



The statutory standards under the *Mental Health Act 2014* are changing.

Since 2014, the National Standards for Mental Health Services 2010 (NSMHS) have been the statutory standards under the *Mental Health Act 2014* (MHA). The Chief Psychiatrist, under the MHA, is responsible for setting standards for treatment and care provided to a range of consumers of mental health services. **The Chief Psychiatrist will withdraw NSMHS as statutory standards in WA, and will endorse new standards as follows:**

Clinical Services

National Safety and Quality Health
Service Standards
(NSQHS)

NSQHS are already implemented in clinical
services in WA
NSMHS will cease as statutory standards on
1 November 2023

Clinical services may advise their accrediting
agency that, from 1 November 2023, they no
longer require accreditation to NSMHS

Psychosocial Services*

National Safety and Quality Mental Health
Standards for Community Managed
Organisations
(NSQMHC MO)

The Office of the Chief Psychiatrist is working
on a transition plan with the Mental Health
Commission and other stakeholders
NSMHS remain statutory pending the plan

Psychosocial services must maintain
accreditation against NSMHS until the
transition plan is agreed

All Mental Health Services

Must adhere to the Chief Psychiatrist's Standards for Clinical Care (CPCC)

* Community managed and non-government organisations providing mental health services which meet the definition of a mental health service under the Mental Health Act 2014 – including private psychiatric hostels

Why is this change happening?

Standards require review and update. The NSMHS have not been updated since 2010 and there is no plan to update them. The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare (ACSQHC) have developed and released new standards which reflect the needs of clinical mental health services and a more contemporary approach to mental health in the community managed sector. These standards sit with in national accreditation schemes coordinated and overseen by the ACSQHC.

The CPCC Standards are statutory standards targeted to WA and remain in place for mental health services under the Chief Psychiatrist's remit.

Where can I find more information?

For information about the **NSQHS**, **NSQMHC MO** and the national accreditation scheme, visit <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/>. For more information about the Chief Psychiatrist, visit <https://www.chiefpsychiatrist.wa.gov.au/> or contact the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist via reception@ocp.wa.gov.au or 6553 0000.