

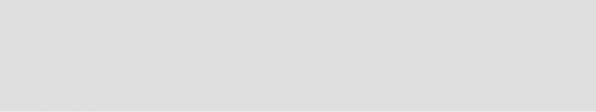
Project: **Barrett Adolescent Strategy**
Meeting: **Expert Clinical Reference Group**
Update on Timeframes
19 February 2013

The Expert Clinical Reference Group (ECRG) for the Barrett Adolescent Strategy was formed in late November 2012. This time limited group of senior multidisciplinary child and youth clinicians was established to develop a contemporary model of care for extended mental health treatment and rehabilitation of adolescents. The timeframes contained within the Barrett Adolescent Strategy Project Plan indicated that ECRG would meet from 30 November 2012 to 22 February 2013, with the preferred model developed and endorsed by the West Moreton Hospital and Health Board in late February 2013.

The ECRG have met on five occasions and are progressing well on the development of a state wide service model for the extended treatment and rehabilitation of adolescents. However, due to a number of unforeseen circumstances the ECRG are requesting an eight week extension of the timeframes to enable the completion of the preferred service model. The reasons for the delay in achieving the original milestone are outlined below:

- The members of the ECRG are all senior expert clinicians with significant workloads and demands on their time. On occasion, requests have been made of the ECRG members to undertake research and activities out of session, however most members have not been able to successfully allocate time to complete these tasks and so extra time has been allocated within ECRG meetings to progress these items.
- The ECRG Chair and Secretariat have acknowledged the demands made on the ECRG Members time and are also extremely mindful of the timeframes put forward under the Barrett Adolescent Strategy. In order to progress the finalisation of the service model, the ECRG Secretariat are arranging an urgent workshop with ECRG members to complete this task.
- The establishment of the ECRG occurred over the December 2012/January 2013 Christmas and New Year period. This significantly impacted on the group's ability to come together initially and establish a framework for meeting the specified outcomes set for the ECRG. At each meeting there has been a quorum however work progressed slowly at the commencement of the ECRG.
- The flooding that occurred in late January 2013 has also had a significant impact on a number of members within the ECRG, with members being diverted to responding to the disaster response issues within their local Hospital and Health Service. This has again restricted members' ability to follow up on requested tasks and to attend ECRG meetings.
- During the same flooding event, the ECRG Chair and Secretariat were unable to access 15 Butterfield Street, Herston for four days. This building is the venue for the ECRG Meetings. All staff were unable to access the venue and computer systems at this time. As a result the ECRG meeting to be held on 30 January was cancelled. Correspondence with ECRG members upon return to the building determined that members were unable to attend an extraordinary ECRG meeting and plans were made to go ahead with the next scheduled date of 13 February 2013.

It is now requested that the ECRG submit the preferred state wide model of service for the extended treatment and rehabilitation of adolescents to the West Moreton Hospital and Health Service on 19 April 2013 and the project GANTT chart be amended accordingly.


Leanne Geppert
Director, Planning and Partnership Unit,
Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drugs Branch
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