



MEMORANDUM

To: Hospital and Health Service (HHS) Chief Executive,
HHS Executive Director Medical Services
HHS Executive Director Nursing Services

Copies to: HHS Emergency Departments, Nurse Unit Managers and Educators

From: Dr Ulrich Orda, Director of
Emergency, North West HHS

Enquiries to: [Clinical Pathways Program@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:Clinical_Pathways_Program@health.qld.gov.au)

Joy Savage, Executive Director
Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander Health Cairns and
Hinterland HHS/Chair Rheumatic
Heart Disease Action Plan 2018 -
2021 Governance Committee.

Subject: New Clinical Pathway - Suspected Acute Rheumatic Fever

File Ref: ARF Clinical Pathway

The Suspected Acute Rheumatic Fever Clinical Pathway was developed to assist clinicians recognise and manage suspected Acute Rheumatic Fever (ARF) in adult and paediatric patients presenting to the Emergency Department. This has been endorsed by the Queensland Emergency Department Strategic Advisory Panel (QEDSAP) and Statewide Cardiac Clinical Network (SCCN)

The pathway was developed as a deliverable to support implementation of the [Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, Rheumatic Heart Disease Action Plan 2018-2021](#). The Action Plan is coordinated by the Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service with support from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Division.

The pathway embeds current evidence and best practice aligned with the [2020 Australian guideline for prevention, diagnosis and management of ARF and rheumatic heart disease](#) (3rd ed). The pathway does not replace clinical judgement and has been developed to be used in conjunction with other observation and diagnostic tools/pathways.

Please find attached this document available for statewide use. Could you please kindly forward this MEMO and attachment to relevant staff in Emergency including Nurse Unit Managers and Educators for dissemination to all relevant clinical staff providing care to patients.

The development of this pathway was led by the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, Rheumatic Heart Disease Action Plan 2018-2021 implementation workgroup in consultation and collaboration with stakeholders including clinician representatives of metropolitan and regional Queensland, the Queensland RHD Register and Control

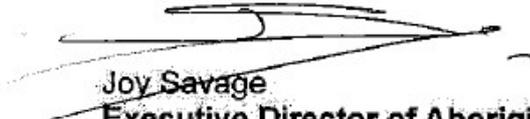
Program, QEDSAP, Statewide Cardiac Clinical Network and Clinical Excellence Queensland.

The pathway will be available to commence use from Monday 19th October 2020 and is available for purchase through the Winc catalogue (SW1046)

For further information regarding the clinical pathway for suspected Acute Rheumatic Fever, please contact [Clinical Pathways Program@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:Clinical_Pathways_Program@health.qld.gov.au)



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Disease Action Plan 2018-2021
Governance Committee.
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