

Glossary

Abbreviations commonly used at St Vincent's



ACAS – Aged Care Assessment Service

ACHS – Australian Council on Healthcare Standards, the organisation that accredits healthcare providers in Australia

ALERT – Assessment Liaison and Early Referral Team

Ambulatory patient – A patient who walks into a health service, for example, to St Vincent's clinics

APATT – Aged Psychiatry Assessment & Treatment Team

Bed day – One bed day is one bed occupied for 24 hours

CAC – Community Advisory Committee

Carers – Those who care for the patients, residents or consumers, but are not members of the healthcare team

CCH – Caritas Christi Hospice

CDAMS – Cognitive, Dementia and Memory Service

CIU – Cardiac Investigation Unit

CMMI – Central Melbourne Medical Imaging

Consumers – Users of the services provided by St Vincent's

Continuum of care – The cycle of care or the flow of a patient through healthcare services

CRC – Community Rehabilitation Centre

Day surgery patient – A patient who comes to hospital, has an operation and then goes home the same day

DHS – (Victorian) Department of Human Services

DOSA – Day of surgery admission

ED – Emergency Department

Mission

*Our health service is based on and driven by our quest for:
Compassion – Justice – Human Dignity – Excellence – Unity*

EFT – Equivalent full-time employee

EMU – Emergency Medical Unit

EPC – Eastern Palliative Care

EQuIP – The Evaluation and Quality Improvement Program of the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards. Every healthcare facility in Australia must comply with the EQuIP framework of standards

ESAS – Elective Surgery Access Service

FOI – Freedom of Information

GEM bed – Geriatric Evaluation and Management beds for the care of elderly patients with certain conditions

HARP – Hospital Admission Risk Program – a DHS initiative to prevent avoidable hospital admissions

HFI – The Howard Florey Institute

HITH – Hospital in the Home

HSA – Health Services Agreement: the funding agreement between a facility and the Department of Human Services

Hospice – A facility for inpatients who require palliative care

HMO – Hospital Medical Officer: a junior doctor

ICU – Intensive Care Unit

IPS – Inpatient Services Building

Inpatient – A patient who stays in hospital overnight, in a hospital bed

Length of stay (LOS) – The length of stay is the time a patient stays in the facility. The average length of stay (ALOS) is the sum of all stays divided by the number of patients

Medical record – Compilation of facts of a patient’s or consumer’s health and medical history

MRI – Magnetic Resonance Imaging

NHMRC – The National Health and Medical Research Council: the national body that oversees and allocates grants for medical research

OHS/OH&S – Occupational health and safety

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Outpatient – A patient who visits a specialist doctor or health professional at a clinic

Palliative care – Care that eases or relieves the symptoms of a disease without curing it

PAS – Patient Administration System

PET – Positron Emission Tomography

PH – Prague House

PIER – Pre-operative Investigation Education and Research Centre

PMCC – Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre

PMHT – Primary Mental Health Team

RN – Registered Nurse

RSC – Religious Sister of Charity: the sisters who belong to the Sisters of Charity congregation have these initials after their name

RVEEH – The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital

SCHS – Sisters of Charity Health Service

Separation – Departures from the facility: a separation may be a discharge (home or to another facility), a death or transfer

SGHS – St George’s Health Service

SVHM – St Vincent’s Hospital Melbourne

TRAAC – Treatment, Response & Assessment for Aged Care

VACS – Victorian Ambulatory Classification System: the method of allocating payment for outpatient health services

VA&EP – Victorian Aids and Equipment Program

WIES – Weighted Inlier Equivalent Separation: the method of payment for inpatient health services. Each patient, condition or stay in hospital is given a points weighting. These points are funded at a given rate by the Department of Human Services

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