

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS  
(METROPOLITAN HEALTH SERVICES) AMA INDUSTRIAL  
AGREEMENT 2013**

**PSAAG 4 of 2013**

## **PART 1 - PRELIMINARIES**

### **1. TITLE**

This Agreement shall be known as the Department of Health Medical Practitioners (Metropolitan Health Services) AMA Industrial Agreement 2013.

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### **3. APPLICATION**

- (1) The parties to this Agreement are the “Minister for Health incorporated as the Board of the hospitals formerly comprised in the Metropolitan Health Service Board, under s7 of the Hospitals and Health Services Act 1927 (WA)” (“the employer”) and the “Australian Medical Association (Western Australia) Incorporated” (“the Association”).
- (2) This Agreement shall extend to and bind all medical practitioners employed by the employer except those employed as clinical academics pursuant to the Clinical Academics AMA Industrial Agreement 2011 or any industrial agreement that replaces the Clinical Academics AMA Industrial Agreement 2011.
- (3) The estimated number of practitioners bound by this Agreement upon registration is 4373.
- (4) While this Agreement is in operation, it shall override all provisions of the:
  - (a) WA Public Hospitals (Senior Medical Practitioners) Award 2011
  - (b) WA Public Hospitals (Doctors in Training) Award 2011
- (5) This Agreement cancels and replaces the Department of Health Medical Practitioners (Metropolitan Health Services) AMA Industrial Agreement 2011.
- (6) (a) The Director General of Health is the delegate of the “Minister for Health incorporated as the Board of the hospitals formerly comprised in the Metropolitan Health Service Board, under s7 of the Hospitals and Health Services Act 1927 (WA)”. In this capacity the Director General acts as the “employer” for the purposes of this Agreement.

- (b) If the Director General of Health onward delegates any capacity to act as the “employer” to a Chief Executive of a Health Service or to any other office holder the Director General of Health shall inform the Association in writing of the terms of the delegation. An office holder who acts in accordance with the terms of a delegation from the Director General of Health shall be deemed to have acted as the “employer” for the purposes of this Agreement.

#### **4. NO FURTHER CLAIMS**

The parties undertake that for the period of this Agreement they shall not, other than as agreed or as provided in this Agreement, pursue any extra claims with respect to salaries and conditions to apply within the period of this Agreement to practitioners who are bound by it.

#### **5. NO BANS OR LIMITATIONS**

Practitioners shall not engage in any stoppage, ban or limitation on the performance of work required under their contracts of employment unless authorised or agreed to by the employer. The employer shall not lock out practitioners from their employment.

#### **6. TERM, EXPIRY AND RENEGOTIATION OF AGREEMENT**

- (1) This Agreement shall have effect from date of registration and shall expire on 30 September 2016.
- (2) Negotiations for a new agreement shall commence by 1 April 2016 and the parties are committed to expeditiously progressing negotiations to finalise the new agreement prior to the expiration of this Agreement.
- (3) If a new agreement is not registered by 30 September 2016, this Agreement shall continue in force until a new agreement is made.

#### **7. AGREEMENT FLEXIBILITY**

In recognition of the need for maximum flexibility within this Agreement, the employer, the Association and the majority of practitioner(s) concerned may agree to mutually acceptable terms and conditions to be implemented in substitution of those specified in this Agreement.

#### **8. DEFINITIONS**

“Board of Reference” means a panel consisting of a person nominated by the Employer, a person nominated by the Association and an independent Chairperson nominated by the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission.

“Consultant / Specialist” means a medical practitioner who holds the appropriate higher qualification of a University or College, recognised by the Australian Medical Council (“the AMC”), and includes a Fellow of the Australasian Chapter of Addiction Medicine, or, in exceptional circumstances to satisfy areas of unmet need, such other specialist qualification recognised by the Director General of Health and who, unless otherwise approved by the Director General of Health, is employed and practising in the specialty for which he/she is qualified.

“Director of Medical Services” means a medical practitioner who is the principal medical administrator of the hospital and / or health service.

“Doctor in Training” means a practitioner who is appointed as an Intern, Resident

Medical Officer, Registrar, Supervised Medical Officer, Trainee Medical Administrator, Trainee Public Health Physician, Trainee Psychiatrist or Senior Registrar.

“General Practitioner” means a medical practitioner engaged in the provision of primary, continuing whole-patient care to individuals, families and their community not being a vocationally registered general practitioner.

“Health Service Medical Practitioner” means a non-specialist medical practitioner who is not in a recognised training program and who is authorised to perform duties without requiring clinical supervision by a consultant / specialist or senior medical practitioner. The classification includes a general practitioner (not vocationally registered).

“Hospital”, subject to the context, includes Health Service.

“Intern” means a medical practitioner employed by a teaching hospital during the first year of relevant experience following graduation, prior to full registration by the Medical Board of Australia.

“Medical Administrator” means a practitioner who is appointed as a Director of Medical Services or to a like position the duties of which are primarily associated with the management of hospitals or health services.

“Medical Practitioner” means a medical practitioner as defined under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (WA) Act 2010 as amended from time to time.

“Practitioner” means a medical practitioner employed under this Agreement.

“Private Patient” means a patient of a public hospital who is not a public patient. A private patient elects to accept responsibility to pay for medical care and the provision of hospital services. Patients who are covered under Workers’ Compensation or Motor Vehicle Insurance Trust legislation or policies are deemed to be private patients for the purpose of this Agreement.

“Public Patient” means a patient in respect of whom a hospital or health service provides comprehensive care, including all necessary medical, nursing and diagnostic services and, if they are available at the hospital or health service, dental and paramedical services, by means of its own staff or by other agreed arrangements.

“Registrar” means a registered medical practitioner employed as a Registrar. A Registrar may be employed with or without the Part 1 Examination of an appropriate specialist qualification recognised by the AMC.

“Resident Medical Officer” means a registered medical practitioner who is employed as a Resident Medical Officer in the second or subsequent years of relevant experience following graduation and who is not performing the duties of a Registrar.

“Senior Medical Practitioner” means a medical practitioner who does not have a recognised specialist qualification but practices without clinical supervision exclusively in a specialist area recognised by the AMC or such other area recognised by the Director General of Health as being a specialist area; and/or who clinically supervises other practitioners; and/or who has significant medical administration duties (50% as guide). Promotion to the position of Senior Medical Practitioner shall be by appointment only.

“Senior Registrar” means a registered medical practitioner who is either appointed as a Senior Registrar, or a registrar who has obtained an appropriate specialist qualification

acceptable to the AMC or equivalent recognised by the Director General of Health.

“Supervised Medical Officer” means a registered non-specialist medical practitioner requiring clinical supervision by a Consultant / Specialist or Senior Medical Practitioner.

“Teaching Hospital” means a hospital declared to be a teaching hospital pursuant to the provisions of the University Medical School, Teaching Hospitals Act 1955 as amended.

“Tertiary Hospital” means Royal Perth Hospital, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Fremantle Hospital, King Edward Memorial Hospital and Princess Margaret Hospital for Children.

“Trainee Medical Administrator” means a registered medical practitioner appointed to a recognised Medical Administration training position and enrolled in the Royal Australian College of Medical Administrators training program.

“Trainee Psychiatrist” means a Registrar or Senior Registrar appointed to a training position recognised by the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists.

“Trainee Public Health Physician” means a registered medical practitioner appointed to the Department of Health’s Public Health Medicine training program or an advanced trainee of the Australasian Faculty of Public Health Medicine appointed to a position within public health services.

“Vocationally Registered General Practitioner” means a medical practitioner registered under section 3F of the Health Insurance Act 1973.

## **PART 2 - DOCTORS IN TRAINING**

### **9. CONTRACT OF SERVICE**

- (1) (a) Appointments shall be as agreed in writing between the employer and the practitioner and shall normally be for 12 months.
- (b) Practitioners participating in accredited training programmes may be offered appointments for the period the training programme would be expected to take.
- (2) Practitioners shall be appointed subject to a probationary period of six months. During the period of probation either the practitioner or the employer may terminate the contract of employment by giving four weeks' notice or such lesser period as agreed. The probationary period shall not apply to:
  - (a) Interns; or
  - (b) practitioners appointed for a consecutive term; or
  - (c) casual practitioners

In the case of Interns, a performance review process shall commence no later than six months after engagement to assist the Intern to satisfactorily progress.

- (3) (a) Notwithstanding (1) above, all new appointments as Supervised Medical Officers shall be on 5 year fixed term contracts unless there is written agreement to the contrary between the employer and the practitioner.
- (b) There shall be no automatic right of reappointment upon expiry of a contract.
- (c) A Supervised Medical Officer who, upon expiry of a fixed term contract, is unsuccessful in seeking a new contract shall be paid a Contract Completion Payment equal to 10% of their final base salary, for each year of continuous service, or part thereof paid on a proportionate basis, calculated on completed months' of service up to a maximum of 5 years.

No other termination, redundancy or severance payment shall be made except as provided for in this Agreement.

- (d) A Supervised Medical Officer with tenure shall not be required to convert to a fixed term contract but may agree to do so. If unsuccessful in seeking reappointment at the end of that fixed term contract for reasons other than misconduct, he/she shall be paid pro rata long service leave after 5 years of continuous service in addition to the amount specified in subclause 3 (c).
- (e) This subclause shall not apply to Supervised Medical Officers who are in:
  - (i) a recognised medical college approved training programme, or
  - (ii) service positions that are not recognised training programmes designed to offer experience and/or training.
- (4) (a) Any contract of employment including a fixed term contract may be terminated by either the employer or the practitioner giving the following notice:
  - (i) For contracts where the term is 12 months or less - 4 weeks' notice.
  - (ii) For contracts where the term is more than 12 months but equal to or less than 2 years - 6 weeks' notice.

- (iii) For contracts of where the term is more than 2 years but equal to or less than 3 years - 8 weeks' notice.
  - (iv) For contracts where the term is more than 3 years - 12 weeks' notice.
  - (b) In lieu of giving of the required notice the employer may pay or the practitioner may forfeit, as the case may be, salary commensurate with the residual period of notice otherwise required. The employer and the practitioner may agree to a lesser period of notice.
  - (c) Practitioners who have completed their probationary period shall be subject to regular documented performance management and may only be terminated with notice by the Employer on the grounds of unsatisfactory service, misconduct or redundancy.
- (5) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this Clause, the employer may, without prior notice, summarily dismiss a practitioner for serious misconduct.
  - (6) A practitioner who is dismissed may appeal to a Board of Reference if the application is made within one month of the operative date of the dismissal.
  - (7) A practitioner whose contract of employment expires or is terminated shall be paid all monies due on the payday following the last day of employment.
  - (8) (a) Practitioners may by agreement be seconded on the approval of, and after consultation between, the relevant employing authorities, to any Government recognised hospital or agency, provided that satisfactory recognised supervision and training arrangements are in place.  
(b) Interns may be seconded in accordance with this subclause as appropriate to the practitioner's training.
  - (9) Prior to the commencement of each year, practitioners shall be advised of the clinical rotations they shall be required to complete. The employer shall, subject to operational requirements, make every endeavour to accommodate a practitioner's clinical rotation preferences. These rotations shall only be changed after consultation with the practitioner.
  - (10) Practitioners shall be provided with a job description stating the relevant duties and responsibilities of the position including the general percentage for clinical responsibilities, teaching, non clinical duties and supervision of any staff. "Non clinical duties" means duties not directly associated with the diagnosis or management of patients.

## **10. PART TIME PRACTITIONERS**

- (1) A part time practitioner is one who is engaged on the same basis as a full-time practitioner but for less than an average of full-time ordinary hours per week. A full time practitioner's written request to work on a part time basis shall be appropriately considered and shall not be unreasonably refused.
- (2) Practitioners may be employed on a part time basis at the classification of Resident Medical Officer and above. An intern shall be employed on a full time basis. However, at the request of an intern the Employer may approve employment on a part time basis.



- (3) If a practitioner is in a recognised training programme approved by the appropriate College for the purpose of obtaining a postgraduate qualification, part time employment shall be subject to the College's training requirements.
- (4) A part time practitioner's minimum weekly hours shall be specified in writing at the commencement of the employment and be worked in minimum continuous periods of three hours. A practitioner may work additional hours by agreement with the employer.
- (5)
  - (a) A part time practitioner shall be entitled to pro rata leave entitlements, other than for additional leave for on-call, as prescribed in Clause 34 - Annual Leave, in the same ratio as the practitioner's ordinary hours bear to full time ordinary hours.
  - (b) If during a qualifying period the ordinary hours of a part time practitioner vary, the ordinary hours worked shall be averaged over the qualifying period.
  - (c) A part time practitioner shall be entitled to be paid public holidays in accordance with Clause 35 - Public Holidays if the public holiday occurs on a day on which the practitioner is normally rostered to work. If a part time practitioner is required to work on a public holiday the provisions of Clause 32 - Shift, Weekend and Public Holiday Penalties shall apply.
- (6) The employer shall notify the Association by February each year of the number of part time positions.

## **11. CASUAL PRACTITIONERS**

- (1) Casual practitioners shall be engaged for minimum periods of three hours.
- (2) Interns shall not be employed as casual practitioners and Resident Medical Officers shall not normally be employed as casual practitioners.
- (3) Casual practitioners shall be paid the hourly rate for their classification for each hour worked, plus an additional 20% casual loading. Penalty rates shall be calculated exclusive of the casual loading.
- (4) A casual practitioner shall not be entitled to receive leave entitlements.
- (5) The contract of employment of a casual practitioner may be terminated by the employer or practitioner giving three hours' notice or payment or forfeiture, as the case may be, of three hours salary in lieu thereof.
- (6) The employer shall notify the Association in February each year the number of casual practitioners employed during the preceding calendar year.

## **12. SALARIES**

- (1) Full time practitioners shall be paid the relevant annual salary prescribed in Schedule 1.
- (2) Classifications:
  - Intern (previously cited level 1)
  - Resident Medical Officer Year 1 to Year 3 (previously cited levels 2 to 4)
  - Registrar Year 1 to Year 7 (previously cited levels 5 to 11)
  - Senior Registrar Year 1 to Year 2 (previously cited levels 12 to 13)

Supervised Medical Officer Year 1 to Year 9 (previously cited levels 5 to 13)

Trainee Medical Administrator Year 1 to Year 7 (previously cited levels 6 to 12)

Trainee Psychiatrist Year 1 to Year 7 (previously cited levels 7 to 13)

Trainee Public Health Physician Year 1 to Year 7 (previously cited levels 6 to 12)

- (3) (a) Practitioners shall be placed within the relevant classification range according to years of relevant experience.
- (b) A practitioner shall progress through the applicable salary range by annual increments on their anniversary date subject to satisfactory performance.
- (c) Subject to the provisions of this Agreement, a practitioner shall be employed in accordance with the level of work performed.
- (4) (a) A Trainee Psychiatrist undertaking the first year of advanced training shall be paid at a Trainee Psychiatrist Year 6 and a Trainee Psychiatrist undertaking the second year of advanced training shall be paid as a Trainee Psychiatrist Year 7.
- (b) A practitioner who has received a specialist qualification in another clinical discipline, or is undertaking a dual fellowship, shall continue to progress automatically by annual increments, to a maximum of the classification of Senior Registrar, Year 2, for the period of their training.
- (c) Registrars shall proceed to the classification of Senior Registrar Year 1 from the date of recognition by the relevant College of having satisfied all the requirements for admission to Fellowship of the College.
- (5) Salaries shall be paid pro rata fortnightly.
- (6) The weekly base salary rate of a practitioner shall be calculated by dividing the annual salary rate by 52.1666.
- (7) (a) Practitioners shall receive the following annual Professional Development Allowance payable pro rata fortnightly from the first pay period on or after the dates specified.

	3.75% 1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-13	3.75% 1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-14	3.5% 1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-15
Intern	\$5,114	\$5,306	\$5,491
Resident Medical Officer	\$5,114	\$5,306	\$5,491
Registrar	\$8,948	\$9,284	\$9,609
Senior Registrar	\$12,783	\$13,262	\$13,727
Supervised Medical Officer	\$8,948	\$9,284	\$9,609
Trainee Medical Administrator	\$8,948	\$9,284	\$9,609
Trainee Psychiatrist	\$8,948	\$9,284	\$9,609
Trainee Public Health Physician	\$8,948	\$9,284	\$9,609

- (b) The Professional Development Allowance is payable during periods of paid leave but is not counted as salary for any other purpose of this Agreement.

- (c) The adjustments in the rates reflect increases in line with general percentage salary increases.

### **13. SECONDMENT ARRANGEMENTS - WA COUNTRY HEALTH SERVICE**

- (1) Subject to written agreement a practitioner may be seconded to a facility controlled by the WA Country Health Service. The practitioner shall be provided with furnished accommodation whilst on secondment. If this is unable to be provided, the employer shall either meet the cost of such accommodation or reimburse the practitioner, on a fortnightly basis, the reasonable cost of such accommodation on the presentation of receipts. Where feasible the accommodation provided shall be single occupancy. The employer shall use its best endeavours to provide family occupancy where appropriate to the practitioner's circumstances.
- (2) A practitioner on secondment shall be provided with transport to:
  - (a) travel to the facility to which the practitioner is seconded;
  - (b) return from the facility at the end of the secondment;
  - (c) enable additional travel during the term of the secondment where the practitioner is directed to return to Perth for approved training purposes.
  - (d) practitioners seconded to a location north of the 26<sup>o</sup> parallel or Kalgoorlie shall be provided with return air travel to and from the place of secondment to Perth at the conclusion of each three month period in any rotation greater than three months.or where agreed, be reimbursed reasonable expenses for such travel.
- (3) For the purposes of this clause "secondment" means the temporary deployment of a practitioner from a facility controlled by the employer to a WA Country Health Service facility.
- (4) The terms under which a practitioner is seconded shall be agreed in writing prior to commencement of the secondment. Such terms shall ordinarily include the same general terms and conditions as are prescribed for other practitioners employed in that facility for a similar period.

### **14. SECONDMENT ARRANGEMENTS - NON-PUBLIC SECTOR TRAINING**

- (1) The employer may with agreement of the practitioner second a practitioner to work in a non-government hospital where there is an enabling agreement between the employer and the non-government hospital.
- (2) Any such agreement shall provide for satisfactory supervision, support and training arrangements under equivalent terms to those which generally apply in the employer's hospitals.
- (3) The employer shall not initiate any such secondments without first consulting with the Association.
- (4) The employer and the Association may agree in writing to terms and conditions of employment to be implemented in substitution of those specified in this Agreement for the purposes of facilitating secondments for training purposes.
- (5) Where a practitioner remains an employee during a secondment, the secondment shall be recognised as continuous service for all purposes of this Agreement.

## **15. HOURS OF DUTY**

- (1) A full-time practitioner's ordinary hours of duty shall be an average of 40 hours per week to be rostered in accordance with Clause 16 – Rosters.
- (2) Practitioners' hours of duty shall be allocated and worked having regard for training and occupational safety and health considerations.
- (3) The following minimum time off duty shall be provided:
  - (a) Eight days free from ordinary hours of duty in each 28 day cycle which where practicable shall include at least four days free from all duty (including on-call).
  - (b) At least two consecutive days off all duty (including on-call) in each 28 day cycle shall be provided and shall not be preceded by a night shift unless the practitioner is rostered to work on evening or night shift on the day immediately following those rostered days off.
  - (c) Forty eight consecutive hours free from all duty (including on-call) after not more than 12 days work.
  - (d) Twelve evenings off, Monday to Friday inclusive between the hours of 6pm and 8am, in each 28 day cycle provided that the Association and the employer may agree in writing designated positions be exempted from the provisions of this subclause.
  - (e) Where practicable every second weekend (on average – excluding periods of leave) free from all duty (including on-call).
- (4)
  - (a) Rosters shall provide for at least an 8 hour break between periods of rostered duty. Where practicable the break shall be not less than 10 hours.
  - (b) If a practitioner is required to resume rostered duty before having eight consecutive hours free from all duty (including call back requiring attendance at the workplace) the subsequent hours worked shall attract a 50% loading until the practitioner is released from duty for eight consecutive hours without affecting other entitlements under this Agreement.
  - (c) The rostered hours of work of a practitioner shall not exceed 75 hours in any period of seven consecutive days and not more than 140 hours in any period of 14 consecutive days.
- (5)
  - (a) Practitioners shall not normally be rostered to work more than four consecutive nights. Provided that a practitioner may be rostered to work a maximum of five consecutive nights if the total number of rostered hours do not exceed fifty. If five consecutive nights are worked a practitioner shall where practicable, be given the following two days free from all duty.
  - (b) Subject to subclauses (d) and (e), practitioners shall not be rostered for duty for more than 15 consecutive hours, inclusive of rest breaks.
  - (c) Practitioners shall be rostered for duty for minimum periods of three hours.
  - (d) Practitioners commencing duty after 12 noon shall not be rostered for more than 12 consecutive hours inclusive of rest breaks.

- (e) By written agreement with the Association, practitioners may, having regard for other shifts applying to the practitioners concerned, be rostered for up to thirteen (13) consecutive hours for a shift commencing after 12 noon.
- (6) A practitioner shall be entitled to a paid rest break of thirty minutes within each rostered period of duty. If a period of duty exceeds 10 hours, the practitioner shall be entitled to a second paid rest break of thirty minutes.
- (7)
  - (a) The employer shall meet its obligations under the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984.
  - (b) The employer shall take reasonable steps to ensure practitioners are informed of and empowered to exercise their rights under the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984.
  - (c) Practitioners shall meet their obligations under the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984.
- (8) Practitioners shall, where appropriate, be provided with adequate accommodation and other appropriate facilities.
- (9) Where due to work commitments practitioners are too tired to drive home safely, they shall be reimbursed reasonable expenses to travel home and to return to work to retrieve their car.
- (10) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the employer, the Association and the affected practitioners may agree to alternative arrangements for regulating hours of work.

## **16. ROSTERS**

- (1) Rostered hours shall take account of all clinical and non clinical duties regularly required to be worked. "Non-clinical duties" means duties not directly associated with the diagnosis or management of patients.
- (2) Practitioners' hours of duty shall be worked according to a roster which shall operate over either a 14 day or 28 day cycle, which are to be aligned to either one or two consecutive pay period(s).
- (3) Practitioners will not be rostered to work split shifts.
- (4) The roster or rosters shall set out the practitioners' times of commencing and ending each period of duty including, where practicable, the starting and ending times of the applicable rest breaks for a period of not less than 14 consecutive days. Rosters shall be provided to or made readily accessible to the practitioners to whom the roster applies at least 7 days prior to their commencement. Where possible, rosters shall be published 14 days prior to their commencement.
- (5) Except in cases of emergency or if the practitioner concerned so agrees, rosters shall not be amended during their currency. By agreement amongst themselves and if appropriate clinically, practitioners may replace one another for periods of rostered duty if the practitioners receive approval from the appropriate Head of Department or nominee which shall not be unreasonably refused.
- (6) No intern shall be required to work in a position not accredited by the Postgraduate Medical Council WA.

- (7) (a) The employer, the Association and the practitioners concerned may agree in writing to a roster that does not conform with this clause and Clause 15 – Hours of Duty.
- (b) The employer, the Association and the practitioners concerned may agree in writing to special arrangements, should the practitioner need to remain on call or to work during off duty periods specified in the preceding subclauses in order to gain sufficient postgraduate medical training and experience to meet the requirements for a higher qualification.
- (8) Practitioners who are rostered to work, or subject to call backs, overnight which require them to decide whether it is safe to return home, shall where practicable be provided with access to sleeping and shower facilities.

## **17. PAYMENT FOR OVERTIME**

- (1) Un-rostered overtime shall be authorised. Authorisation shall not be unreasonably refused. Where authorisation is refused, the reasons shall be explained to the practitioner and if the practitioner requests reasons in writing, reasons shall be provided in writing.
- (2) Paid hours in any two week pay cycle in excess of 80 hours shall be paid at the rate of 150% of the practitioner's base ordinary rate of pay.
- (3) Paid hours in any two week pay cycle in excess of 120 hours shall be paid at the rate of 200% of the practitioner's base ordinary rate of pay.
- (4) A part-time practitioner who having commenced a rostered shift is explicitly directed to work additional hours such that the length of the shift is extended, shall be paid at overtime rates for the additional period.
- (5) In lieu of payment for overtime, the employer and a practitioner may agree in writing that the practitioner be allowed time off proportional to the payment to which the practitioner is entitled, to be taken at a time convenient to the employer.
- (6) For the purposes of this Clause "paid hours" excludes hours paid pursuant to Clause 33 - On Call and Call Back.
- (7) In accordance with Clause 34(2)(b) – Annual Leave, annual leave credits shall not be applied to any period of rostered overtime.

## **18. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LEAVE**

- (1) The employer recognises its obligations to provide high quality training and shall ensure appropriate mechanisms operate to monitor practitioners' satisfaction with the quality of training and address legitimate concerns.
- (2) Upon application, practitioners shall be entitled to take 4 days leave with pay in order to attend examinations within Australia or New Zealand, or elsewhere if appropriate, for higher qualifications which have been approved by the employer. A practitioner shall, upon application, be provided with three clear days free from any rostered duty immediately prior to an examination.
- (3) Non-Accruing Professional Development Leave
  - (a) Upon application a practitioner shall be entitled to take 2 weeks paid study / professional development leave each calendar year. Such leave shall be inclusive of any leave taken under subclause (2) above and may be used:

- (i) to attend work / study related courses or conferences or related to obtaining or maintaining higher medical qualifications. In the case of Interns, such activities need to be compatible with their intern training / supervision requirements. The course or conference may be approved, by the employer, in relation to its educational value; or
    - (ii) to prepare for examinations being sat within six months of the leave being taken or to study for modules towards higher medical qualifications; or
    - (iii) to undertake clinically significant research associated with obtaining or maintaining higher medical qualifications with the approval of the employer in relation to its educational value.
  - (b) Non-accruing professional development leave cannot be converted into a cash entitlement other than where the employer has refused an application which meets the requirements for leave being granted under this clause and the practitioner is unreasonably denied the opportunity of taking the leave prior to concluding their employment.
  - (c) In exceptional circumstances, after the employer has used its best endeavours to grant such leave, an application may be declined due to operational requirements. If this occurs the leave shall accrue.
- (4) Accruing Professional Development Leave.
- (a) A practitioner accrues one week of additional leave per annum. The entitlement accrues pro rata weekly.
  - (b) A practitioner may be granted leave in advance, but if the practitioner ceases employment before the end of the qualifying period the value of any such leave taken in advance at the time of the effective date of termination may be offset against any other payments due to the practitioner.
- (5) Applications for professional development leave shall, in the absence of any agreement to the contrary, be made to the employer at least two months prior to the commencement of the leave. The employer shall notify the practitioner whether the application has been approved in writing within 4 weeks of receiving the application.
- (6) Special leave with or without pay for additional study leave, conferences or other purposes, including interstate or overseas professional development, may be granted to doctors in training for periods of up to twelve months or more at the discretion of the employer.
- (7) The balance of Professional Development Leave accrued prior to the commencement of this Agreement will be carried forward.
- (8) Professional Development Leave shall be paid at the rate of pay applicable at the time the leave is taken.

## **19. HIGHER DUTIES**

A practitioner who is directed by the employer to act in a higher classified position and who performs the full duties and accepts the full responsibility of the higher classified position for more than ten consecutive working days shall be paid the higher salary rate whilst so engaged as if the practitioner were permanently appointed to the higher classified position.

## **PART 3 - SENIOR PRACTITIONERS**

### **20. CONTRACT OF SERVICE**

- (1)
  - (a) All appointments shall be on 5 year contracts unless there is written agreement to the contrary between the employer and practitioner.
  - (b) To meet short term exigencies, the employer may employ a practitioner on a short term contract of up to six months. In such cases the practitioner shall not be entitled to receive leave benefits (including leave for public holidays), but shall instead be paid a loading of 25% on the base salary. Penalty rates shall be calculated exclusive of the loading.
- (2)
  - (a) Each practitioner shall be appointed for a probationary period of six months. During the probationary period either the employer or the practitioner may give four weeks' notice of termination or resignation of employment or such lesser period as agreed. The probationary period shall not apply if the practitioner is appointed for a consecutive term.
  - (b) Following completion of the probationary period, practitioners shall be subject to regular performance management and may only be terminated with notice by the employer on the grounds of unsatisfactory service, misconduct or redundancy.
- (3) Practitioners shall be provided with a job description stating the relevant duties and responsibilities of the position. As a guide, 80% of a practitioner's duties shall be allocated to clinical duties (including teaching) and 20% of a practitioner's duties shall be allocated for non-clinical duties. "Non-clinical duties" means duties not directly associated with the diagnosis or management of a particular patient. They may include administration, attendance at departmental meetings, formal teaching sessions, audit or other quality assurance activities.
- (4) There shall be no automatic right of reappointment upon expiry of a contract.
- (5) A practitioner who, upon expiry of a fixed term contract, is unsuccessful in seeking a new contract shall be paid a Contract Completion Payment equal to 10% of their final base salary, for each year of continuous service, or part thereof paid on a proportionate basis, calculated on completed months' of service up to a maximum of 5 years. No other termination, redundancy or severance payment shall be made except as provided for in this Agreement.
- (6) A practitioner with permanent tenure shall not be required to convert to a fixed term contract but may agree to do so. Such an agreement must be in writing specifically agreeing to the change and include a declaration by the practitioner that he/she fully understands the implications of foregoing permanency.
- (7) Subject to subclause (2) any contract of employment including a fixed term contract may be terminated by either the employer or the practitioner giving not less than 3 months' notice.
- (8) In lieu of the giving of the required notice the employer may pay, or the practitioner may forfeit, as the case may be, salary commensurate with the residual period of notice otherwise required. The employer and the practitioner may agree to a lesser period of notice.



- (9) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this clause, the Employer may, without prior notice, dismiss a practitioner for serious misconduct.
- (10) A practitioner who is dismissed may appeal to a Board of Reference if the application is made within one month of the operative date of the dismissal.
- (11) A practitioner whose contract of employment expires or is terminated shall be paid all monies due on the payday following the last day of employment.
- (12) Head of Department Appointments
- (a) A Senior Practitioner may, from time to time, be concurrently appointed as a Head of Department for a term not exceeding the term of the practitioner's appointment as a senior practitioner. There shall be no automatic right of reappointment as a Head of Department after the end of a term of appointment. If employment as a senior practitioner ends, employment as a Head of Department automatically ends. If employment as a Head of Department ends, employment as a senior practitioner does not automatically end.
- (b) A Head of Department shall be remunerated by way of an annual Head of Department Allowance, payable pro rata fortnightly with salary, which continues to be paid during periods of ordinary paid leave but is not counted as part of base salary for the purposes of this Agreement.
- (c) The duties of the Head of Department shall be as set out, from time to time, in a job description which shall include the criteria upon which the performance of the Head of Department shall be evaluated.
- (d) The terms of appointment of a Head of Department shall delineate the average number of sessions per week in the case of sessional practitioners, or number of hours per week, in the case of full-time and part-time practitioners, allocated to the undertaking of the duties of Head of Department.
- (e) An appointment as Head of Department may, at the discretion of either party, be terminated by either the employer or the Head of Department giving to the other 1 months' notice or in lieu of the giving of the notice, the payment or the forfeiture of payment, as the case may be, of the Head of Department Allowance for that period.
- (f) Head of Department Annual Allowance Calculation

Number of staff under direct supervision and control	1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-13	1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-14	1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-15
1-4	\$8,234	\$8,542	\$8,841
5-9	\$14,637	\$15,186	\$15,717
10-20	\$26,981	\$27,993	\$28,973
Over 20	\$43,448	\$45,078	\$46,655

or such other amount agreed in writing between the employer and the Head of Department.

- (g) A practitioner who is directed by the employer to act as Head of Department and who performs the full duties and has the full responsibility of the role for more than ten consecutive working days, shall be paid the Head of Department Allowance whilst so acting.

- (h) For the purpose of sub clause (f), "No. of staff under direct supervision and control" shall mean:
  - (i) senior practitioners reporting to, and directly performance managed by, the Head of Department;
  - (ii) doctors in training reporting to, and directly performance managed by, the Head of Department provided that where doctors in training rotate through the Department the count shall be the number of doctors in training at the time of calculating the allowance;
  - (iii) chief technical staff reporting to, and directly performance managed by, the Head of Department; and
  - (iv) other staff, reporting directly to, and performance managed by the Head of Department;
- (i) For the purpose of this sub clause, "Department" means a clinical specialty or sub-specialty organisation unit of a Hospital however titled.
- (j) Where a sub-specialty Unit or sub-department (however titled) of a Department is established and a Head of Unit (however titled) is appointed pursuant to this sub clause, a Head of Department Allowance shall be paid to the Head of Unit. Staff under the direct supervision and control of a Head of Unit who is paid an allowance are not counted for the purposes of calculating the allowance payable to the Head of Department to whom the Head of Unit is accountable.

## **21. MOBILITY**

- (1) The employer may, following consultation with the practitioners affected, require a practitioner to transfer from one site to another within that practitioner's metropolitan health service and/or work across more than one site within that practitioner's metropolitan health service on either a continuing or ad hoc basis.
- (2) In respect of any consultation about the deployment of practitioners pursuant to subclause (1) the needs of the employer and the practitioner should be appropriately balanced, taking into account:
  - (a) The role of practitioners as clinical leaders in facilitating excellence.
  - (b) The importance of teamwork in maximising morale, commitment and efficiency.
  - (c) The need to strive to improve flexibility and standards of care across the health system.
  - (d) The availability of viable alternatives.
  - (e) The needs and potential effects on existing services.
  - (f) The needs and effects on the practitioner and their colleagues including:
    - (i) their expertise and professional interests,
    - (ii) the role of the practitioner and the effect on teaching, research and other practitioners,
    - (iii) their family and carer responsibilities, and
    - (iv) such other issues as are relevant in the circumstances.

(g) The primacy of service delivery obligations.

(3) Temporary Deployment

Practitioners may at the discretion of the employer be deployed with reasonable notice on a temporary basis, for periods of up to 3 months on each occasion, to work at other sites within the greater Perth Metropolitan area. A practitioner so deployed shall be entitled to payment of the prescribed travelling allowance for any additional distance reasonably required to be travelled by the practitioner using their own means.

(4) If a dispute arises in relation to the application of this Clause, the provisions of Clause 54 - Dispute Settling Procedures, may be invoked. In accordance with subclause 54(5), the status quo that existed prior to the dispute arising shall remain in place while such procedures are followed.

(5) For the purposes of this clause

(a) “greater Perth metropolitan area” encompasses all those facilities under the control of the employer and excludes those facilities under the control of the WA Country Health Service.

(b) “metropolitan health service” means:

(i) North Metropolitan Area Health Service; or

(ii) South Metropolitan Area Health Service; or

(iii) Child & Adolescent Health Service, or

(iv) PathWest Laboratory Medicine WA.

as the context requires and encompasses all those facilities or functions, from time to time, under the administrative control of the health service irrespective of the location of those facilities or functions within the greater Perth metropolitan area.

(6) If the administrative organisation of the metropolitan health services is changed during the life of the Agreement, any reference to an individual metropolitan area health service shall be read as if it were a reference to the reorganised administrative entity or entities as the context requires.

## **22. HOURS**

(1) Practitioners are engaged on a no-fixed hours basis consistent with professional practice and are rostered accordingly.

(2) (a) The ordinary full time professional commitment is an average of 40 hours per week and shall be rostered in accordance with health service needs and may be rostered over less than five days per week.

(b) The expected commitment to clinical service and teaching shall be 80% of the professional commitment.

(c) Rostered on-call and call-back commitments are not included in the ordinary professional commitment.

## **23. SESSIONAL PRACTITIONERS**

(1) Sessional practitioners are part-time practitioners appointed for a specified number of sessions per week and are rostered accordingly.

- (2) (a) One session is equal to one tenth of a full-time professional commitment and can be a continuous working period or be made up of any combination of part sessions.
- (b) Sessions shall usually be worked on Monday to Friday between 8:00am and 6:00pm, but subject to the convenience of the practitioner and with the approval of the employer, a session or part of a session may be worked outside these hours without shift or weekend penalties applying. However, if a sessional practitioner is rostered to work sessions outside of those specified in this subclause, the shift or weekend penalties prescribed in Clause 32 – Shift Weekend and Public Holiday Penalties, shall apply.
- (3) The employer shall not vary the number of sessions a practitioner is contracted to perform without the written agreement of the practitioner.
- (4) A practitioner shall not be engaged for more than 5 sessions per week in the WA Public Sector without the prior approval of the Director General of Health.
- (5) A sessional practitioner shall, unless otherwise indicated, receive on a pro rata basis the same pay and conditions as a full time practitioner.
- (6) The base sessional rate is derived by dividing the prescribed annual salary by 52.1666 and dividing the product by 10.
- (7) Private Practice Cost Allowance

- (a) If a sessional practitioner has demonstrated the incurrence of private practice costs outside the hospital, the practitioner shall be paid a Private Practice Cost Allowance on each session, up to and including 5 sessions. The prescribed allowance is payable from the first pay period on or after the specified date:

3.75%	3.75%	3.5%
1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-13	1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-14	1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-15
\$98.07	\$101.75	\$105.31

- (b) The adjustments in the rates reflect increases in line with general percentage salary increases.
- (c) A sessional practitioner must demonstrate the incurrence of private practice costs annually.
- (d) A sessional practitioner who does not qualify for the Private Practice Cost Allowance shall be paid an allowance of 16% of the applicable base sessional rate unless the sessional practitioner is engaged under Arrangement A.
- (e) No Private Practice Cost Allowance is payable for sessions worked in excess of 5 per week provided that a sessional practitioner who was, immediately prior to the date of commencement of this Agreement, engaged for more than five (5) sessions per week and was paid the allowance shall continue to be paid the allowance on all sessions.
- (f) No Private Practice Cost Allowance is payable for sessions which attract any shift or weekend penalty payment specified in this Agreement.

(8) Leave Entitlements

- (a) A sessional practitioner shall be entitled to pro rata leave entitlements in the same ratio as the number of sessions allocated bears to 10. If during any qualifying period the number of sessions allocated to a sessional practitioner varies, the number shall be averaged over the qualifying period.
- (b) A sessional practitioner shall be entitled to paid public holidays in accordance with Clause 35 – Public Holidays if the public holidays occur on a day on which a session is normally worked. If a sessional practitioner is required to work on a public holiday the provisions of Clause 32 – Shift, Weekend and Public Holiday Penalties subclause (5) shall apply.

(9) Subject to Clause 27- Private Practice Generally, sessional practitioners shall exercise rights of private practice under Arrangement A or Arrangement B under the same terms as full-time or part-time practitioners.

(10) Professional Development Allowance

A sessional practitioner engaged under Arrangement B shall be entitled to be paid the annual Professional Development Allowance prescribed in Clause (30)(6)(a).

**24. RADIOLOGISTS**

- (1) (a) Radiologists shall be remunerated by a combination of salary and piece rates as prescribed hereunder and shall undertake all radiological services to patients referred to them in tertiary hospitals or where the employer determines with the agreement of the practitioners concerned also from any combination of other public hospitals.
- (b) Subject to this clause, Radiologists shall exercise rights of private practice under the same terms and conditions as other consultants engaged under Arrangement A.

(2) Definitions.

- (a) “Radiological Service” means a radiological item of service as described in the Schedule to the Health Insurance Act 1973.
- (b) “Baseline Earnings Pool” means the amount of money available for distribution each financial year to radiologists for 50% of all radiological services undertaken within the hospital
- (c) “Piece rate” means the monetary value attributed to a radiological service for the purposes of the piece rate remuneration provisions of this subclause.
- (d) “Session” means one tenth of a full-time professional commitment.

(3) Monetary value of piece rate is payable from the first pay period on or after the specified date:

3.75%	3.75%	3.5%
1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-13	1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-14	1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-15
\$47.20	\$48.97	\$50.68

The adjustments in the rates reflect increases in line the general percentage salary adjustments.

(4) Weighting of radiological services.

The employer and the Association may from time to time agree in writing on a weighting to be given to particular items of radiological service such that those items are counted as more than one item of radiological service for the purposes of both piece rate remuneration provisions of this subclause.

(5) Value of baseline earnings pool.

(a) The value of the baseline earnings pool is calculated each financial year by multiplying 50% of the number of radiological services undertaken in the hospital during the 12 month period from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2012 by the specified piece rate.

(b) Where the piece rate changes during the course of a particular financial year the respective amounts shall be applied pro-rata to determine the value of the baseline earnings pool for that financial year.

(6) Remuneration by way of salary and allowances.

(a) A Radiologist shall be paid at the applicable base salary, for 50% of the number of sessions for which the radiologist is engaged. These payments are for 50% of all radiological services undertaken within the hospital.

(b) A Radiologist shall be paid pro rata the Arrangement A Professional Development and Expenses Allowance for the total number of sessions for which the radiologist is engaged.

(c) A Radiologist shall be paid pro rata 100% of the Arrangement A Private Practice Income Allowance for the total number of sessions for which the Radiologist is engaged.

(d) Private Practice Cost Allowance

(i) If a part-time Radiologist has demonstrated the incurrence of private practice costs outside the hospital, the practitioner shall be paid a Private Practice Cost Allowance on each session, up to and including 5 sessions. The prescribed allowance is payable from the first pay period on or after the specified date.

3.75%	3.75%	3.5%
1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-13	1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-14	1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-15
\$98.07	\$101.75	\$105.31

(ii) The allowance is increased in line with the general percentage salary adjustments

(iii) A Radiologist must demonstrate the incurrence of private practice costs annually.

(iv) No private practice cost allowance is payable for sessions which attract any shift or weekend penalty payment specified in this Agreement.

(7) Remuneration by way of piece rate.

(a) Radiologists shall be paid piece rates from the baseline earnings pool for 50% of the radiological services undertaken within the hospital.

- (b) The employer shall pay each month one twelfth of the value of the baseline earnings pool into an account administered by a private accounting service appointed, subject to the employer's agreement, by the radiologists employed at the hospital pursuant to this subclause. The cost of the private accounting service shall be borne by the radiologists.
  - (c) The private accounting service shall act as agent for the employer in:
    - (i) Distributing the monthly payments to the radiologists in whatever proportion is agreed between the employer and the radiologists. In the absence of any such agreement the disbursement shall be in the same proportion as the number of sessions each radiologist works during that month bears to the sum of all the sessions for which radiologists worked within the hospital during that month.
    - (ii) Withholding the relevant taxation from the distributed payments in accordance with Australian Taxation Office requirements.
  - (d) If the employer and the radiologists do not agree on the appointment or reappointment of a private accounting service the monthly payments shall be paid directly by the employer and the associated accounting costs shall be borne by the employer.
- (8) Additional piece rate remuneration if actual activity in any financial year exceeds certain limits.
- (a) As soon as reasonably practicable after the end of each financial year the employer shall calculate what the value of the baseline earnings pool would have been if it had been calculated on the basis of actual radiological service activity during that financial year.
  - (b) If the value derived under (a) above is greater than the previously established value of the baseline earnings pool, the employer shall top up the baseline earnings pool for that financial year by the difference between the two amounts.
  - (c) This provision does not apply if the actual number of radiological services undertaken during a financial year falls below 90% of the number of radiological services undertaken in the hospital during the 12 month period from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2012.
- (9) Minimum staffing levels.
- The number of sessions for which radiologists are employed to provide radiological services each financial year shall be determined in each tertiary hospital by dividing the number of radiological services undertaken in the previous financial year by one thousand.
- (10) Head of Department Allowance.
- (a) A Head of the Department of Radiology shall be paid for two additional sessions at the base salary rate.
  - (b) A Deputy Head of the Department of Radiology, if appointed, shall be paid for one additional session per week at the base salary rate.
  - (c) Notwithstanding (a) and (b) above, the total number of sessions for which payment is made shall not exceed ten sessions per week in any circumstances.

- (d) The allowances may be reduced by agreement between the Association and the employer.
- (11) For the purpose of superannuation contributions made by the employer, the salary of a radiologist shall be calculated as if the radiologist was paid at the salary rates prescribed for all the sessions worked.
- (12) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, a Radiologist may elect to be engaged under a standard full-time Arrangement A contract. A Radiologist so engaged shall not be entitled to any piece rate payments and the work undertaken by the radiologist shall not be counted for such purposes.
- (13) Notwithstanding this subclause, the employer and the Association may agree in writing to other arrangements for payment for radiological services.
- (14) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Agreement, the value of base line earnings pools will be varied from time to time, to the extent agreed between the employer and the Radiologists affected and the AMA, to take into account the movement of activity from one hospital or group of hospitals to another hospital or group of hospitals because of change associated with the commissioning of Fiona Stanley Hospital, Fremantle Hospital and Royal Perth Hospital. If agreement about the extent of change reasonably required cannot be reached, either party may refer the matter to the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission in accordance with Clause 54 - Dispute Settling Procedures and the matter will be determined by the Commission. This provision applies only for the term of this Agreement and will be removed in the next Agreement.

## **25. PART TIME PRACTITIONERS**

- (1) Part time practitioners are to be engaged on a 0.8 full time equivalent basis.
- (2) A part time practitioner shall, unless otherwise indicated, receive on a pro rata basis equivalent pay and conditions to those of an equivalent full time practitioner.

## **26. SALARIES**

- (1) Full time practitioners shall be paid the relevant annual salary prescribed in Schedule 1.
- (2) Classifications:
  - Health Service Medical Practitioner Year 1 to Year 3 (previously cited levels 14 to 16)
  - Vocationally Registered General Practitioner Year 1 to Year 5 (previously cited levels 14 to 18)
  - Medical Administrator Year 1 to Year 9 (previously cited levels 16 to 24)
  - Non Specialist Qualified Medical Administrator Year 1 to Year 5 (previously cited levels 14 to 18)
  - Senior Medical Practitioner Year 1 to Year 3 (previously cited levels 16 to 18)
  - Consultant Year 1 to Year 9 (previously cited levels 16 to 24)
- (3) (a) Practitioners shall be placed within the relevant classification range according to years of relevant experience. For the purposes of this clause “relevant” shall include post Fellowship training in Australia or equivalent recognised by the employer.



- (b) A practitioner shall progress through the applicable salary range by annual increments on their anniversary date subject to satisfactory performance.
- (4) (a) A Consultant shall be appointed within the prescribed range Consultant Year 1 to Year 9 on the basis of years of experience gained in recognised specialist positions in Western Australia or elsewhere recognised by the Employer.
- (b) A Vocationally Registered General Practitioner who ceases to maintain Vocationally Registered Status under the Health Insurance Act 1973 shall thereafter be classified as a Health Service Medical Practitioner or Senior Medical Practitioner as appropriate.
- (5) **Deferred Salary Scheme for 12 Months**

Practitioners shall have access to the 4/5 pay option whereby they work for four years at 80% pay and then take one year off at 80% pay in accordance with the relevant Department of Health policy and the following:

  - (a) By written agreement between the employer and practitioner, a practitioner may be paid 80% of their normal pay under this Agreement and or any replacement agreement over a 5 year period. The fifth year shall then be taken as leave with pay with the accrued pay annualised over the year. The fifth year shall be treated as continuous service. The taking of the leave may not be deferred unless the employer agrees.
  - (b) In deciding whether to support a particular request for this arrangement, the employer shall take into account factors such as operational requirements. To satisfy operational requirements, the number of practitioners allowed to work under this arrangement may be restricted at any one time and/or the timing of the arrangements may need to be staggered.
  - (c) A practitioner may withdraw from this arrangement in writing. They would then receive a lump sum equal to the accrued credit, paid at a time agreed between the employer and practitioner but not more than 3 months from the time of the practitioner's withdrawal from the arrangement.
  - (d) Any paid leave taken during the first four years of the arrangements shall be paid at 80% of the practitioner's normal salary.
  - (e) It is the responsibility of the practitioner to investigate and/or address the impact of any of the arrangements under this sub clause on their superannuation or taxation.
- (6) The rates and allowances prescribed in this clause shall be paid pro rata fortnightly.
- (7) In the case of senior practitioners, where this Agreement provides for a payment at an hourly rate, the hourly rate is established by dividing the prescribed ordinary salary by 52.1666 and dividing the product by 40.

## **27. PRIVATE PRACTICE GENERALLY**

- (1) "Private Practice" means those services provided, in or using the hospital's facilities, and for which fees are charged by or on behalf of the practitioner.
- (2) A practitioner shall at the time of being appointed be granted a right of private practice subject to the conditions of this Agreement.

- (3) The Minister for Health may from time to time prescribe the terms and conditions, including the payment of charges, under which facilities shall be made available to practitioners for the purposes of engaging in private practice within any public teaching hospital or in any other public sector health care facility. It is a condition of the granting right of private practice that practitioners comply with any such terms and conditions.
- (4) A practitioner shall, to the fullest extent permissible by law, exercise rights of private practice in any public teaching hospital or in any other public sector health care facility in which the practitioner works.
- (5) The hospital shall provide to the practitioner a copy of a patient election form or other evidence of an election to be a private patient which would satisfy Medicare Australia or other applicable health insurers of the election to be a private patient for those private patients admitted under the care of the practitioner.
- (6) A practitioner who does not comply with the terms and conditions under which facilities are made available to the practitioner for the purposes of engaging in private practice forfeits the ability to exercise rights of private practice.
- (7) If the employer determines that a practitioner is not exercising rights of private practice to the fullest extent permissible by law, the practitioner forfeits the ability to exercise rights of private practice.
- (8) If a dispute arises in relation to the application of this Clause, the provisions of Clause 54 - Dispute Settling Procedures, may be invoked. In accordance with subclause 54(5), the status quo that existed prior to the dispute arising shall remain in place while such procedures are followed.
- (9) Nothing in this Agreement precludes the employer and a practitioner from agreeing in writing on other arrangements to regulate rights of private practice. The absence of an election of Arrangement A, or election of Arrangement B, or an agreement pursuant Clause 7 – Agreement Flexibility or an agreement pursuant to sub clause (11) of this Clause does not constitute an agreement for the purposes of this sub clause.

(10) Use of Hospital Facilities

Practitioners granted rights of private practice, except practitioners under Arrangement A, shall contribute a percentage of net earnings from private practice within the hospital for the use of hospital facilities as follows:

EMG	50%
Radiation Oncology	50%
Pathology	50%
Nuclear Medicine	50%
Ultrasound (except if done in a Radiology Department)	50%
Pulmonary Physiology	50%
Audiology	50%
EEG	50%

- (11) Notwithstanding the provisions of this Agreement, the employer and Association may agree in writing on other arrangements to govern the exercise of rights of private practice.
- (12) In the absence of an election of Arrangement A or Arrangement B a practitioner is deemed to be under Arrangement A.

- (13) Nothing in this Agreement requires the employer to grant rights of private practice to a senior practitioner employed without rights of private practice immediately prior to the commencement of this Agreement. A senior practitioner to whom this sub-clause applies retains the right to refer a dispute about the granting of rights of private practice to a Board of Reference.

**28. PRIVATE PRACTICE - ARRANGEMENT A**

- (1) A practitioner may elect to relinquish all private practice income retention rights and other entitlements in respect of private practice rights exercised in any capacity in any teaching hospital or in any other public sector health care facility and assign such private practice income to the employer. An election made pursuant to this sub clause shall not be varied other than by subsequent written agreement.
- (2) A practitioner who assigns to the employer private practice income generated from all work, whether publicly or privately funded, carried out on behalf of the employer shall:
- (a) be paid the applicable Private Practice Income Allowance;
  - (b) authorise the employer to render accounts in the practitioner's name; and
  - (c) on each occasion the opportunity to exercise private practice rights arises, assess the fee to be charged and advise the employer so that an account can be rendered by the employer.
- (3) The employer in acting as agent for a practitioner shall ensure that no account is rendered which could place the practitioner in breach of the Health Insurance Act 1973 (Cwth). The employer shall, if requested, provide to the practitioner on a quarterly basis a statement detailing total amount of accounts rendered and amounts collected (exclusive of GST) in the practitioner's name.
- (4) (a) Practitioners engaged under Arrangement A shall receive the following annual Private Practice Income Allowance payable pro rata fortnightly from first pay period on or after the dates specified.

Classification	3.75% 1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-13	3.75% 1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-14	3.5% 1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-15
Consultant	\$97,840	\$101,509	\$105,062
Health Service Medical Practitioner	\$66,152	\$68,633	\$71,035
Non Specialist Qualified Medical Administrator	\$73,011	\$75,749	\$78,400
Snr Medical Practitioner	\$73,011	\$75,749	\$78,400
Medical Administrator	\$97,840	\$101,509	\$105,062
Vocationally Registered General practitioner	\$73,011	\$75,749	\$78,400

- (b) The allowance is increased in line with the general percentage salary adjustments.

**29. PRIVATE PRACTICE - ARRANGEMENT B**

- (1) A Practitioner may elect, with the written agreement of the Employer, to retain all the practitioner's own private practice income generated in any public teaching hospital or in any other public sector health care facility under the control of the Employer. An election made pursuant to this sub clause shall not be varied other than by subsequent written agreement.
- (2) A Practitioner who elects to retain all private practice income shall:
  - (a) take personal responsibility for billing private patients seen in the course of duty;
  - (b) pay any facilities charge according to such terms and conditions as are determined from time to time by the Minister for Health; and
  - (c) account for private practice billings as prescribed hereunder.
- (3) Definitions
  - (a) "Salary" for the purpose of this clause means the practitioner's annual base salary at the end of the financial year in question, as prescribed in this Agreement and any Head of Department allowance.
  - (b) "Nett earnings" for the purpose of this clause means the total amount received (exclusive of GST) by the practitioner from private practice within the hospital after the practitioner deducts an allowance of 17½% of private practice receipts for administration costs (exclusive of GST) and the proportion of the practitioner's total medical defence premium (exclusive of GST) relating to private practice within the hospital for the financial year in question. To avoid doubt the medical defence premium which may be deducted is the amount which the practitioner pays or would have paid if the practitioner's private practice was undertaken exclusively within the hospital
- (4) Distribution of Nett Earnings after Deduction of Facility Charges
  - (a) A practitioner under Arrangement B may, after the deduction of facility charges, retain from nett earnings from private practice within the hospital up to an amount equal to 25% of the practitioner's salary.
  - (b) In the case of practitioners, who are not Pathologists, or Nuclear Physicians, fees received from private practice within the hospital, in excess of the amount authorised under paragraph (a), shall be distributed as follows:
    - (i) 50% to an approved special purpose account established for hospital / departmental purposes; (exclusive of GST)
    - (ii) the remainder to be retained by the practitioner.
  - (c) In the case of Pathologists and Nuclear Physicians, fees received from private practice within the hospital, in excess of the amount authorised under paragraph (a), shall be distributed as follows:
    - (i) 65% to an approved special purpose account for hospital / departmental purposes (exclusive of GST); and,
    - (ii) the remainder equally among the Pathologists and Nuclear Physicians.

- (d) Notwithstanding paragraph (c) the Employer may, by agreement with the Pathologists or Nuclear Physicians, make other arrangements for the distribution of funds received from private practice in excess of the amount authorised under paragraph (a).
- (e) The distribution of funds to an approved special purpose account for hospital / departmental purposes under paragraphs (b), (c) or (d) and the GST applicable shall be made on receipt of a Tax Invoice from the hospital.

(5) Statement of Earnings to be Provided

- (a) The practitioner shall provide to the hospital by 30 September each year a statement for the year to 30 June together with cheques for the amounts to be paid to the hospital and into the approved special purpose account respectively:
  - (i) Total amount of accounts (exclusive of GST) rendered during the year
  - (ii) Less adjustments and write backs
  - (iii) Less value of outstanding patient accounts as at 30 June XX
  - (iv) Subtotal amount of accounts (exclusive of GST) collected
  - (v) Less:
    - (A) 17½% (exclusive of GST) for administration and collection costs
    - (B) Medical defence premium (exclusive of GST) for the year in question
  - (vi) Nett amount for distribution in the following order:
    - (A) To the hospital – payment (exclusive of GST) for the use of hospital facilities
    - (B) Retained by the practitioner being up to an amount equal to 16% or 25% of the practitioner's salary as the case requires
    - (C) To approved Special Purpose Account (exclusive of GST) for hospital / departmental purposes
    - (D) To the practitioner (exclusive of GST)
- (b) The statement shall include the following certification at the end of the statement:

Accountants Certification

I certify that the above statement is correct in all relevant particulars and associated records have been checked to ensure all monies due to the hospital have been accurately and correctly calculated and accounted for in accordance with the applicable Australian Accounting Standards for the financial year ending 30 June xxxx. At the date of signing I am not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars misleading or inaccurate.

..... Signature

..... Date

Practitioner's Certification

“I certify that this statement is submitted in compliance with the Private Practice provisions of the Industrial Agreement. At the date of signing I am not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars misleading or inaccurate.”

..... Signature

..... Date

- (d) The Employer and practitioner may agree in writing that the amount payable to an approved special purpose account for hospital/departmental purposes shall be paid on a quarterly basis in which case uncertified quarterly statements in the above general form shall be provided. Any end-of-year adjustment shall be made by payment accompanying the certified annual statement.
- (e) A practitioner who does not comply with the provisions of this subclause may have the right to render accounts directly to private patients withdrawn and the Employer may direct that the hospital act as the agent in the rendering of accounts.
- (f) For taxation purposes the earning of private practice income through the election of Arrangement B is deemed an enterprise and it is mandatory for the medical practitioner to obtain an Australian Business Number and be registered for GST purposes if the turnover exceeds the prescribed amount per annum. A medical practitioner who has entered into a Recipient Created Tax Invoice arrangement with the hospital must inform the hospital if the GST registration is cancelled as GST does not apply to the transaction once registration is cancelled.
- (g) A medical practitioner who has obtained an ABN but is not registered for GST is entitled to claim the GST inclusive value of the Medical Defence Premium from the hospital.
- (h) In instances where the hospital acts as an agent in the rendering of accounts, GST is applicable to the 17.5% administration and collection costs fee when it is paid to the hospital.
- (6) A practitioner may ask the hospital to act as agent in rendering accounts to private patients after the practitioner has assessed the fee for services. In such cases the 17½% for administration and collection costs shall be retained by the hospital.
- (7) (a) If individual or agreed group contributions are insufficient to permit drawings of 16% of the practitioner's annual salary, payment shall be made up to 16% of the salary from the monies which would otherwise have been appropriated as facility charges.

In such circumstances payment to the 16% of salary level shall be made once each year (for the financial year ended 30 June) following receipt of a certified statement from the practitioner to the hospital in accordance with subclause (4).

- (b) If individual or agreed group contributions are sufficient to permit drawings of 16% but less than 25% of the practitioner's salary, payment shall be made up to 25% of salary from the monies which would otherwise have been appropriated as facility charges.

In such circumstances payment to the 25% of salary level shall be made once each year for the financial year ended 30 June following receipt of a certified statement from the practitioner to the hospital in accordance with subclause (4).

- (c) In no case shall the Employer be liable to pay, in respect of any hospital, more than the total amount that hospital received in that financial year as facility charges.

- (8) Amounts paid to practitioners under this Arrangement shall not be regarded as salary for the purpose of calculating superannuation entitlements nor for the purpose of any other entitlement under this Agreement.

### **30. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LEAVE**

#### **(1) Professional Development Leave**

- (a) A practitioner shall be entitled to a maximum of 3 weeks paid professional development leave, during each year of continuous service.
- (b) Such leave is for the purposes of attending conferences, undergoing additional training or courses of study relevant to maintaining or enhancing an individual's scope of practice and which is of benefit to the hospital. Such attendances shall be inclusive of travel time.
- (c) This leave shall not accumulate for more than two years. If the whole or part of this leave is not taken the entitlement to untaken leave shall lapse unless deferred by agreement between the practitioner and the employer.
- (d) Where attendance at a conference, meeting or like event is required in an official capacity in the course of their employment it shall not be counted as part of a practitioner's entitlement under this Clause.
- (e) No more than 2 weeks leave shall be taken in any year unless that period which is in excess of 2 weeks can be taken at no cost to the hospital and there is no requirement to provide cover for the practitioner's absence.

#### **(2) Overseas Professional Development Leave**

- (a) A practitioner shall be entitled to an additional 5 weeks paid leave after each five years continuous service for the purpose of overseas training, education and study.
- (b) The taking of overseas professional development leave may be deferred by mutual agreement, but no practitioner shall be allowed to take accumulated leave in excess of 10 weeks in any one period.
- (c) Overseas professional development leave may be taken wholly or partly within Australia by agreement between the employer and practitioner.

- (d) A practitioner may apply to take overseas study leave in advance, but if their employment is terminated before the end of the qualifying period they shall repay the employer the value of the leave and the funding source any other amounts received. The employer may deduct the amount determined by the funding source as repayable and repay the funding source from money due to the practitioner by reason of the other provisions of this Agreement at the time of termination. The funding source may waive all or part of the amount repayable.
- (3) The granting of leave is conditional on the leave being used for professional development and the hospital being satisfied that the proposed conference or course of study is relevant and of benefit to the hospital. Practitioners taking professional development leave must prepare a written report for their peers and the Hospital.
- (4) Unless otherwise agreed, not more than 50% of medical staff of any specialty or department are to be absent at any one time on Professional Development Leave. Every effort shall be made to ensure appropriate services are provided when staff are absent for the purposes of Professional Development.
- (5) Subject to this clause, conference and overseas study leave benefits are not available as monetary payments in lieu.
- (6) Professional Development Allowance

- (a) Practitioners engaged under Arrangement A shall receive the following annual Professional Development Allowance payable pro rata fortnightly from the first pay period on or after the dates specified.

3.75%	3.75%	3.5%
1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-13	1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-14	1 <sup>st</sup> pay period on or after 1-Oct-15
\$25,444	\$26,398	\$27,322

- (b) The allowance is increased in line with the general percentage salary adjustments.
- (7) (a) A practitioner who, at the time of the commencement of this Agreement was entitled to apply to a teaching hospital clinical staff education fund for funding of any form of accrued or pro rata professional development leave prescribed under this Agreement, shall retain the entitlement to apply for funding notwithstanding that under this Agreement the Professional Development and Expense Allowance for service after 1 April 2007 is paid.
- (b) A practitioner is not entitled to payment from more than one source for the same entitlement. The proscription does not apply to funding from other than hospital funds.
- (c) The rules which apply to administration of the teaching hospital clinical staff education fund shall be applied as if the practitioner had elected Arrangement B with respect to entitlements accrued prior to the commencement of this Agreement. This provision also applies with respect to prior service contributing to entitlements yet to be accrued, on a pro rata basis.
- (8) Arrangement B Funding for Continuing Professional Development Leave



- (a) Practitioners shall be eligible to apply for funding from the Special Purposes Account for payment, in respect of each period of Continuing Professional Development Leave accrued under Arrangement B, for reasonable travel, registration and accommodation expenses in accordance with this clause for:
  - (i) the actual cost of air fares up to a maximum of Business Class rates; with a maximum of two air fares paid in respect of each completed five years continuous service where overseas study leave is taken in broken periods with the employer's permission; and
  - (ii) a travelling allowance as follows:
    - (A) the actual cost of reasonable accommodation and expenses upon production of receipts; or
    - (B) an alternative system of payment agreed between the employer and the practitioner.
  - (iii) A sessional / part time practitioner shall be paid the amount specified in paragraph (i) and pro rata of the amount specified in paragraph (ii).
  - (iv) Fares and expenses associated with leave under this clause shall be paid only in accordance with the policy governing the administration of the special purposes account. The employer shall in no way be liable for payment of fares and expenses for practitioners currently or previously under Arrangement B.
- (9) Arrangement B Professional Expenses Allowance

A practitioner engaged under Arrangement B shall be paid, pro rata fortnightly, a Professional Expenses Allowance of 3% of the base salary of a Consultant Year 6 (previously cited level 21).
- (10) Leave is to be taken at a mutually convenient time and the employer shall not unreasonably refuse an application for leave that has been properly made.
- (11) The balance of Professional Development Leave accrued prior to the commencement of this Agreement will be carried forward.
- (12) Professional Development Leave shall be paid at the rate of pay applicable at the time the leave is taken.

### **31. STAFFING**

- (1) Practitioner staffing levels shall be determined by the employer, having regard to contemporary benchmarking and best practice parameters.
- (2) Where a practitioner:
  - (a) resigns, is terminated, transfers or otherwise vacates a position; and
  - (b) the employer determines that the position will be filled,action to fill the vacancy shall be commenced, in consultation with the Head of Department, as soon as reasonably practicable.

**PART 4 - GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**32. SHIFT, WEEKEND AND PUBLIC HOLIDAY PENALTIES**

- (1) Hours worked between 6pm and 12 midnight on any weekday shall be paid at the rate of 120%.
- (2) Hours worked between 12 midnight and 8am on any weekday shall be paid at the rate of 125%.
- (3) Hours worked on a Saturday shall be paid at the rate of 150%.
- (4) Hours worked between midnight Saturday and 8am Monday shall be paid at the rate of 175%.
- (5) Hours worked between midnight at the commencement of a public holiday and 8am on the day after a public holiday shall be paid at:
  - (a) the rate of 250%;
  - (b) if the employer and practitioner agree, the rate of 150% and in addition the practitioner shall be allowed to observe the holiday on a day acceptable to the employer and the practitioner, but no more than five days may be accumulated at any one time.

**33. ON CALL AND CALL BACK**

- (1) On Call
  - (a) For the purposes of this Agreement a practitioner is on call when the practitioner is rostered by the Employer to remain readily contactable and available to return to work outside of the practitioner’s normal hours of duty.
  - (b)
    - (i) Practitioners shall be rostered on call in accordance with clinical need by the Head of Department or if there is no Head of Department by the Director of Medical Services or the Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee.
    - (ii) No practitioner shall be required to be on call more frequently than one day in three. However, with the written agreement of the Association, or in an emergency, an on call roster of more than one in three may be agreed.
  - (c)
    - (i) A doctor in training rostered on call shall be paid an hourly allowance of 18.75% of the ordinary base hourly rate for Registrar, Year 4.

First pay period on or after 1 October 2013	First pay period on or after 1 October 2014	First pay period on or after 1 October 2015
\$10.40	\$10.79	\$11.17

- (ii) A senior practitioner rostered on call shall be paid an hourly allowance of 18.75% of the ordinary base hourly rate Consultant, Year 7.

First pay period on or after 1 October 2013	First pay period on or after 1 October 2014	First pay period on or after 1 October 2015
\$19.94	\$20.68	\$21.41

- (iii) Payment in accordance with this sub clause shall not be made with respect to any period for which a practitioner receives any payment for call back.
  - (iv) The adjustments in the allowance rates reflect increases in line with general percentage salary increases.
  - (d) Annualised payments.
    - (i) If an agreement between the Employer and all practitioners concerned is reached, the relevant on call payment may be annualised and paid fortnightly. There must be no additional cost to the Employer as a result.
    - (ii) The Employer or practitioners may, by giving four weeks written notice, withdraw from such an annualised payment system.
  - (e) Responsibilities of Practitioners Rostered On Call

Practitioners rostered on call must be available for consultation and recall to the Hospital/Health Service. The onus lies on the practitioner, once they are rostered to either negotiate with their peers about altering the roster, or to cover the work themselves. The onus on finding practitioners to cover the roster once the roster has been determined, should not fall back to the manager of the service, but should be borne by the particular practitioner rostered if they wish to change the roster and shall not result in additional cost to the employer. This requirement does not apply in the event of sickness or personal emergency, however the practitioner is required to notify the manager of their absence as soon as possible.
  - (f) Where practicable on call rosters shall be posted at least 14 days in advance.
- (2) Call Back requiring attendance at the workplace.
- (a) A Doctor in Training recalled to work shall be paid a minimum of three hours for a call back as follows:
    - (i) for work on any day between 6.00 am and midnight at the rate of 150%, of the practitioner's ordinary base hourly rate; and
    - (ii) for work on Sunday between 6.00 am and midnight at the rate of 175% of the practitioner's ordinary base hourly rate.
    - (iii) for work on any day between midnight and 6.00 am at the rate of 200% of the practitioner's ordinary base hourly rate.
    - (iv) if the call back period exceeds three hours payment will be at the rate of 200% of the practitioner's ordinary base hourly rate for the additional time.
  - (b) A senior practitioner recalled to work shall be paid a minimum of three hours for a call back as follows:
    - (i) for work on any day between 6.00 am and midnight at the rate of 150%, of the hourly rate prescribed at (v) hereunder.
    - (ii) for work on Sunday between 6.00 am and midnight at the rate of 175% of the hourly rate prescribed at (v) hereunder.

- (iii) for work on any day between midnight and 6.00 am at the rate of 200% of the hourly rate prescribed at (v) hereunder.
- (iv) if the call back period exceeds three hours payment will be at the rate of 200% of the hourly rate prescribed at (v) hereunder.
- (v) Hourly Rate

Classification and Increment Point	First pay period on or after 1 October 2013	First pay period on or after 1 October 2014	First pay period on or after 1 October 2015
Consultant Yr 1	\$126	\$130	\$135
Consultant Yr 2	\$130	\$135	\$139
Consultant Yr 3	\$134	\$139	\$144
Consultant Yr 4	\$138	\$143	\$148
Consultant Yr 5	\$143	\$149	\$154
Consultant Yr 6	\$147	\$153	\$158
Consultant Yr 7	\$153	\$158	\$164
Consultant Yr 8	\$158	\$164	\$169
Consultant Yr 9	\$164	\$170	\$176
Health Service Medical Practitioner Yr 1	\$103	\$107	\$110
Health Service Medical Practitioner Yr 2	\$107	\$111	\$115
Health Service Medical Practitioner Yr 3	\$111	\$115	\$119
Non Specialist Qualified Medical Administrator Yr 1	\$107	\$111	\$115
Non Specialist Qualified Medical Administrator Yr 2	\$110	\$114	\$118
Non Specialist Qualified Medical Administrator Yr 3	\$114	\$118	\$123
Non Specialist Qualified Medical Administrator Yr 4	\$118	\$123	\$127
Non Specialist Qualified Medical Administrator Yr 5	\$122	\$127	\$131
Snr Medical Practitioner Yr 1	\$114	\$118	\$123
Snr Medical Practitioner Yr 2	\$118	\$123	\$127
Snr Medical Practitioner Yr 3	\$122	\$127	\$131
Medical Administrator Yr 1	\$126	\$130	\$135
Medical Administrator Yr 2	\$130	\$135	\$139
Medical Administrator Yr 3	\$134	\$139	\$144
Medical Administrator Yr 4	\$138	\$143	\$148
Medical Administrator Yr 5	\$143	\$149	\$154
Medical Administrator Yr 6	\$147	\$153	\$158
Medical Administrator Yr 7	\$153	\$158	\$164
Medical Administrator Yr 8	\$158	\$164	\$169
Medical Administrator Yr 9	\$164	\$170	\$176

Classification and Increment Point	First pay period on or after 1 October 2013	First pay period on or after 1 October 2014	First pay period on or after 1 October 2015
Vocationally Registered General Practitioner Yr 1	\$107	\$111	\$115
Vocationally Registered General Practitioner Yr 2	\$110	\$114	\$118
Vocationally Registered General Practitioner Yr 3	\$114	\$118	\$123
Vocationally Registered General Practitioner Yr 4	\$118	\$123	\$127
Vocationally Registered General Practitioner Yr 5	\$122	\$127	\$131

In PSAAG 1 of 2011 the hourly rates corresponding to those above were calculated by increasing the base hourly rates, as then prescribed in PSAAG 2 of 2008, by the equivalent of 20%, 30% and 40% of level 24 effective from the prescribed dates and then rounding down to the nearest whole dollar. In this Agreement the adjustments in the allowance rates reflect increases in line with the general percentage salary increase rounded to the nearest dollar.

- (c) The practitioner shall not be obliged to work for three hours if the work for which they are recalled is completed in less time, provided that if the practitioner is called out and recommences work within three hours of starting work on a previous recall the practitioner shall not be entitled to a further minimum three hour payment.
  - (d) If a practitioner is recalled to work, payment for the call back shall commence from:
    - (i) In the case of a practitioner who is on call, from the time the practitioner starts work;
    - (ii) In the case of a practitioner who is not on call, the time the practitioner embarks on the journey to attend the call. Provided that if a practitioner is recalled within two hours prior to commencing normal duty, any time spent in travelling to work shall not be included with actual duty performed for the purpose of determining payment under this sub clause.
  - (e) Subject to the minimum three hours payment, payment for the call back shall cease when the work is completed or when the practitioner commences normal duty, whichever occurs first.
- (3) Call Back not requiring attendance at the workplace.
- (a) A practitioner who is rostered by the employer –
    - (i) on call for call-back requiring attendance at the workplace at one or more metropolitan public hospitals; and

- (ii) simultaneously rostered on-call for tele-medicine / tele-consultation for multiple metropolitan public hospitals and for multiple WA Country Health Service public hospitals; and
- (iii) who is recalled to duty and undertakes all the required work without going to the workplace shall be paid for a minimum of one hours work at the ordinary base hourly rate or for the actual time worked if work continues beyond one hour, provided that for work
  - (A) between 00:00 hours on Saturday and 08:00 hours on the following Monday, payment will be at 150% of the ordinary base hourly rate; and
  - (B) on Public Holidays payment will be at the rate of 250% of the ordinary base hourly rate.
- (b) Second and subsequent recalls to duty which occur within an hour of commencement of a call for which an entitlement to payment has already accrued do not attract additional payments unless actual time worked continues beyond one hour in which case payment shall be made for the actual time worked.
- (c) An entitlement to call back payment does not arise unless the practitioner is rostered on call pursuant to this sub clause.
- (4) A practitioner who is required to use their motor vehicle when recalled to work shall be reimbursed all expenses incurred in accordance with the provisions of Clause 46 - Travel Allowance.
- (5) A practitioner who is required to use their telephone after being contacted by the employer shall be reimbursed reasonable expenses for the cost of calls on application and presentation of satisfactory evidence that the call costs were incurred.
- (6) Notwithstanding the provisions of this clause, if the Employer and the Association agree, other arrangements may be made for compensation of on call and call back pursuant to Clause 7 – Agreement Flexibility.

### **34. ANNUAL LEAVE**

- (1) A full-time practitioner shall be entitled to 160 hours annual leave per annum. The entitlement accrues pro rata on a weekly basis.
- (2)
  - (a) Where a practitioner takes a week of annual leave, this will be debited as 40 hours leave.
  - (b) Where a practitioner takes a day of annual leave this will be debited as 8 hours leave unless the practitioner was rostered to work other than 8 hours in which case the practitioner will be debited the hours that they would have been rostered for that day. Provided that annual leave will not be utilised for any absence beyond full-time hours. Where a practitioner makes an application for annual leave for a period that is or includes a period of rostered overtime and the absence is approved by the employer, the period of rostered overtime will be changed to un-rostered hours. Annual leave credits shall not be applied to any period of un-rostered hours.
- (3) Additional Leave
  - (a) On-call

- (i) A practitioner can accrue up to a maximum of 40 hours of additional annual leave.
    - (ii) For each completed period of 120 hours rostered on-call a practitioner shall accrue 8 hours additional annual leave.
  - (b) Working Sundays and/or Public Holidays
    - (i) A practitioner can accrue up to a maximum of 40 hours of additional annual leave.
    - (ii) Practitioners who are rostered to work their ordinary hours on Sundays and/or public holidays during a qualifying period of employment for annual leave shall be entitled to receive an additional 8 hours leave for each seven ordinary shifts so worked.
  - (c) The maximum amount of additional leave that can be accrued under this clause is 40 additional hours leave during a qualifying period of employment.
- (4) Provided that a practitioner who is entitled to additional leave in accordance with subclause (3) above, the maximum combined entitlement shall be 40 hours additional leave during a qualifying period of employment.
  - (5) A practitioner who during a qualifying period towards an entitlement of annual leave was employed on a part time or sessional basis may elect to take a lesser period of annual leave calculated by converting the part time or sessional service to equivalent full time service.
  - (6) The annual leave prescribed in this clause may be split into portions, and may be taken in periods of one day or less, by agreement between the Employer and the practitioner.
  - (7) Accrued annual leave may, by agreement between the Employer and practitioner, be taken before the completion of 52 weeks continuous service.
  - (8) Annual leave may also, by agreement between the Employer and practitioner, be taken in advance of it having accrued. In such a case the advance payment shall be offset against any future leave accrual or against monies otherwise payable to the practitioner on termination. No refund is required in the event of the death of the practitioner.
  - (9) All annual leave taken shall be at the rate of salary applicable at the time of taking such leave.
  - (10) When the convenience of the hospital is served, the employer may approve the deferment of the commencing date for taking annual leave, but such approval shall only remain in force for one year. The employer may renew the approval for a further period of a year or further periods of a year. If, as a result, the practitioner accumulates more than three years entitlement, the employer may impose conditions on the taking of the leave including that it be taken at the operational convenience of the Hospital.
  - (11) The employer undertakes to ensure adequate staffing levels to enable practitioners to take their accrued annual leave. The employer shall confirm in writing when a practitioner's annual leave entitlement may be taken within two weeks of receipt of the practitioner's written application for leave.
  - (12) Annual Leave Loading has been annualised into the base salary.
  - (13) Practitioners upon request shall receive their ordinary pay and any allowances due to them for the period of their annual leave prior to going on such annual leave.

- (14) (a) If a practitioner lawfully leaves their employment, or their employment is terminated by the employer through no fault of the practitioner, before the practitioner has taken annual leave to which they are entitled, the practitioner is to be paid for the untaken leave.
  - (b) If any practitioner leaves their employment, or their employment is terminated by the employer, in circumstances other than those referred to in paragraph (a), before the practitioner has taken annual leave to which they are entitled, the practitioner is only to be paid for any untaken leave that relates to a completed year of service.
  - (c) Payment in lieu of any untaken annual leave shall be made on the death of a practitioner.
- (15) In the case of a practitioner transferring from one hospital to another hospital the annual leave entitlement shall be transferred.
- (16) A practitioner who has accrued more than four weeks annual leave may by written agreement with the employer cash out some or all of the excess.
- (17) Purchased Leave – 42/52 Salary Arrangement
- (a) At the request of a practitioner the Employer may agree to an arrangement ("the arrangement") whereby the practitioner can take a reduced salary spread over 52 weeks of the year and receive the following amounts of purchased leave:

Number of weeks salary spread over 52 weeks	Number of weeks purchased leave
42	10
43	9
44	8
45	7
46	6
47	5
48	4
49	3
50	2
51	1

- (b) Both the agreement to the arrangement and the time at which the additional leave is taken will be dependent on the operational requirements of the department where the practitioner works at the particular time.
- (c) Purchased leave will not accrue from one year to the next, provided that the practitioner is to be entitled to pay in lieu of the purchased leave not taken.
- (d) Unless otherwise agreed between the practitioner and the Employer, a practitioner who enters into an arrangement under this sub clause does so in blocks of 12 months.



- (e) For the purposes of this sub clause and without limiting the meaning of the term, “operational requirements” may include:
    - (i) The availability of suitable leave cover, if required;
    - (ii) The cost implications;
    - (iii) The impact on client/patient service requirements;
    - (iv) The impact on the work of other employees; and
    - (v) The practitioner’s existing leave liabilities.
  - (f) The portion of the practitioner’s salary to be forfeited shall be calculated as a fortnightly amount and their fortnightly salary shall be decreased by that amount for the duration of the arrangement.
  - (g) All annual leave taken during the course of the arrangement shall be paid at the reduced rate.
  - (h) The additional leave shall continue to accrue while the practitioner is on leave during the course of the arrangement.
  - (i) The reduced salary shall be used for all purposes during the course of the arrangement.
  - (j) The additional leave shall not attract leave loading.
  - (k) It is the responsibility of the practitioner to investigate the impact of any of the arrangements under this clause on their allowances, superannuation and taxation, and the options, if any, available for addressing these.
- (18) Double the leave on half pay
- (a) Subject to operational requirements and with the agreement of the employer, a practitioner may elect to take twice the period of any portion of their annual leave at half pay.
- (19) Less leave, more pay, cashing out leave
- (a) Unless otherwise agreed between the practitioner and the employer, a practitioner who enters into an arrangement under this subclause does so in blocks of 12 months.
  - (b) If at the commencement of each 12 month block of this arrangement a practitioner has a minimum of four weeks of annual leave available to be taken in that year, the practitioner may opt to forfeit the accrual of 1 or 2 weeks annual leave in favour of receiving additional salary to the equivalent value of the leave that has been forfeited (‘the arrangement’).
  - (c) The increased salary shall be used for all purposes during the course of the arrangement.

### **35. PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**

- (1) The following days shall be regarded as public holidays for the purpose of this Agreement and shall be granted to full time practitioners:  
New Year's Day, Australia Day, Labour Day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, Anzac Day, Western Australia Day, Sovereign's Birthday, Christmas Day, Boxing Day.

- (2) When a public holiday falls on a Saturday or Sunday the holiday shall be observed on the following Monday. When Boxing Day falls on a Sunday or Monday, the holiday shall be observed on the following Tuesday. When Christmas Day falls on a Saturday or Sunday, both the actual and substituted days shall be regarded as public holidays.
- (3) When one or more public holidays fall during a period of annual leave the holiday or holidays shall be observed on the next succeeding work day or days as the case may be after completion of that annual leave.
- (4) When a public holiday falls on a day when a practitioner is rostered off duty and the practitioner has not been required to work on that day the practitioner shall be paid as if the day was an ordinary working day or if the Employer agrees be allowed to take a day's holiday in lieu of the holiday at a time mutually acceptable to the Employer and the practitioner.
- (5) A practitioner who is required to be on call in accordance with Clause 33 - On Call and Call Back on a day observed as a public holiday during what would normally have been the practitioner's ordinary hours shall be allowed to observe that holiday on a day mutually acceptable to the Employer and the practitioner.

### **36. SICK LEAVE**

- (1) A practitioner who is unfit for duty due to illness or injury shall be entitled to be paid sick leave in accordance with the provisions of this clause.
- (2) A full-time practitioner shall be entitled to 80 hours sick leave per annum. The entitlement accrues pro rata on a weekly basis.
- (3) Payment for sick leave shall be at the rate, excluding Shift, Weekend and Public Holiday Penalties but not excluding amounts which would otherwise have been paid pursuant to Clause 17 – Payment For Overtime, the employee would have received had the practitioner not proceeded on sick leave.
- (4) The accrued entitlement to sick leave shall be reduced by the number of hours the practitioner was rostered to work on the day the practitioner was absent on sick leave.
- (5) A practitioner in their first 12 months of service may take up to the maximum entitlement of sick leave for that year in advance of the entitlement having accrued. Sick leave taken in advance will be offset against any future accrual or against monies otherwise payable to the practitioner at the end of their employment.
- (6) The entitlement, to the extent that it is unused, shall accumulate from year to year and may be taken in any subsequent year.
- (7) A practitioner who is unfit for duty due to illness or injury shall, as soon as possible, notify the employer of the fact and also advise the likely date of resuming duty.
- (8) No sick leave with pay exceeding two consecutive working days shall be granted without an adequate medical certificate or other evidence that would satisfy a reasonable person.
- (9) A practitioner who is unable to resume duty on the expiration of the period shown in the first certificate, shall produce a further certificate and shall continue to do so upon the expiration of the period respectively covered by such certificates.

- (10) If a practitioner is ill during a period of annual leave and produces at the time, or as soon as practicable thereafter, medical evidence to the satisfaction of the employer that the practitioner is or was as a result of the illness confined to the practitioner's place of residence or a hospital for a period of at least seven consecutive calendar days, the employer may grant the practitioner sick leave for the period during which the practitioner was so confined and reinstate the practitioner annual leave equivalent to the period of confinement.
- (11) If a practitioner is ill during the period of long service leave and produces at the time or as soon as practicable thereafter, medical evidence to the satisfaction of the employer that the practitioner is or was confined to the practitioner's place of residence or a hospital for a period of at least fourteen consecutive calendar days, the employer may grant sick leave for the period during which the practitioner was so confined and reinstate the practitioner long service leave equivalent to the period of confinement.
- (12) No leave on account of illness or injury shall be granted with pay if the illness or injury has been caused by misconduct of the practitioner or in any case of absence from duty without sufficient cause.
- (13) If a practitioner suffers an injury within the meaning of s.5 of the Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981, which necessitates that practitioner being absent from duty sick leave with pay shall be granted to the extent of sick leave credits. In accordance with s.80(2) of the Workers' Compensation and Injury Management Act 1981 if the claim for workers' compensation is decided in favour of the practitioner, the sick leave credit shall be reinstated.
- (14)
  - (a) If a practitioner resigns or is terminated by the employer through no fault of the practitioner and is engaged by another Western Australian Government Health Service within seven days of the expiration of any period for which payment in lieu of annual leave or public holidays has been made, the period of sick leave that has accrued to the practitioner's credit shall remain to such practitioner's credit and subclause (2) shall continue to apply to such practitioner.
  - (b) If a practitioner was, immediately prior to being employed by the employer, employed by any other WA government employer, or by the Commonwealth or any other State of Australia, and the period between the date when the practitioner ceased previous employment and the date of the practitioner commencing employment with the employer does not exceed one week, or such further period as the employer determines, the employer may credit that practitioner additional sick leave credits up to those held at the date the practitioner ceased the previous employment.
- (15) A pregnant practitioner shall not be refused sick leave by reason only that the "illness or injury" encountered by the practitioner is associated with the pregnancy.
- (16) The balance of Sick Leave accrued prior to the commencement of this Agreement will be carried forward.
- (17) Sick Leave shall be paid at the rate of pay applicable at the time the leave is taken.

### **37. LONG SERVICE LEAVE**

- (1)
  - (a) A practitioner shall be entitled to thirteen weeks long service leave at their ordinary rate of pay on the completion of each ten years of continuous service.

- (b) Commencing from 1 July 2005 a practitioner shall be entitled to thirteen weeks long service leave at their ordinary rate of pay on the completion of ten years continuous services in the first instance and for subsequent service after each seven years of continuous service completed by the practitioner.
  - (c) A practitioner shall, unless otherwise agreed, give the employer at least 3 months notice of their intention to take accrued long service leave.
  - (d) If a practitioner is engaged on a fixed term contract of employment, and the contract of employment ends with effluxion of time, and the practitioner is not offered a subsequent contract of employment, and the practitioner has a minimum of five years continuous service as at the date of separation, then the practitioner shall be paid pro rata long service leave.
- (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subclause (1) a practitioner who, during a qualifying period towards an entitlement of long service leave was employed on either a part time or sessional basis may elect to take a lesser period of long service leave calculated by converting the part time or sessional service to equivalent full time service.
- (3) A practitioner shall take the long service leave to which an entitlement has accrued at the convenience of the employer.
- (4) Subject to the approval of the employer, a practitioner shall take long service leave within three years of the leave becoming due. The employer may approve the deferment of taking long service leave beyond three years in "exceptional circumstances", which shall include retirement within five years of the date of entitlement.
- Approval to defer the taking of long service leave may be withdrawn or varied at any time by the employer giving the practitioner notice in writing of the withdrawal or variation.
- (5) The employer may approve the practitioner's application to take:
- (a) double the period of long service leave on half pay, instead of full pay; or
  - (b) half the period of long service leave on double pay, instead of full pay; or
  - (c) any portion(s) of their long service leave entitlement in weekly multiples on full, half or double pay, with any remaining entitlement able to be taken in one portion.
- (6) Any public holiday occurring during the period in which a practitioner is on long service leave shall be treated as part of the long service leave, and extra days in lieu thereof shall not be granted.
- (7) The employer may approve a practitioner's application prior to commencing long service leave to change the commencement date.
- (8) Continuous service shall not include any period exceeding two weeks during which the practitioner is absent on leave without pay, unless the employer determines otherwise;

- (9)
  - (a) Given the nature of medical training, practitioners may, with the approval of the Employer, break their employment to undertake a period of study or employment interstate or overseas to further their professional skills. If a practitioner obtains a new appointment following such an approved period of study or employment of up to 24 months duration, and if payment pursuant to subclause (11) has not been made, the break in employment shall not count as service but shall not constitute a break in continuous service for the purposes of this clause.
  - (b) Given the nature of medical training, Doctors in Training may, with the approval of the Employer, break their employment to undertake a period of employment in a privately operated public hospital within the State to further their professional skills. If a practitioner obtains a new appointment following such an approved period of employment of up to 24 months duration, and if payment pursuant to subclause (11) has not been made, the break in employment shall not count as service but shall not constitute a break in continuous service for the purposes of this clause.
  - (c) Doctors in Training may, with the approval of the Employer, break their employment to undertake a period of employment in a private hospital within the State where the employment is for the purposes of progression through a learned college training program leading to specialist registration. If a practitioner obtains a new appointment following such an approved period of employment of up to 24 months duration, and if payment pursuant to subclause (11) has not been made, the break in employment shall not count as service but shall not constitute a break in continuous service for the purposes of this clause.
  - (d) Given that employment of practitioners is generally by fixed term contract, practitioners may break their employment for what would otherwise be parental leave. If a practitioner obtains a new appointment immediately following an absence of up to 24 months for what would otherwise be parental leave purposes, and if payment pursuant to subclause (11) has not been made, the break in employment shall not count as service but shall not constitute a break in continuous service for the purposes of this clause.
- (10) Subject to subclause (8) the service of a practitioner shall not be deemed to have been broken if the practitioner's employment is ended by the employer for any reason other than misconduct or unsatisfactory service, but only if:
  - (a) the practitioner resumes employment under this Agreement not later than six months from the day on which the employment ended; and
  - (b) payment pursuant to subclause (11) has not been made.
- (11) A lump sum payment for long service leave accrued in accordance with this clause and for pro rata long service leave shall be made in the following cases:
  - (a) To a practitioner who retires at or over the age of fifty five years or who is retired on the grounds of ill health, but no payment shall be made for pro rata long service leave unless the practitioner has completed twelve months' continuous service.

- (b) To a practitioner who, not having resigned, is retired for any other cause; but no payment shall be made for pro rata long service leave unless the practitioner has completed three years continuous service before the date of retirement.
  - (c) To the surviving spouse of a deceased practitioner or such other person (including the executor of the practitioner's estate) as may be approved by the employer in the event of the death of a practitioner, but no payment shall be made for pro rata long service leave unless the practitioner had completed twelve months continuous service prior to their death.
- (12) (a) If a practitioner, immediately prior to being employed by the employer was employed by any other WA Government employer or by the Commonwealth or any other State of Australia, and the period between the date when that practitioner ceased the previous employment and the date of commencing employment with the new employer does not exceed one week, or such further period as the employer determines, that practitioner shall be entitled to thirteen weeks of long service leave on full pay on the date determined by:
- (i) calculating the pro rata portion of long service leave to which the practitioner would have been entitled up to the date of appointment by the employer in accordance with the provisions that applied to the previous employment referred to, but in calculating that period of pro rata long service leave, any long service leave taken or any benefit granted in lieu of any such long service leave during that employment shall be deducted from any long service leave to which the practitioner may become entitled under this clause; and
  - (ii) by calculating the balance of the long service leave entitlement of the practitioner upon appointment by the employer in accordance with the provisions of subclause (1) of this clause.
- (b) In addition to any entitlement arising from the application of paragraph (a) of this subclause, a practitioner previously employed by any other WA Government employer may, on approval of the employer be credited with any period of long service leave to which the practitioner became entitled during the former employment but had not taken at the date of appointment with the employer provided the former employer had given approval for the practitioner to accumulate the entitlement.
  - (c) A practitioner previously employed by the Commonwealth or by any other State of Australia shall not proceed on any period of long service leave without the express approval of the employer until the practitioner has served a period of not less than three years continuous service under this Agreement and becomes entitled to long service leave on full pay.
  - (d) Nothing in this Agreement confers on any practitioner previously employed by the Commonwealth or by any other State of Australia any entitlement to a complete period of long service leave that accrued in the practitioner's favour prior to the date on which the practitioner commenced employment under this Agreement.

- (13) A practitioner who has elected to retire at or over the age of 55 years and who will complete not less than twelve months' continuous service before the date of retirement may apply to take pro rata long service leave before the date of retirement, based on continuous service of a lesser period than that prescribed by subclause (1) for a long service leave entitlement.
- (14) A practitioner may by written agreement with the employer cash out some or all of their long service leave entitlement.
- (15) The balance of Long Service Leave accrued prior to the commencement of this Agreement will be carried forward.
- (16) Long Service Leave shall be paid at the rate of pay applicable at the time the leave is taken.

### **38. FAMILY, BEREAVEMENT AND PERSONAL LEAVE**

#### **(1) Family Leave**

- (a) For the purposes of this clause, 'family member' means the practitioner's spouse, de facto spouse, child, stepchild, parent or step-parent. This entitlement shall also apply to another person who lives with the practitioner as a member of the practitioner's family.
- (b) A practitioner is entitled to use up to 5 days of their personal accrued sick leave to care for an ill family member each year, but the practitioner must maintain a minimum of 10 days of sick leave available for personal use in each year. Subject to paragraph (e) of this subclause, all family leave taken is deducted from the practitioner's sick leave entitlement.
- (c) Family leave is not cumulative from year to year.
- (d) Medical certificate requirements are as specified for sick leave.
- (e) If a practitioner has insufficient accrued sick leave, by mutual agreement, up to 5 days of annual leave may be used for the purpose of family leave.

#### **(2) Bereavement Leave**

- (a) A practitioner shall on the death of:
  - (i) the spouse of the practitioner;
  - (ii) the child or step-child of the practitioner;
  - (iii) the parent or step-parent of the practitioner;
  - (iv) the brother, sister, step-brother or step-sister; or
  - (v) any other person, who immediately before that person's death, lived with the practitioner as a member of the practitioner's family,be eligible for up to 2 days bereavement leave. At the request of the practitioner, the employer may grant bereavement leave in respect of some other person with whom the practitioner has a special relationship.
- (b) The 2 days need not be consecutive.
- (c) Bereavement leave is not to be taken during any other period of leave.

- (d) A practitioner who claims to be entitled to paid leave under paragraph (a) of this subclause is to provide to the employer, if so requested, evidence that would satisfy a reasonable person as to:
  - (i) the death that is the subject of the leave sought; and
  - (ii) the relationship of the practitioner to the deceased person.
- (e) A practitioner requiring more than two days bereavement leave in order to travel overseas in the event of the death overseas of a member of the practitioner's immediate family may, upon providing adequate proof, in addition to any bereavement leave to which the practitioner is eligible, have immediate access to annual leave and / or accrued long service leave in weekly multiples and / or leave without pay provided all accrued leave is exhausted.

(3) Special Personal Leave

(a) Without pay

The employer may upon the request of a practitioner, grant that practitioner special leave without pay for any special or personal reason.

(b) Use of Annual Leave

The employer may, upon request of a practitioner and with sufficient cause being shown, which may in the circumstances be with little notice, grant that practitioner single days of annual leave for pressing personal emergencies.

(4) Leave shall be paid at the rate of pay applicable at the time the leave is taken.

**39. DONOR LEAVE**

- (1) Subject to operational convenience, a practitioner shall be granted paid leave for the purpose of donating blood or plasma to approved donor centres.
- (2) (a) Subject to the production of appropriate evidence, a practitioner shall be entitled to up to 5 days paid leave for the purpose of donating an organ or body tissue.
- (b) If this paid leave is not sufficient and upon the production of a medical certificate, a practitioner may access their accrued sick leave or other paid leave in order to cover their absence.

**40. PARENTAL LEAVE**

(1) Definitions

- (a) "Child" means a child of the practitioner under the age of one year except for adoption of a child where "child" means a person under the age of 5 years of age who is placed with the practitioner for the purpose of adoption, other than a child or step-child of the practitioner or of the partner of the practitioner or child who has previously lived continuously with the practitioner for a period of 6 months or more.
- (b) "Practitioner" includes full time practitioners, part-time practitioners, permanent practitioners, fixed term contract practitioners up until the end of their contract period, and "eligible" casual practitioners.
- (c) A casual practitioner is "eligible" if the practitioner –



- (i) has been engaged on a regular and systematic basis for a sequence of periods of employment during a period of at least 12 months; and
    - (ii) but for an expected birth of a child to the practitioner or the practitioner's partner or an expected placement of a child with the practitioner with a view to the adoption of the child by the practitioner, would have a reasonable expectation of continuing engagement by the employer on a regular and systematic basis.
  - (d) Without limiting subclause (1)(c) of this clause, a casual practitioner is also "eligible" if the practitioner -
    - (i) was engaged on a regular and systematic basis for a sequence of periods during a period (the first period of employment) of less than 12 months; and
    - (ii) at the end of the first period of employment, the practitioner ceased, on the employer's initiative, to be so engaged by the employer; and
    - (iii) the employer later again engaged the practitioner on a regular and systematic basis for a further sequence of periods during a period (the second period of employment) that started not more than three months after the end of the first period of employment; and
    - (iv) the combined length of the first period of employment and the second period of employment is at least 12 months; and
    - (v) the practitioner, for an expected birth of a child to the practitioner or the practitioner's partner or an expected placement of a child with the practitioner with a view to the adoption of the child by the practitioner, would have a reasonable expectation of continuing engagement on a regular and systematic basis.
  - (e) "Primary Care Giver" is the practitioner who will assume the principal role for the care and attention of a child/children. The employer may require confirmation of primary care giver status.
- (2) Basic entitlement
- (a) Practitioners are entitled to 52 weeks parental leave in relation to the birth or adoption of their child.
  - (b) Parental leave is to be available to only one parent at a time, except that both parents may simultaneously access the leave in the following circumstances:
    - (i) an unbroken period of one week at the time of the birth of the child;
    - (ii) an unbroken period of up to 3 weeks at the time of adoption / placement of the child; or
    - (iii) where the employer agrees.
  - (c) In order to demonstrate to the employer that, subject to subclause 2 (b) of this clause, only one parent shall be off on parental leave at a time a practitioner shall, when applying for parental leave, provide the employer with a statutory declaration stating particulars of any period of parental leave sought or taken by his or her partner.
  - (d) Except as provided by subclause (16) of this clause, parental leave is unpaid.

(3) Birth of a child

- (a) A pregnant practitioner shall provide to the employer at least 10 weeks in advance of the expected date of birth:
  - (i) a certificate from a registered medical practitioner stating that she is pregnant and the expected date of birth; and
  - (ii) written notification of the date on which she proposes to commence parental leave, and the period of leave to be taken.
- (b) Subject to subclause (3)(c) of this clause and unless agreed otherwise between employer and practitioner, a pregnant practitioner may commence parental leave at any time within 6 weeks immediately prior to the expected date of the birth.
- (c) Where a practitioner continues to work within the 6 week period immediately prior to the expected date of birth, or where the practitioner elects to return to work within six weeks after the birth of the child, an employer may require the practitioner to provide a medical certificate stating that she is fit to work on her normal duties.
- (d) Where the pregnancy of a practitioner terminates after 27 weeks and the practitioner has not commenced parental leave, the practitioner may take unpaid leave (to be known as special parental leave) for such period as a registered medical practitioner certifies as necessary, except that where a practitioner is suffering from an illness not related to the direct consequences of the delivery, the practitioner shall be entitled to access paid personal leave to which she is entitled, in lieu of, or in addition to, special parental leave.
- (e) Where leave is granted under subclause (3)(d) of this clause, during the period of leave a practitioner may return to work at any time, as agreed between the employer and the practitioner provided that time does not exceed 4 weeks from the recommencement date desired by the practitioner.
- (f) Where the pregnancy of a practitioner then on parental leave terminates other than by the birth of a living child, it shall be the right of the practitioner to resume work at a time nominated by the employer which shall not exceed 4 weeks from the date of notice in writing by the practitioner to the employer that she desires to resume work.
- (g) Where a practitioner then on parental leave suffers illness related to her pregnancy, she may take such paid personal leave as to which she is then entitled and such further unpaid leave (to be known as special parental leave) as a registered medical practitioner certifies as necessary before her return to work provided that the aggregate of paid personal leave, special parental leave and parental leave shall not exceed 12 months.

(4) Adoption of a child

- (a) The practitioner shall notify the employer at least 10 weeks in advance of the date of commencement of parental leave and the period of leave to be taken. A practitioner may commence parental leave prior to providing such notice where through circumstances beyond the control of the practitioner, the adoption of a child takes place earlier.

- (b) The employer may require a practitioner to provide confirmation from the appropriate government authority of the placement.
- (c) The employer shall grant a practitioner who is seeking to adopt a child such unpaid leave as is required by the practitioner to attend any compulsory interviews or examinations as are necessary as part of the adoption procedure. Where paid leave is available to the practitioner, the employer may require the practitioner to take such leave in lieu of unpaid leave.
- (d) Where the placement of child for adoption with a practitioner does not proceed or continue, the practitioner shall notify the employer immediately and the employer shall nominate a time not exceeding 4 weeks from the date of notification for the practitioner's return to work.

(5) Partner leave

A practitioner shall provide to the employer, at least 10 weeks prior to each proposed period of parental leave:

- (a)
  - (i) for the birth of a child, a certificate from a registered medical practitioner which names the practitioner's partner, states that she is pregnant and the expected date of birth, or states the date on which the birth took place; or
  - (ii) for the adoption / placement of a child the employer may require a practitioner to provide confirmation from the appropriate government authority of the placement, and
- (b) written notification of the date on which the practitioner proposes to start and finish the period of parental leave.

(6) Variation of notice period

Notwithstanding the requirement to give at least 10 weeks' notice of the date of commencement of parental leave, such notice may be for a greater or lesser period, where it is necessary to vary the date of commencement of parental leave due to a variation in the actual date of arrival of the child. Such variation does not count as a variation for the purposes of subclause (7) of this clause.

(7) Variation of period of parental leave

Unless agreed otherwise between the employer and practitioner, a practitioner may apply to their employer to change the period of parental leave on one occasion. Any such change shall be notified at least four weeks prior to the commencement of the changed arrangements.

(8) Parental leave and other entitlements

- (a) A practitioner may in lieu of or in conjunction with parental leave, access other paid leave entitlements which the practitioner has accrued, such as annual leave, long service leave, and TOIL or other time off entitlements accrued under flexible working arrangements, subject to the total amount of leave not exceeding 52 weeks.
- (b) Subject to all other leave entitlements being exhausted a practitioner shall be entitled to apply for leave without pay following parental leave by up to 2 years. The employer's approval, which may not be unreasonably withheld, is required for such an extension.

(9) Transfer to a safe job

- (a) If the practitioner gives her employer a medical certificate from a medical practitioner containing a statement to the effect that, in the medical practitioner's opinion, the practitioner is fit to work, but that it is inadvisable for her to continue in her present position for a stated period because of:
  - (i) illness, or risks, arising out of her pregnancy; or
  - (ii) hazards connected with that position; thenthe employer must modify the duties of the position or alternatively transfer the practitioner to a safe job at the same classification level for the period during which she is unable to continue in her present position.
- (b) If the practitioner's employer does not think it to be reasonably practicable to modify the duties of the position or transfer the practitioner to a safe job the practitioner is entitled to paid leave for the period during which she is unable to continue in her present position.
- (c) An entitlement to paid leave provided in subclause (9)(b) of this clause is in addition to any other leave entitlement the practitioner has and is to be paid the amount the practitioner would reasonably have expected to be paid if the practitioner had worked during that period.
- (d) An entitlement to paid leave provided in subclause (9)(b) of this clause ends at the earliest of whichever of the following times is applicable:
  - (i) the end of the period stated in the medical certificate;
  - (ii) if the practitioner's pregnancy results in the birth of a living child – the end of the day before the date of birth;
  - (iii) if the practitioner's pregnancy ends otherwise than with the birth of a living child – the end of the day before the end of the pregnancy.

(10) Entitlement to Part-Time employment

- (a) Where a practitioner is pregnant, and has a doctors certificate advising that it would be preferable for the practitioner to work part-time; the practitioner may enter into an agreement, the terms of which are to be in writing, work part-time in one or more periods at any time up to the child's third birthday or until the third anniversary of the placement of the child.
- (b) The work to be performed part-time need not be the work performed by the practitioner in his or her former position.

(11) Communication during Parental Leave

- (a) Where a practitioner is on parental leave and a definite decision has been made to introduce significant change at the workplace, the employer shall take reasonable steps to:
  - (i) make information available in relation to any significant effect the change will have on the location, status or responsibility level of the position the practitioner held before commencing parental leave; and
  - (ii) provide an opportunity for the practitioner to discuss any significant effect the change will have on the location, status or responsibility level of the position the practitioner held before commencing parental leave.

- (b) The practitioner shall take reasonable steps to inform the employer about any significant matter that will affect the practitioner's decision regarding the duration of parental leave to be taken, whether the practitioner intends to return to work and whether the practitioner intends to return to work on a part-time basis.
  - (c) The practitioner shall also notify the employer of changes of address or other contact details which might affect the employer's capacity to comply with subclause (11)(a) of this clause.
- (12) Returning to work after a period of parental leave or part-time work
- (a) A practitioner shall confirm the intention to return to work by notice in writing to the employer not less than four weeks prior to the expiration of parental leave.
  - (b) A practitioner on return to work from parental leave shall be entitled to the same position or a position equivalent in pay, conditions and status and commensurate with the practitioner's skill and abilities as the substantive position held immediately prior to proceeding on parental leave.
  - (c) Where the practitioner was transferred to a safe job or proceeded on leave as provided for in subclause (9)(b) of this clause, the practitioner is entitled to return to the position occupied immediately prior to the commencement of leave.
  - (d) A practitioner may return on a part-time or job-share basis to the substantive position occupied prior to the commencement of leave or to a different position at the same classification level.
  - (e) A practitioner may return on a modified basis that involves the employee working on different days or at different times, or both; or on fewer days or for a fewer hours or both, than the practitioner worked immediately before starting parental leave.
  - (f) Subject to the employer's approval a practitioner who has returned on a part-time or modified basis may revert to how the practitioner worked immediately before starting parental leave or full time work at the same classification level within two years of the recommencement of work.
  - (g) The employer shall only refuse such a request on reasonable grounds related to the effect on the workplace or the employer's business. Such grounds might include:
    - (i) cost;
    - (ii) lack of adequate replacement staff;
    - (iii) loss of efficiency; and
    - (iv) the impact on customer service.
  - (h) A practitioner who believes their request has been unreasonably refused may seek to enforce it as a minimum condition of employment and the onus shall be on the employer to demonstrate that the refusal was justified in the circumstances.

(13) Replacement practitioners

- (a) A replacement practitioner is a practitioner specifically engaged or temporarily promoted or transferred, as a result of a practitioner proceeding on parental leave.
- (b) A replacement practitioner shall be informed of the temporary nature of the employment and of the rights of the practitioner who is being replaced.

(14) Notwithstanding any agreement or other provision to the contrary:

- (a) absence on parental leave shall not break the continuity of service of a practitioner but shall not be taken into account in calculating the period of service for any purpose of this Agreement.
- (b) commencement of part-time employment in accordance with this clause, and return from part-time to full time work under this clause, shall not break the continuity of service or employment.

(15) Casual employment during parental leave

- (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this clause, a practitioner may be employed on a casual basis during a period of parental leave, provided that any period of such service shall not count as service for the purposes of any other provision of this Agreement, and shall not break the continuity of employment of such a practitioner nor change the practitioner's employment status in regard to their substantive employment.
- (b) A practitioner shall not be engaged by the employer as a casual practitioner whilst the practitioner is on a period of paid parental leave, or a period of accrued annual or long service leave taken concurrently with a period of unpaid parental leave.
- (c) A practitioner engaged for casual work pursuant to this subclause shall be employed at a level commensurate to the level of the available casual position.

(16) Paid parental leave

Paid parental leave shall be granted to practitioners subject to the following:

- (a) A practitioner, other than an eligible casual practitioner, who is the primary care giver, and who has completed 12 months continuous service with the employer or any Commonwealth, State or Territory public sector body or authority, shall be entitled from the anticipated birth date or for the purposes of adoption from the date of placement of the child, or from a later date nominated by the primary care giver, to fourteen (14) weeks paid parental leave at the base rate of pay that shall form part of the 52 week entitlement.
- (b) A pregnant practitioner can commence the period of paid parental leave any time from six weeks before the expected date of birth.
- (c) A practitioner may take the paid parental leave specified in this subclause of this clause at half pay for a period equal to twice the period to which the practitioner would otherwise be entitled.
- (d) Definitions  
"Continuous service" means service under an unbroken contract of employment and includes any period:

- (i) of leave taken in accordance with this clause;
  - (ii) of part-time employment worked in accordance with this Agreement;  
and
  - (iii) of leave or absence authorised by the employer.
- (e) Only one period of paid parental leave is available for each birth or adoption.
  - (f) Contract practitioners' paid parental leave cannot continue beyond the expiry date of their contract.
  - (g)
    - (i) Paid parental leave shall be paid at base rates and shall not include the payment of any form of allowance or penalty payment.
    - (ii) Notwithstanding this subclause, parental leave may be paid either before or after any other paid leave taken during a period of parental leave
  - (h) Absence on paid parental leave counts as qualifying service for the purpose of accruing entitlements to personal leave, annual leave or long service leave.
  - (i) The employer may request evidence of primary care giver status.
  - (j) Part-time practitioners whose ordinary working hours have been subject to variations during the preceding 12 months may elect to average these hours for the purposes of calculating payment for paid parental leave. Alternatively, the practitioner may elect to be paid their ordinary working hours at the time of commencement of paid parental leave.
  - (k) Subject to the provisions of this subclause, all other provisions of this clause apply to practitioners on paid parental leave.
  - (l) An "eligible" casual practitioner has no entitlement to paid leave under this clause with the exception of the entitlement to paid leave as provided under subclause (9)(b) of this clause. Nothing in this clause confers a change in the employment status of a casual practitioner.
  - (m) Paid parental leave shall be paid at the rate of pay applicable at the time the leave is taken.

#### **41. WITNESS AND JURY SERVICE LEAVE**

- (1) Witness Leave
  - (a) A practitioner subpoenaed or called, as a witness to give evidence in any proceeding shall as soon as practicable notify the employer.
  - (b) Where a practitioner is subpoenaed or called as a witness to give evidence in an official capacity that practitioner shall be granted by the employer leave of absence with full pay, but only for such period as is required to enable the practitioner to carry out duties related to being a witness. If the practitioner is on any form of paid leave, the leave involved in being a witness will be reinstated, subject to the satisfaction of the employer. The practitioner is not entitled to retain any witness fee but shall pay all fees received into Consolidated Revenue Fund. The receipt for such payment with a voucher showing the amount of fees received shall be forwarded to the employer.

- (c) A practitioner subpoenaed or called as a witness to give evidence in an official capacity shall, in the event of non-payment of the proper witness fees or travelling expenses as soon as practicable after the default, notify the employer.
  - (d) A practitioner subpoenaed or called, as a witness on behalf of the Crown, not in an official capacity shall be granted leave with full pay. If the practitioner is on any form of paid leave, this leave shall not be reinstated as such witness service is deemed to be part of the practitioner's civic duty. The practitioner is not entitled to retain any witness fees but shall pay all fees received into Consolidate Revenue Fund.
  - (e) A practitioner subpoenaed or called as a witness under any other circumstances other than specified in subclauses (1)(b) and (d) of this clause shall be granted leave of absence without pay except when the practitioner makes an application to clear accrued leave in accordance with the Agreement provisions.
- (2) Jury Service
- (a) A practitioner required to serve on a jury shall as soon as practicable after being summoned to serve, notify the employer
  - (b) A practitioner other than a casual practitioner required to attend for jury service will be granted by the employer leave of absence with full pay, but only for such period as is required to enable the practitioner to carry out duties as a juror.
  - (c) A practitioner granted leave as prescribed in subclause (2)(b) of this clause is not entitled to retain any jurors' fees but shall pay all fees received into Consolidated Revenue Fund. The receipt for such payment shall be forwarded with a voucher showing the amount of juror's fees received to the employer.

#### **42. LEAVE FOR OFFICE BEARERS**

National Office bearers of Medical Colleges and their Faculties (formally recognised by the Australian Medical Council), the Medical Board and such associations as agreed between the employer and the Association shall be allowed up to 5 days paid leave each year to attend to the functions required of the Office.

#### **43. SPECIAL LEAVE**

Special leave with or without pay for conferences and other purposes including study leave may be granted at the discretion of the employer.

#### **44. ACCOMMODATION AND FACILITIES**

The employer must provide the following facilities for the use of doctors: changing room; common room; shower facilities; access to computer, internet and email facilities.

#### **45. PROTECTIVE CLOTHING AND UNIFORMS**

- (1) Protective clothing shall be supplied free of charge to each practitioner as required and shall be laundered by the employer.
- (2) If the employer requires uniforms to be worn they shall be supplied free of charge to each practitioner as required and shall be laundered by the employer.



- (3) Practitioners shall be provided with appropriate change and safe storage facilities.
- (4) Any such clothing or uniforms shall remain the property of the employer and must be returned at the completion of the practitioner's period of service.

**46. TRAVEL ALLOWANCE**

- (1) Practitioners who use their own motor vehicle for:
  - (a) call-backs out of normal working hours; or
  - (b) travelling between sites where the practitioner works at multiple sites or is seconded to work at another site;

shall be reimbursed for the kilometres travelled in accordance with the appropriate rates set out in Schedule F - Motor Vehicle Allowance of the Public Service Award 1992.

- (2) This provision does not apply to travel between the practitioner's place of residence and daily place of work.
- (3) Where a practitioner is required by the Employer to work at multiple sites or is seconded to work at another site, payment shall be made for any additional travel in excess of travel between the practitioner's home and primary place of work, compared to the practitioner's secondary place of work or secondment.

**47. CALCULATION OF PENALTIES**

If a practitioner works hours which would entitle that practitioner to payment of more than one of the monetary penalties payable in accordance with the relevant overtime, public holidays, on call and call back or shift and weekend work provisions of this Agreement, only the highest of any such penalty shall be payable.

**48. MEAL ALLOWANCES**

- (1) A practitioner:
  - (a) who works 10 hours or more (exclusive of rest breaks); or
  - (b) who is required to work overtime which necessitates the taking of a meal away from the practitioner's usual place of residence,

shall be paid a meal allowance as follows:-

Breakfast	\$10.30
Lunch	\$12.65
Dinner	\$15.20
Supper	\$10.30

Where the employer provides a meal (as distinct from a meal ticket that cannot be used at the time) to the practitioner, the relevant meal allowance is not paid.

- (2) These rates shall be automatically adjusted in accordance with adjustments to the rates prescribed in Schedule H - Overtime of the Public Service Award 1992.

**49. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT OF ENTITLEMENTS**

- (1) (a) Practitioners shall submit claims for payment of overtime, call backs or other entitlements for which they have not been formally rostered in the pay period within which the entitlement arose or in the following period.

- (b) Any claim that is not accepted or requires clarification shall be clearly communicated back to the practitioner and if the practitioner requests reasons in writing, reasons shall be provided in writing to facilitate resolution.

(2) Payment Details

- (a) Practitioners shall be provided with a payslip which summarises their fortnightly details including:
  - (i) Ordinary hours paid
  - (ii) Overtime hours paid
  - (iii) Penalty rates paid
  - (iv) Allowances paid
  - (v) On Call and Call Back Hours paid
  - (vi) Leave entitlements paid
- (b) If a practitioner seeks clarification on any matter, clarification shall be given to the practitioner and if the practitioner requests that clarification in writing, it shall be provided in writing.

**50. RECOVERY OF UNDERPAYMENTS AND OVERPAYMENTS**

(1) Underpayments

- (a) Where a practitioner is underpaid in any manner:
  - (i) the employer will, once the employer is aware of the underpayment, rectify the error as soon as practicable;
  - (ii) where possible the underpayment shall be rectified no later than in the pay period immediately following the date on which the employer is aware that an underpayment has occurred; and
  - (iii) where a practitioner can demonstrate that an underpayment has created serious financial hardship, the practitioner shall be paid by way of a special payment as soon as practicable.
- (b) An employer shall compensate a practitioner for costs resulting directly from an underpayment, where it is proven that the costs resulted directly from the underpayment. This includes compensation for overdraft fees, dishonoured cheque costs, and dishonour fees related to routine deductions from the bank account into which a practitioner's salary is paid.
- (c). Nothing in this clause shall be taken as precluding the practitioner's legal right to pursue recovery of underpayments.

(2) Overpayments

- (a) The employer has an obligation under the Financial Management Act 2006 to account for public monies. This requires the employer to recover overpayments made to a practitioner.
- (b) Any overpayment will be repaid to the employer within a reasonable period of time.

- (c) Where an overpayment is identified and proven, the employer will provide the practitioner with the written details of the overpayment and notify the practitioner of their intent to recover the overpayment.
- (d) Where the practitioner accepts that there has been an overpayment, arrangements for the recovery of the overpayment will be negotiated between the employer and practitioner.
- (e) If agreement on a repayment schedule cannot be reached within a reasonable period of time, the employer may deduct the amount of the overpayment over the same period of time that the overpayment occurred provided:
  - (i) the employer may not deduct or require a practitioner to repay an amount exceeding 10% of the practitioner's net pay in any one pay period without the practitioner's agreement; and
  - (ii) where necessary, an employer may deduct money over a period of time greater than the period of time over which the overpayment occurred.
- (f) If the practitioner disputes the existence of an overpayment and the matter is not resolved within a reasonable period of time, the matter should be dealt with in accordance with Clause 54 - Dispute Settlement Procedure. No deductions relating to the overpayment shall be made from the practitioner's pay while the matter is being dealt with in accordance with the Dispute Settlement Procedure.
- (g) Nothing in this clause shall be taken as precluding the employer's legal right to pursue recovery of overpayments.
- (h) Where an employer alters the pay cycle or pay day, any consequential variations to a practitioner's fortnightly salary and/or payments to compensate shall not be considered an overpayment for the purposes of this clause.
- (i)
  - (i) In the case of senior practitioners, "pay" for the purposes of determining "net pay" includes base salary, professional development allowance and private practice income allowance or such amounts as are paid on a regular weekly basis in substitution for any combination of base salary, professional development allowance and private practice income allowance.
  - (ii) In the case of a doctor in training, "pay" for the purposes of determining "net pay" includes base salary and professional development allowance or such amounts as are paid on a regular weekly basis in substitution for any combination of base salary and professional development allowance.

## **51. SALARY PACKAGING**

- (1) For the purposes of this Agreement, salary packaging will mean an arrangement whereby the wage or salary benefit arising under a contract of employment is reduced, with another or other benefits to the value of the replaced salary being substituted and due to the practitioner.
- (2) A practitioner may, by agreement with the employer, enter into a salary packaging arrangement.
- (3) The employer will not unreasonably withhold agreement to salary packaging on request from a practitioner.

- (4) The employer will not require a practitioner to enter into a salary packaging arrangement, provided that this clause will not impinge on any additional employer provided benefits.
- (5) A salary packaging arrangement will be formulated and operate on the basis that, on balance, there will be no material disadvantage to the practitioner concerned, and will be cost neutral in relation to the total employment cost to the employer.
- (6) A salary packaging arrangement must comply with relevant taxation laws and the employer will not be liable for additional tax, penalties or other costs payable or which may become payable by the practitioner.
- (7) In the event of any increase or additional payments of tax or penalties associated with the employment of the practitioner, or the provision of employer benefits under the salary packaging agreement, such tax, penalties and any other costs will be borne by the practitioner.
- (8) A practitioner may elect to cancel any salary packaging arrangement by giving a minimum of four weeks' notice.
- (9) The employer may elect to cancel any salary packaging arrangement by giving a minimum of four weeks' notice if the employer incurs a liability to pay fringe benefits tax or any other tax in respect of the non-cash benefits provided, provided that the employer cannot retrospectively cancel any salary packaging arrangement.
- (10) Notwithstanding subclauses (8) and (9) of this clause, the employer and the Practitioner may agree to forgo the notice period.
- (11) The cancellation of salary packaging will not cancel or otherwise effect the operation of this Agreement.
- (12) For the purposes of this provision, any penalty rate, loading or other salary related allowances which would ordinarily be calculated on the basis of the salary rates expressed in Schedule 1 Full Time Annual Base Salary Rates will continue to be so calculated despite an election to participate in any salary packaging arrangement.
- (13) For the purposes of this provision, employer contributions to a complying superannuation fund will be made on the basis of pre-packaging salary rates. To avoid doubt, employer contributions will not be reduced as a result of a practitioner participating in salary packaging pursuant to this provision.
- (14) The employer may at any time vary the range of benefits provided or the conditions under which benefits are provided however the employer will not differentiate between different class of practitioners across WA Health in terms or range of benefits or the conditions under which benefits are provided.
- (15) If a practitioner is found to have committed misconduct in the claiming a salary packaging benefit, without limiting any other action the employer may take in respect of the misconduct, the employer is entitled to prospectively cease to provide some or all salary packing benefits either indefinitely or for any period determined by the employer.

## **52. PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES / CONFIDENTIALITY**

- (1) Professional Responsibilities
  - (a) The parties recognise:

- (i) the importance of clinical independence in the context of the appropriate clinical governance framework and the primacy of the professional responsibility of practitioners to their patients.
  - (ii) that practitioners are professionally responsible and accountable to the statutory authorities including the Medical Board established under the Health Practitioner Regulation National law (WA) Act 2010.
  - (iii) that practitioners are responsible and accountable under the ethical codes and standards of relevant colleges and professional associations and under the Public Sector Management Act.
  - (iv) the need to provide best practice services and for practitioners to participate in the development and management of the health system and particular services.
- (b) The employer undertakes to provide the appropriate time and resources for practitioners to meet these responsibilities.
- (2) (a) Practitioners shall undertake such professional and other duties as are from time to time prescribed by the employer at each of the facilities in which the practitioner from time to time works.
- (b) Without limiting the generality of the foregoing or the primacy of the job descriptions, policies and procedures the employer may from time to time prescribe, practitioners agree to work diligently to improve productivity and efficiency and this work shall include but is not limited to:
- (i) All practitioners with the ability to charge private and compensable patients and others on whom a fee can legitimately be raised will maximise their rights to bill. The health service will provide timely assistance to mutually achieve this goal.
  - (ii) Heads of Departments will ensure that practitioners at all levels will adhere to activity and cost of service targets that are set for their departments under activity based funding, as determined and adjusted from time to time through the State budget. In doing so, practitioners will undertake processes of continuous improvement in terms of efficiency, effectiveness and quality and safety of services.
  - (iii) All practitioners will work with and promote the targets for emergency department and elective surgery performance under the National Emergency Access Target (NEAT) and National Elective Surgery Target (NEST) policies.
  - (iv) All practitioners will work with the hospital/health service to achieve the 10 mandated standards of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare.

- (v) All practitioners who have accrued in excess of 2 years of annual leave will apply to take and will take at the operational convenience of the hospital sufficient leave to ensure their annual leave does not exceed 2 years entitlement. Provided that where practitioners have accrued extensive periods of leave and are not able to reduce their entitlement as required by this clause due to operational requirements or extenuating personal circumstances, a leave management plan will be agreed with the Head of Department or Director of Medical Services for taking the leave. Leave vacancies will not be back filled for leave that is two weeks or under except on urgent clinical or service grounds and only then on the approval of the hospital or health service Executive Director.
  - (vi) All practitioners will support and be actively involved in assisting in the implementation of health and hospital reforms including the establishment and operations of new facilities including but not limited to the Fiona Stanley Hospital and Perth Children's Hospital.
  - (c) The Association and the employer parties will jointly monitor adherence to these commitments through a joint oversight committee the terms of reference, composition and membership of which will be as determined from time to time by agreement between the parties.
- (2) Confidentiality
- A practitioner shall not be bound, without the patient's consent, to divulge any information which the practitioner has acquired in attending the patient to any person other than the Director of Medical Services or their Deputy or equivalent, other than in accordance with the requirements of this Agreement or as otherwise prescribed by law or any relevant agreement between the Association and the employer.
- (3) Performance Management
- The parties are committed to operating appropriate Performance Management Systems to assist practitioners and hospitals in providing quality services and positively addressing issues. The key component of this system is the regular involvement of all medical staff in performance appraisal.
- (4) Teaching
- (a) The parties acknowledge the important role of practitioners in providing training of doctors in training in the achievement and maintenance of a sufficient medical workforce. It is further acknowledged that adequate levels of training for doctors in training are necessary to the maintenance of acceptable standards of quality and safety.
  - (b) The employer may require a practitioner, excluding interns, to engage in medical education/teaching as directed.

### **53. INTRODUCTION OF CHANGE**

- (1) (a) If the employer has made a definite decision to introduce major changes in production, programme, organisation, structure or technology that are likely to have significant effects on practitioners, the employer shall notify the practitioners who may be affected by the proposed changes and the Association.

- (b) "Significant effects" include termination of employment, major changes in the composition, operation or size of the employer's workforce or in the skills required; the elimination or diminution of job opportunities, promotion opportunities or job tenure; the alteration of hours of work; the need for retraining or transfer of practitioners to other work or locations and restructuring of jobs.

If this Agreement provides for alteration of any of the matters referred to herein an alteration shall be deemed not to have significant effect.

- (2) (a) The employer shall discuss with the practitioners affected and the Association, inter alia, the introduction of the changes referred to in subclause (1) hereof, the effects the changes are likely to have on practitioners, measures to avert or mitigate the adverse effects of such changes on practitioners and shall give prompt consideration to matters raised by the practitioners and/or the Association in relation to the changes.
- (b) The discussion shall commence as early as practicable after a firm decision has been made by the employer to make the changes referred to in subclause (1) hereof.
- (c) For the purposes of such discussion, the employer shall provide to the practitioners concerned and the Association, all relevant information about the changes including the nature of the changes proposed; the expected effects of the changes on practitioners and any other matters likely to affect practitioners, but the employer shall not be required to disclose confidential information the disclosure of which would be inimical to their interests.

#### **54. DISPUTE SETTLING PROCEDURES**

- (1) Subject to Clause 4 - No Further Claims, to the provisions of the Industrial Relations Act, 1979 and Clause 53 - Introduction of Change, any questions, disputes or difficulties raised by a party to this Agreement, shall be settled in accordance with the following procedures.
- (2) If the matter is raised by a practitioner, or a group of practitioners, the following steps shall be observed -
  - (a) The practitioner(s) concerned shall discuss the matter with the Head of Department. If the matter cannot be resolved at this level the Head of Department shall, within three working days, refer the matter to the Director of Medical Services and the practitioner(s) shall be advised accordingly.
  - (b) The Director of Medical Services shall, if so able, answer the matter raised within one week of it being referred and, if the Director of Medical Services is not able, refer the matter to the Hospital Executive for its attention, and the practitioner(s) shall be advised accordingly.
  - (c) If the matter has been referred in accordance with paragraph (b) above the practitioner(s) or the appropriate Association hospital medical practitioner representative shall notify the Association, to enable the opportunity of discussing the matter with the employer.

- (d) The employer shall, as soon as practicable after considering the matter before it, advise the practitioner(s) or, if necessary, the Association of its decision. Such advice shall be given within one month of the matter being referred to the employer.
  - (e) If the parties agree that a matter is non-industrial it may by agreement be referred to other appropriate bodies (e.g. relevant Colleges) for advice and/or assistance.
  - (f) Nothing in this procedure shall prevent the parties agreeing to shorten or extend the periods prescribed.
- (3) Subject to Clause 4 - No Further Claims, should a question, dispute or difficulty remain in dispute after the above processes have been exhausted the matter may:
- (a) be referred by either party to the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission (the persons involved in the question, dispute or difficulty must confer among themselves and make reasonable attempts to resolve questions, disputes or difficulties before taking these matters to the Commission); or
  - (b) if the parties agree, be referred to another independent arbitrator chosen by the parties or as a last resort nominated by the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission. In such a case:
    - (i) either party may be represented in the arbitration by an agent or legal practitioner and shall bear the costs of that representation;
    - (ii) the employer shall meet the costs of the arbitration, but if the arbitrator determines that a claim is frivolous or vexatious, the arbitrator may assign the costs of the arbitration (but not the costs of representation) against the claimant or apportion them in any manner between the parties. The parties undertake to accept the arbitrated decision as final and binding.
- (4) System wide issues shall be dealt with by discussions between the appropriate Association official(s) and employer representative(s). Should a matter remain in dispute after discussions have been exhausted it may be dealt with in accordance with subclause (3).
- (5) While the above procedures are being followed no party shall take action, of any kind, which may frustrate a settlement in accordance with the above procedures. The status quo (i.e. the condition applying prior to the issue arising) shall remain until the issue is resolved in accordance with the above procedures.
- (6) If the employer seeks to discipline or terminate a practitioner the principles of natural justice shall apply and the following steps shall be observed:
- (a) If a practitioner commits a misdemeanour, the practitioner's immediate supervisor or any authorised medical practitioner may reprimand the practitioner so that the practitioner understands the nature and implications of their conduct. The practitioner has a right to be represented when being reprimanded.
  - (b) The first two reprimands shall take the form of warnings and, if given verbally, shall be confirmed in writing as soon as practicable after the giving of the reprimand.



- (c) Should it be necessary, for any reason, to reprimand a practitioner three times, the contract of service shall, upon the giving of that third reprimand, be terminable in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.
  - (d) This procedure shall not limit the right of the employer to summarily dismiss a practitioner for misconduct. Nor shall it limit the right of a practitioner to refer a claim for alleged wrongful or unlawful termination to a Board of Reference.
- (7) A Board of Reference constituted pursuant to this Agreement is not a Board of Reference within the meaning of the Industrial Relations Act 1979 and nothing in this agreement shall be construed as meaning any party is obliged to agree to the establishment of the Board of Reference constituted under the Industrial Relations Act 1979. A decision of a Board of Reference constituted pursuant to this Agreement is not binding on the employer or a practitioner.

**PART 5 - SIGNING OF AGREEMENT**

(Signed)

16 December 2013

\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Boyatzis  
Executive Director  
Australian Medical Association (Western Australia) Incorporated

(Signed)

13 December 2013

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marshall Warner  
Director Health Industrial Relations Service

**SCHEDULE 1 – FULL-TIME ANNUAL BASE SALARY RATES**

**TABLE 1 – DOCTOR IN TRAINING**

Classification and Increment Point	Previously cited levels	3.75% First pay period on or after 01-Oct-13	3.75% First pay period on or after 01-Oct-14	3.50% First pay period on or after 01-Oct-15
Intern	1	\$69,892	\$72,513	\$75,051
Resident Medical Officer Yr 1	2	\$76,882	\$79,765	\$82,557
Resident Medical Officer Yr 2	3	\$84,570	\$87,741	\$90,812
Resident Medical Officer Yr 3	4	\$93,026	\$96,515	\$99,893
Registrar Yr 1	5	\$97,678	\$101,340	\$104,887
Registrar Yr 2	6	\$102,562	\$106,408	\$110,132
Registrar Yr 3	7	\$110,254	\$114,389	\$118,392
Registrar Yr 4	8	\$115,767	\$120,109	\$124,312
Registrar Yr 5	9	\$121,555	\$126,113	\$130,527
Registrar Yr 6	10	\$127,633	\$132,419	\$137,054
Registrar Yr 7	11	\$134,014	\$139,039	\$143,906
Senior Registrar Yr 1	12	\$144,066	\$149,469	\$154,700
Senior Registrar Yr 2	13	\$151,269	\$156,941	\$162,434
Supervised Medical Officer Yr 1	5	\$97,678	\$101,340	\$104,887
Supervised Medical Officer Yr 2	6	\$102,562	\$106,408	\$110,132
Supervised Medical Officer Yr 3	7	\$110,254	\$114,389	\$118,392
Supervised Medical Officer Yr 4	8	\$115,767	\$120,109	\$124,312
Supervised Medical Officer Yr 5	9	\$121,555	\$126,113	\$130,527
Supervised Medical Officer Yr 6	10	\$127,633	\$132,419	\$137,054
Supervised Medical Officer Yr 7	11	\$134,014	\$139,039	\$143,906
Supervised Medical Officer Yr 8	12	\$144,066	\$149,469	\$154,700
Supervised Medical Officer Yr 9	13	\$151,269	\$156,941	\$162,434
Trainee Medical Administrator Yr 1	6	\$102,562	\$106,408	\$110,132
Trainee Medical Administrator Yr 2	7	\$110,254	\$114,389	\$118,392
Trainee Medical Administrator Yr 3	8	\$115,767	\$120,109	\$124,312
Trainee Medical Administrator Yr 4	9	\$121,555	\$126,113	\$130,527
Trainee Medical Administrator Yr 5	10	\$127,633	\$132,419	\$137,054
Trainee Medical Administrator Yr 6	11	\$134,014	\$139,039	\$143,906
Trainee Medical Administrator Yr 7	12	\$144,066	\$149,469	\$154,700
Trainee Psychiatrist Yr 1	7	\$110,254	\$114,389	\$118,392
Trainee Psychiatrist Yr 2	8	\$115,767	\$120,109	\$124,312
Trainee Psychiatrist Yr 3	9	\$121,555	\$126,113	\$130,527
Trainee Psychiatrist Yr 4	10	\$127,633	\$132,419	\$137,054
Trainee Psychiatrist Yr 5	11	\$134,014	\$139,039	\$143,906
Trainee Psychiatrist Yr 6	12	\$144,066	\$149,469	\$154,700
Trainee Psychiatrist Yr 7	13	\$151,269	\$156,941	\$162,434
Trainee Public Health Physician Yr 1	6	\$102,562	\$106,408	\$110,132
Trainee Public Health Physician Yr 2	7	\$110,254	\$114,389	\$118,392
Trainee Public Health Physician Yr 3	8	\$115,767	\$120,109	\$124,312
Trainee Public Health Physician Yr 4	9	\$121,555	\$126,113	\$130,527

Classification and Increment Point	Previously cited levels	3.75% First pay period on or after 01-Oct-13	3.75% First pay period on or after 01-Oct-14	3.50% First pay period on or after 01-Oct-15
Trainee Public Health Physician Yr 5	10	\$127,633	\$132,419	\$137,054
Trainee Public Health Physician Yr 6	11	\$134,014	\$139,039	\$143,906
Trainee Public Health Physician Yr 7	12	\$144,066	\$149,469	\$154,700

**TABLE 2 - SENIOR DOCTORS**

Classification and Increment Point	Previously cited levels	3.75% First pay period on or after 01-Oct-13	3.75% First pay period on or after 01-Oct-14	3.50% First pay period on or after 01-Oct-15
Consultant Yr 1	16	\$165,555	\$171,763	\$177,775
Consultant Yr 2	17	\$173,834	\$180,353	\$186,665
Consultant Yr 3	18	\$182,524	\$189,369	\$195,997
Consultant Yr 4	19	\$191,652	\$198,839	\$205,799
Consultant Yr 5	20	\$201,235	\$208,781	\$216,088
Consultant Yr 6	21	\$211,295	\$219,219	\$226,891
Consultant Yr 7	22	\$221,860	\$230,180	\$238,236
Consultant Yr 8	23	\$232,953	\$241,689	\$250,148
Consultant Yr 9	24	\$244,601	\$253,774	\$262,656
Health Service Medical Practitioner Yr 1	14	\$151,269	\$156,941	\$162,434
Health Service Medical Practitioner Yr 2	15	\$157,672	\$163,585	\$169,310
Health Service Medical Practitioner Yr 3	16	\$165,555	\$171,763	\$177,775
Non Specialist Qualified Medical Administrator Yr 1	14	\$151,269	\$156,941	\$162,434
Non Specialist Qualified Medical Administrator Yr 2	15	\$157,672	\$163,585	\$169,310
Non Specialist Qualified Medical Administrator Yr 3	16	\$165,555	\$171,763	\$177,775
Non Specialist Qualified Medical Administrator Yr 4	17	\$173,834	\$180,353	\$186,665
Non Specialist Qualified Medical Administrator Yr 5	18	\$182,524	\$189,369	\$195,997
Snr Medical Practitioner Yr 1	16	\$165,555	\$171,763	\$177,775
Snr Medical Practitioner Yr 2	17	\$173,834	\$180,353	\$186,665
Snr Medical Practitioner Yr 3	18	\$182,524	\$189,369	\$195,997
Medical Administrator Yr 1	16	\$165,555	\$171,763	\$177,775
Medical Administrator Yr 2	17	\$173,834	\$180,353	\$186,665
Medical Administrator Yr 3	18	\$182,524	\$189,369	\$195,997
Medical Administrator Yr 4	19	\$191,652	\$198,839	\$205,799
Medical Administrator Yr 5	20	\$201,235	\$208,781	\$216,088

Classification and Increment Point	Previously cited levels	3.75% First pay period on or after 01-Oct-13	3.75% First pay period on or after 01-Oct-14	3.50% First pay period on or after 01-Oct-15
Medical Administrator Yr 6	21	\$211,295	\$219,219	\$226,891
Medical Administrator Yr 7	22	\$221,860	\$230,180	\$238,236
Medical Administrator Yr 8	23	\$232,953	\$241,689	\$250,148
Medical Administrator Yr 9	24	\$244,601	\$253,774	\$262,656
Vocationally Registered General Practitioner Yr 1	14	\$151,269	\$156,941	\$162,434
Vocationally Registered General Practitioner Yr 2	15	\$157,672	\$163,585	\$169,310
Vocationally Registered General Practitioner Yr 3	16	\$165,555	\$171,763	\$177,775
Vocationally Registered General Practitioner Yr 4	17	\$173,822	\$180,340	\$186,652
Vocationally Registered General Practitioner Yr 5	18	\$182,524	\$189,369	\$195,997

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS (METROPOLITAN  
HEALTH SERVICES) AMA INDUSTRIAL AGREEMENT 2013**

**WESTERN AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION**

**PARTIES** THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH INCORPORATED AS THE BOARD OF  
THE HOSPITALS FORMERLY COMPRISED IN THE  
METROPOLITAN HEALTH SERVICE BOARD, UNDER S7 OF THE  
HOSPITALS AND HEALTH SERVICES ACT 1927 (WA)

**APPLICANT**

-v-

THE AUSTRALIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (WESTERN  
AUSTRALIA) INCORPORATED

**RESPONDENT**

**CORAM** PUBLIC SERVICE ARBITRATOR  
COMMISSIONER S M MAYMAN

**DATE** MONDAY, 23 DECEMBER 2013

**FILE NO** PSAAG 4 OF 2013

**CITATION NO.** 2013 WAIRC 01084

**Result** Agreement registered

**Representation**

**Applicant** Ms Chelsea Reid

**Respondent** Ms Clare Francis

*Order*

HAVING heard Ms Chelsea Reid on behalf of The Minister for Health incorporated as the Board of the hospitals formerly comprised in the Metropolitan Health Service Board, under s7 of the Hospitals and Health Services Act 1927 (WA) and Ms Clare Francis on behalf of the Australian Medical Association (Western Australia) Incorporated the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission, pursuant to the powers conferred on it under the *Industrial Relations Act 1979* hereby orders:

1. THAT the Department of Health Medical Practitioners (Metropolitan Health Services) AMA Industrial Agreement 2013 (No PSAAG 4 of 2013) in the terms of the agreement filed on 16 December 2013 as amended be registered pursuant to s 41 of the Act as an industrial agreement.

2. THAT this Agreement replaces the Department of Health Medical Practitioners (Metropolitan Health Services) AMA Industrial Agreement 2011 (No PSAAG 1 of 2011).

(L.S.) (Sgn.) SM Mayman

COMMISSIONER S M MAYMAN  
PUBLIC SERVICE ARBITRATOR