



Clinical Services Capability Framework (CSCF) Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Clinical Services Capability Framework?

The CSCF outlines the minimum service requirements, workforce requirements and support services for health services to deliver safe and appropriately supported clinical services. It aims to provide planners and clinicians with a consistent approach to the way clinical services are described, and identifies inter-dependencies which exist between clinical areas.

The CSCF comprises thirty clinical service modules. Within each module there are up to six levels of service. Level 1 describes health services managing the least complex patient whilst Level 6 describes health services managing the highest level of patient complexity. Each service level builds on the previous service level's capability.

2. What is the purpose of the CSCF?

The CSCF has been designed to guide a coordinated and integrated approach to health service planning and delivery in South Australia. The CSCF's purpose is to:

- > describe a set of capability criteria that identifies minimum requirements by service level
- > provide a consistent language for healthcare providers and planners to use when describing and planning health services
- > assist health services to identify and manage risk
- > ensure health services are guided by evidence based standards and practice

3. Does the CSCF replace other policies, guidelines or standards?

The CSCF has been developed as a tool to guide clinical service planning, and has been implemented alongside other existing policies, frameworks and guidelines. It is not a replacement for:

- > Clinical judgement or service-specific policies and procedures
- > Established mandatory standards developed by legislation and/or external bodies
- > Credentialing and defined scope of practice
- > Industrial instruments or awards

4. Why doesn't every clinical specialty have its own module?

The CSCF is intended to be a high level framework to support clinical service planning. The Medical and Surgical modules (and their respective children's modules) are designed to encompass a range of clinical specialties. If the detail of these modules does not sufficiently address the specifics of a clinical area, then a request for new module development can be made. See 5. What is the process for new modules to be developed?

5. What is the process for new modules to be developed?

Given the time and resources required to develop a new module, a case for new module development is required, and must be approved by the Department for Health and Wellbeing. If successful, an Advisory Working Party will be established to develop the new module. The case for the new module development form is available at www.sahealth.com.au.

6. How often will the CSCF service modules be updated?

Department for Health and Wellbeing is responsible for the system-wide maintenance and development of the CSCF. The CSCF will be routinely reviewed to ensure the CSCF aligns with legislation, evidence-based clinical practice and policy direction. The review process will also consider the requirement for additional modules, and simplification of existing modules. Any emergent changes can be managed by contacting Health.SystemDesignandPlanning@sa.gov.au.

7. How will the CSCF be applied?

Local Health Networks and the Department for Health and Wellbeing may use the CSCF to assess current and future service level profiles for each site. This will ensure clinical service planning aligns with the South Australian Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2020-2025, SA Health Planning Framework 2021 and the SA Health Commissioning Framework 2020.

8. Where can I find out more information about the CSCF?

For more information on the CSCF please email Health.SystemDesignandPlanning@sa.gov.au.

For more information

SA Health
www.sahealth.sa.gov.au

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