

Assumed bed requirements in South Taranaki Analysis undertaken in the light of discussions with medical staff.

1.0 Maternity

- No changes proposed.
- **It is proposed that the future model of service delivery includes a primary maternity unit with 4 beds**

2.0 Non-Maternity beds

- The following data relates to the 12 month period June 2010 to May 2011

Discharging Ward	0-12 Hrs	12-24 Hrs	24-36 Hrs	>36 Hrs	Grand Total
HED	1101	149	4		1254
HIP	100	88	242	424	854
HMU	63	54	220	143	480
HSR	42				42
Grand Total	1306	291	466	567	2630

- Discussions with clinicians identify a requirement for the following types of beds located in South Taranaki:
 - Assessment/observation/treatment for up to 36 hours, located in the emergency department
 - Intermediate Care – for South Taranaki patients who have require intensive rehabilitation before being ready to go home, but no longer require the level of Specialist medical support and diagnostic tests provided at Base Hospital.
 - Palliative Care – for patients requiring a level of end of life care which cannot be provided effectively in their own home.

2.1 Assessment/ observation/ treatment

- Hawera Emergency Department and Hawera In-patients had 1684 patients with a length of stay of 36 hours or less over the 12 month period. Further analysis of length of stay reveals actual usage of 1207 bed days. This equates to 3.3 beds.
- Review of total bed occupancy for ED and the ward at 10.00, 12.00, 15.00, 18.00 and 21.00 on each day for the 12 month period showed that there were 21 days when more than 4 beds were used for stays of 36 hours or

less. On 17 of the 21 days 5 beds were used. On all but 4 of the 21 days, bed occupancy was greater than 4 during only 1 time slot.

- **It is therefore proposed that 4 assessment/ observation/ treatment beds, located in the emergency department, are included in the future model of service.**

2.2 Palliative Care

- Hospice Taranaki report that there are up to 25 palliative patients at any one time in the South Taranaki area.
- Hospice Taranaki South Taranaki Committee maintain and furnish two rooms at Hawera Hospital for symptom management, respite care or terminal stage care for palliative patients from South Taranaki. In the past 11 months there have been 11 patients admitted to Hawera Hospital. In the previous year there were 25 patients. The reduction in patient numbers in 2010/11 was due to the availability of medical staff with palliative care expertise.
- **On the recommendation of Hospice Taranaki, it is proposed that the future model of service includes two palliative care beds.**

2.3 Intermediate care

- Based on the number of older people living in South Taranaki, and experience in other District Health Board's, it is estimated that 4 beds will be required to implement the planned roll out of intermediate care. This assumption has been confirmed by the Head of Department for Older Peoples Health Services.
- In the period November 2010 to April 2011, there were 49 patients admitted to Hawera Hospital where the primary diagnosis was "care involving use of rehabilitation". This actual usage aligns closely with the modelling already undertaken for the planned intermediate care model.
- **It is proposed that the future model of service delivery includes 4 intermediate care beds.**

2.4 Impact on Base Hospital

- The implementation of standardised protocols across Taranaki is expected to reduce the number of admissions to hospital, with more patients being cared for in their own homes under the direction of their GP.
- It is also anticipated that some patients who would at present be admitted to Hawera Hospital and then transferred to Base Hospital, will in future be admitted directly to Base Hospital.
- The exact impact of these expected changes on bed requirements at Base Hospital is difficult to predict. However if it is assumed that admission rates remain unchanged; and that only maternity, assessment/observation/treatment, palliative care and intermediate care beds are available in South Taranaki; the maximum additional bed requirement at Base Hospital would be 3 beds. (2.8 beds based on 12 months data or 2.4 based on 6 months data.)

3.0 Location of beds

- The various options for location of beds in South Taranaki will be outlined in the consultation document, including the benefits and disbenefits of each option. Public comment will be sought on the various options for bed location during public consultation.

4.0 Assumed bed requirements

Reassessment of actual bed occupancy by length of stay over a 12 month period June 2010 to April 2011 supports the assumed beds numbers based on 6 months data.

- Maternity 4 beds
- Assessment/ observation/ treatment 4 beds
- Palliative care 2 beds
- Intermediate care 4 beds

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