary care to improve health outcomes for clients.

Country WA PHN Needs Assessment

Priorities	Page reference
Improve access to screening and AOD treatment services.	15
Improve access to coordinated culturally appropriate primary care for Aboriginal people.	17,46,92
Increase access to early intervention and AOD management services including family supports.	15

Coverage

Country WA PHN region

Activity Start Date

1 July 2019

Activity End Date

30 June 2023

Activity Planned Expenditure

Funding Stream	FY 21 22	FY 22 23	FY 23 24	FY 24 25
Core Drug and Alcohol and Operational	\$819,348.01	\$1,041,250.59	\$878,846.22	\$0.00
Social and Community Services Award Component	\$18,245.95	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Drug and Alcohol Treatment Service Maintenance	\$210,874.69	\$210,874.69	\$0.00	\$0.00

AOD-ATSI 1200 – Specialist Treatment in Areas of High Need (Aboriginal) (NIAS)

Activity Title

Specialist Treatment in Areas of High Need (Aboriginal) (NIAS)

Activity Number

1200

Existing, Modified or New Activity

Existing

PHN Program Key Priority Area

Alcohol and other Drugs

Aim of Activity

To increase access to targeted and culturally appropriate approaches to alcohol and other drug treatment for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Description of Activity

Culturally competent and accredited drug and alcohol specialist service providers will continue to be contracted to deliver direct alcohol and drug treatment activity.

Activities will be adjusted where necessary to ensure they align with local need, leverage other existing services, and avoid duplication.

Wherever possible, activities will be focused on intervening earlier, supporting those with mild to moderate alcohol and drug issues, addressing co-morbid mental and physical health issues and preventing relapse.

Treatment will be undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced staff from community-based facilities, via outreach or through the use of technology as appropriate.

The Primary Health Network (PHN) will focus on the management of the performance of the contracted provider/s including reviewing, monitoring, and evaluating service provision; taking into account the requirements of the Australian Government Department of Health's PHN Program Performance and Quality Framework to determine how well targeted and efficient services are delivered; and taking into account the requirements of the National Treatment Framework and National Quality Framework for Alcohol and Other Drugs.

Service providers are expected to work collaboratively with others in the region to help facilitate system integration and actively seek to improve engagement with primary care to improve health outcomes for consumers.

Country WA PHN Needs Assessment

Priorities	Page reference
Improve access to screening and AOD treatment services.	15,46,60
Improve access to coordinated culturally appropriate primary care for Aboriginal people.	15,46,92
Increase access to early intervention and AOD management services including family supports.	71

Indigenous Specific Comments

As well as consumer and service provider feedback, the PHN continues to engage with Aboriginal community-controlled organisations, the state Aboriginal community-controlled organisation peak body and other key stakeholders including state government and Area Health Services.

Coverage

Country WA PHN region

Activity Start Date

1 July 2019

Activity End Date

30 June 2024

Activity Planned Expenditure

Funding Stream	FY 21 22	FY 22 23	FY 23 24	FY 24 25
NIAS Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People	\$2,414,396.72	\$2,093,582.78	\$2,102,929.70	\$0.00

AOD 2000 – Workforce Development for Health Professionals (Mainstream)

Activity Title

Workforce Development for Health Professionals (Mainstream)

Activity Number

2000

Existing, Modified or New Activity

Existing

PHN Program Key Priority Area

Alcohol and other Drugs

Aim of Activity

To increase the supply, knowledge, skills, capability and confidence of the generalist and specialist health workforce to:

- Recognise and respond to problematic alcohol and drug (AOD) use.
- Increase the appropriateness of referrals to drug and alcohol specialist service providers.
- Increase the uptake of screening, brief intervention, and management of people with alcohol and drug issues within a primary care setting.
- Grow and develop the AOD workforce to manage complexity, multi morbidity and demand for services.
- Deliver quality services that are culturally safe.
- Reduce stigma associated with AOD use and enhance opportunities for treatment in a primary health care setting.

Description of Activity

Working with health professionals' activities will include:

- Increasing the number of suitably accredited organisations
- Continuation of an AoD Project ECHO network.
- Awareness raising of available specialist treatment services, improving effectiveness of referral pathways by engaging with local experts, encouraging development of multi-disciplinary relationships, and promoting utilisation of HealthPathways, Practice Assist and MyHealthRecord.
- Provision of information on appropriate use of language, to reduce stigma and the discrimination of people who experience harm from alcohol and/or other drug use, encouraging the engagement of consumers and

significant others in service design and recognising problematic alcohol and drug use as a health issue.

- Raising awareness and support for the provision of holistic, person-centred care that responds to multi-morbidity including mental health issues and physical health conditions.
- Facilitating opportunities to improve the cultural competence and clinical safety of services through continuous quality improvement and maintenance of appropriate accreditation.

Country WA PHN Needs Assessment

Priorities	Page reference
CAOD3.1 Promote integrated and coordinated care pathways for clients with mental health condition and harmful alcohol and other drug use.	117
CAOD3.2 Build General Practice workforce capability to recognise and respond to alcohol and other drug-related issues.	117
CAOD3.3 Increase access to community-based early intervention and harm reduction services in areas with high rates of harmful alcohol and other drug use	117

Coverage

Country WA PHN region

Activity Start Date

1 July 2019

Activity End Date

30 June 2023

Activity Planned Expenditure

Funding Stream	FY 21 22	FY 22 23	FY 23 24	FY 24 25
NIAS Operational and Mainstream	\$70,000.00	\$53,316.37	\$0.00	\$0.00

AOD-ATSI 2000 - Workforce Development for Health Professionals (Aboriginal)

Activity Title

Workforce Development for Health Professionals (Aboriginal)

Activity Number

2000

Existing, Modified or New Activity

Existing

PHN Program Key Priority Area

Alcohol and other Drugs

Aim of Activity

To increase the supply, skills, capability and confidence of the generalist and specialist health workforce to effectively recognise and respond to problematic alcohol and drug use among Aboriginal people.

This will be achieved by:

- Increasing the number of suitably accredited organisations.
- Increasing the appropriateness of referrals to drug and alcohol specialist service providers.
- Increasing the uptake of screening, brief intervention, and culturally appropriate management of Aboriginal people with alcohol and drug issues within a primary care setting.

Description of Activity

To achieve program objectives, the following activities will occur:

- Promoting and supporting the provision of evidence-informed and culturally secure education and training resources designed to support health care professionals to provide culturally appropriate alcohol and drug treatment and support services for Aboriginal people.
- Increasing awareness of available specialist treatment services and improving effectiveness of referral pathways by engaging with local experts, encouraging development of multi-disciplinary relationships, and promoting utilisation of HealthPathways, Practice Assist and MyHealthRecord.
- Support education and training activities which promote practices to provide information on appropriate use of language, reducing stigma and

the discrimination of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who experience harm from alcohol and other drug use, encouraging the engagement of consumers and significant others in service design and recognising problematic alcohol and drug use as a health issue and one that requires a holistic, person-centered response.

- Facilitate opportunities to improve the cultural competence and clinical safety of services through continuous quality improvement and support to achieve appropriate accreditation.

Country WA PHN Needs Assessment

Priorities

Page reference

Promote integration and coordinated care pathways for clients with mental health condition and harmful alcohol and other drug use.	27
Increase access to early screening and treatment for harmful alcohol use.	27
Support Aboriginal people to navigate the primary care system and access appropriate services.	34

Indigenous Specific comments

As well as consumer and service provider feedback, the PHN continues to engage with Aboriginal community-controlled organisations, the state Aboriginal community-controlled organisation peak body and other key stakeholders including state government and Area Health Services.

Coverage

Country WA PHN region

Activity Start Date

1 July 2019

Activity End Date

30 June 2024

Activity Planned Expenditure

Funding Stream	FY 21 22	FY 22 23	FY 23 24	FY 24 25
NIAS Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People	\$186,984.68	\$50,501.06	\$227,752.87	\$0.00

AOD 3000 – Specialist Treatment in Regional, Rural and Remote Communities

Activity Title

Specialist Treatment in Regional, Rural and Remote Communities

Activity Number

3000

Existing, Modified or New Activity

Existing

PHN Program Key Priority Area

Alcohol and other Drugs

Aim of Activity

To increase the availability of evidence-based, culturally appropriate drug and alcohol treatment services for regional, rural, and remote individuals, their families and communities experiencing harm from alcohol and drug use.

To facilitate support for clients with co-morbid mental and physical health issues and poly drug use.

To continue to build links across the broader treatment sector including with primary health care providers and mental health services.

Description of Activity

The activity provides greater access for clients living in rural and remote areas by continuing to commission accredited specialist alcohol and drug treatment services in the Pilbara, Midwest, and Goldfield's regions of Western Australia. In Country WA Primary Health Network (PHN) Needs Assessment, the service locations of the Gascoyne and Goldfields are evidenced as being higher needs given per capita estimates of consumption from the National Alcohol Sales Data project. Given the geographic size of Country WA, in some instances, funding is utilised to reach clients who are over 600kms from a main town [central hub] in their region.

The activity seeks to:

- Leverage the expertise and governance of existing specialist alcohol and drug service providers by commissioning additional capacity for greater reach into underserved locations.

- Facilitate increased access to treatment and support services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in remote communities.
- Integrate with WA Primary Health Alliance’s commissioned mental health services and partner with primary care providers to ensure appropriate management and support of mental and physical health needs.
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The PHN will focus on the management of the performance of the contracted provider/s including reviewing, monitoring and evaluating service provision; taking into account the requirements of the Australian Government Department of Health’s PHN Program Performance and Quality Framework to determine how well targeted and efficient services are delivered; and taking into account the requirements of the National Treatment Framework and National Quality Framework for Alcohol and Other Drugs.

Using the new WA Primary Health Alliance Performance Management Framework, the PHN will measure and track monitor provider’s performance to evaluate and manage the performance of services and determine whether, and to what extent, a reshaping of the structure of supply is required.

Service providers are expected to work collaboratively with others in the region to help facilitate system integration and actively seek to improve engagement with primary care.

The PHN will continue to monitor and assess the impact of COVID-19 on access to the primary health care services commissioned within this activity. Where required, the commissioned services may be modified, and additional services commissioned to help the PHN to continue to meet the aims of the activity and the needs of the priority target groups.

Country WA PHN Needs Assessment

Priorities	Page reference
Improve access to screening and AOD treatment services.	15
Increase access to early intervention and AOD management services including family supports.	71

Coverage

Country WA PHN regions of Pilbara, Midwest, and Goldfields.

Activity Start Date

Activity End Date

1 July 2019

30 June 2022

Activity Planned Expenditure

Funding Stream	FY 21 22	FY 22 23	FY 23 24	FY 24 25
Increasing Access to Drug and Alcohol Treatment Services in Regional, Rural and Remote Areas	\$342,946.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

AOD-GPS 1000 - General Practice Support for Drug and Alcohol Addiction

Activity Title

General Practice Support for Drug and Alcohol Addiction

Activity Number

1000

Existing, Modified or New Activity

Existing

PHN Program Key Priority Area

Alcohol and other Drugs

Aim of Activity

To increase knowledge, supply, skills, capability, and confidence of the primary health care workforce to recognise and respond to problematic alcohol and other drug use. This includes:

- Increasing the appropriateness of referrals to drug and alcohol specialist service providers.
- Increasing the uptake of screening, brief intervention, and management of people with alcohol and drug issues within a primary care setting.
- Increasing provision of holistic, person-centered care that responds to multi-morbidity including mental health issues, substance use and/or physical health conditions.
- Reducing stigma and the discrimination of people who experience harm from alcohol and/or other drug use.

Description of Activity

The objectives of the activity are to:

1. Provide support to general practitioners and other health professionals to build the capacity of the health workforce to deliver high quality care for clients with drug and alcohol issues.
2. Assist general practitioners and other health professionals to enhance their knowledge and application of alcohol and other drug addiction referral pathways, supporting improved access to drug and alcohol treatment.
3. Increase awareness of and support general practitioners in using the range of evidence-based resources available to improve drug and alcohol addiction

treatment.

To achieve these objectives the following activities will take place:

- Establishment (or enhancement of existing) communities of practice, encouraging participation from practitioners who have recently undertaken alcohol and other drugs education and training, as well as those with more experience.
- Design, develop and implement a range of AOD quality improvement tools for use in general practice, and build capacity of WAPHA QI Coaches to support general practice to embed into business operations.
- Support the development and use of clinical pathways and tools, including continued promotion of HealthPathways and the Drug and Alcohol Clinical Advisory Service.
- Where feasible, partnering with Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine to coordinate local education and training events supporting the inclusion of local content and multi-disciplinary expertise.
- Utilising WA Primary Health Alliance's communication channels to promote available education and training activities, evidence-based resources, and topics of local interest. Avenues include Practice Assist, HealthPathways, Podcasts/Webinars, Primary Care Connect e-newsletter and social media channels.
- Leveraging existing relationships with general practice to promote available education and training packages, encouraging whole of practice engagement in continuous quality improvement activities.
- Enhancing existing alcohol and other drugs specialist in-reach services, non-dispensing pharmacists, and social workers to promote messages and encouraging engagement in education and training opportunities.
- Supporting increased use of existing training pathways and student placements for primary care practitioners to engage with the alcohol and other drugs specialist sector.
- Provision of information on appropriate use of language, to reduce stigma and the discrimination of people who experience harm from alcohol and/or other drug use, encouraging the engagement of consumers and significant others in service design and recognising problematic alcohol and drug use as a health issue.

Country WA PHN Needs Assessment

Priorities

Page reference

Improve access to screening and AOD treatment services Goldfield Esperance / Kimberly/Midwest	15
Increase access to early intervention and AOD management services including family supports (Pilbara)	71

Coverage

Country WA PHN region

Activity Start Date

Activity End Date

1 May 2020

30 June 2023

Activity Planned Expenditure

Funding Stream	FY 21 22	FY 22 23	FY 23 24	FY 24 25
General Practice Support for Drug and Alcohol Addiction Treatment	\$103,680.00	\$25,920.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

END