

## Office for Prisoner Health and Wellbeing

- **There are 12 high security and 7 low security correctional facilities in Queensland.**
- **Queensland Corrective Services is responsible for the provision of corrective services and Queensland Health is responsible for providing health services for people in these facilities.**
- **Health services for people in prison are delivered by eight Hospital and Health Services (HHS).**

HHS	Correctional centre
Cairns and Hinterland	Lotus Glen
Central Queensland	Capricornia
Gold Coast	Numinbah
Metro North	Woodford CC
Metro South	Palen Creek Princess Alexandra Hospital Secure Unit
Townsville	Townsville
West Moreton	Brisbane
	Wolston
	Brisbane Women's
	Helana Jones
	Borallon training
	Arthur Gorrie
	Southern Queensland
Wide Bay	Maryborough

### What health services are provided to Queensland prisoners?

Queensland Health (QH) is responsible for providing health services for people in all correctional centres in Queensland. These services include primary health care, specialist outpatient, mental health, oral health, and in-patient services.

A [Memorandum of Understand](#) (MoU) between QH and Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) outlines the roles and responsibilities of QH and QCS. This MoU is a principles-based document and outlines the type of health services provided for people in the custody of QCS.

### What health services are provided in the correctional centre?

Health services for people in prison are delivered by eight Hospital and Health Services (HHS). These HHS have dedicated prison health service staff based in health clinics in each correctional centre. These health clinics operate like general practice clinics in the community, providing assessment, diagnostics, treatment services and referral to specialist health services such as specialist outpatient services or in-patient treatment services.

Diagnostic services such as x-rays, and some treatments such as dialysis, may be done on-site in some correctional centres. However, where these services are not available in the correctional centre, arrangements are made for these to be provided off-site. Some health services may be provided in the correctional centre via tele-health.

The management of medications is a large part of health service provision in correctional centres. This includes prescribing, supplying and administering medications. In addition, QH also provides mental health and oral health services in correctional centres.

### How are correctional centre health services supported?

Like general practice clinics in the community, not all clinics in correctional centres have health staff on duty 24 hours per day, seven days per week. However, Prisoner Health Services are well supported by other services in the HHS.

Where necessary prisoners will be referred to various health services outside the correctional centre such as emergency department, acute in-patient services or specialist outpatient services, with prisoners attending a public hospital. In these circumstances QCS will provide security and custodial escort.

The Princess Alexandra Hospital operates a 12-bed Secure Unit for people in QCS custody who require acute care in-patient treatment. The Secure Unit is designed for the provision of acute care and is not designed or suitable for people requiring ongoing, long-term care.

### What services are not included in Prisoner Health Services?

Prisoner Health Services do not include the provision of disability or aged care services (for example for people who require personal care services, such as assistance with bathing, dressing or toileting). Options are being explored in partnership with QCS to better support people who require these types of services.

Correctional centres in Queensland do not have 'hospital beds'. If a person's medical condition is unstable, or they require ongoing monitoring or supervision, they are transferred to an acute or sub-acute unit in a hospital until their condition is stable.