

30 January 2017

Mr Jeffrey C. Geaney  
TTH - SMHRU



Queensland  
Government

Townsville  
Hospital and Health Service

Dear Mr Geaney

### Re: PATIENT NOTIFICATION OF FEES

The Department of Health & Hospital and Health Services are authorised to charge for services they provide. In accordance with *Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011*, Queensland Health patients admitted to Long Term Treatment facilities are required to contribute towards the cost of their accommodation.

As a Queensland Health public hospital patient you are entitled to 35 days of treatment without charge. This includes any time you have spent in any other hospitals without a break of more than 7 days. This means that a daily fee applies to patients determined as requiring non-acute care for each day of admission in excess of 35 days.

I am writing to you to advise that a Medical Officer has assessed your care requirements and has determined that you are in a non-acute phase of care. This care type change reflects the current treatment goals for your care and from **16<sup>th</sup> December 2016** and your admission will change to a Mental Health Long Stay admission.

Please be advised that as a result of the change a fee in respect to your hospital stay will now become payable. The daily fee is \$44.25. This fee is established by the Queensland Health Services Regulations.

You are able to apply for a part waiver or total waiver for your accommodation fees at this hospital. This waiver application will apply for a maximum period of six months. If you wish to apply please complete the attached and return to your Social Worker.

If you are unable to pay the long stay accommodation fees because of financial hardship the Chief Finance Officer (CFO) will assess your application for approval based on the information provided in the Mental Health Financial Assessment and any other information provided by your Social Worker. This information may include copies of your Centrelink income statement and evidence of other expenses for example rent receipts, lease agreement, or bank statements showing your fortnightly expenses. Your social worker will provide advice and assistance if required.

**It is important that you contact Centrelink to determine whether you are eligible for rent assistance. If you are married, you may also be entitled to separate pensions. The social worker from your ward will assist you to apply for payments if required.**

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Financial Accounting - Revenue  
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It should be noted that neither Private Health Insurance Funds nor the Department of Veterans' Affairs will meet these costs, and therefore these fees will remain the responsibility of the patient.

Should you have any queries regarding your care type or the care you have been determined to require please contact the treating Medical Officer.

**If you have any enquiries regarding the payment of fees please contact the Revenue Team on (07) 4433 8514.**

Please find attached a Fact Sheet for your information.

Yours sincerely  
**Helen West**



**Inpatient Billing Officer**

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