

VICTORIAN TASKFORCE ON VIOLENCE IN NURSING- IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Update on Occupational Violence Prevention Fund 2008-2011 Round 1 (June 2008)

OVPV 2008-11 Round 1 Summary of process

In April 2008, public health services were invited to submit applications for year one funding of the Occupational Violence Prevention Fund to address the highest priority occupational violence risks in their organisations. The Fund guidelines (including eligibility and funding criteria) and the WorkSafe compliance tool for occupational violence in health services were provided to health services. Public health services demonstrated considerable interest in the Fund and 74 applications were submitted from 49 public health services.

An internal panel reviewed and rated the submissions against the predetermined and published criteria. In round one, a total of \$1,177,500.00 has been made available to public health services to undertake remediation of high priority occupational violence risks, \$657,100 for metropolitan organisations and \$520,400 for rural services (Refer Table 1). Thirty-nine public health services have been successful in the year 1 (2008) round and will be undertaking a total of 51 remediation projects, many of these across multiple sites/campus.

The majority of 2008 projects/initiatives are minor modifications/enhancements in high risk areas in accordance with the risk assessments undertaken by health services using the WorkSafe assessment tool. The works include improvements to emergency department security systems, duress systems (mobile and static), safe environments for managing behaviours of concern, alarm systems for community mental health teams, audits, improvements to reception areas to improve safety and observation and police health service partnership committees to better manage occupational violence. (Refer to Tables 2 and 3)

Occupational Violence Prevention Fund 2008-2011 Round 1 Funding Outcomes

OVPF 2008-2011 Fund Stream Round 1 2008	Metropolitan Health Services	Rural/Regional Health Services	Grand Total
Remediation - ED	\$ 99,000.00	\$ 144,400.00	\$ 243,400.00
Remediation - General	\$ 558,100.00	\$ 186,000.00	\$ 744,100.00
Remediation - Small Project grant	\$ -	\$ 190,000.00	\$ 190,000.00
Innovation/Best Practice	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Grand Total	\$ 657,100.00	\$ 520,400.00	\$1,177,500.00

Table 1: OVPF 2008-2011 Round 1 funds dispersed by fund stream

OVPF 2008-2011 Fund Stream Round 1 2008 description of works	Main area of health service works being undertaken								Grand Total
	Aged Care/G EM	Comm-unity	ED	General Areas, including entry	Maternity	Organ-isation wide	Mental health	ED & Aged care	
Crime Prevention through Environmental Design works (CPTED)			10	4		2	1		17
Duress/CCTV/Swipe access	3	1	4	5	1	9	3	1	27
OV Audit/Planning			1			1			2
OV Policy Review/Development activities						1			1
Safe Assessment facilities/resources			1			1	1		3
Police Liaison/Support & Reporting						1			1
Total No. of projects	3	1	16	9	1	15	5	1	51

¹ Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) has been defined as systematic processes of creating features within built environments that influence social behaviour in a positive way.

Table 2: OVPF 2008-2011 Round 1 projects/initiatives by type and area of health services

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The following initiatives have been funded in Round 1:

Organisation	OVPF 2008-2011 Fund Stream	Main area of works in health service	OVPF Initiative or works
Metropolitan Health Services			
Austin Health	Remediation - General	Organisation wide	Mobile personal duress alarms for staff at risk
Mercy Health - Werribee	Remediation - ED	ED	Improve safety of ED staff through improved triage desk design, additional duress/security alarms and secure access
Mercy Health - Mercy Hospital for Women	Remediation - General	Community	Personal duress alarms for community healthcare workers
Mercy Health - Werribee	Remediation - General	Mental health	Personal duress alarms for community and mental health workers
Northern Health	Remediation - General	Organisation wide	Enhanced security for high risk areas including special care nursery and paediatric areas.
Peninsula Health	Remediation - General	Organisation wide	Increased duress alarms and safe weapons storage facilities
Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre	Remediation - General	General Areas, including entry	Upgraded security screen and priority duress alarms
Royal Victorian Eye & Ear Hospital	Remediation - ED	ED	Additional CCTV, upgrade reception desk to include safety features and additional swipe card access
Southern Health	Remediation - General	Organisation wide	Audit of current practice to inform local practice and occupational violence interventions/strategies
Southern Health	Remediation - General	Mental health	Enhance Duress and alarm systems across mental health services including community teams
Southern Health	Remediation - General	Maternity	Enhancements to improve staff safety in the MMC Birthing Suite
Southern Health	Remediation - General	Mental health	Improve safety for clients and staff in adolescent mental health unit.
Southern Health	Remediation - ED	ED	Improve environmental design to minimise occupational violence in EDs
Southern Health	Remediation - General	Mental health	Improve environmental design to minimise occupational violence mental health units
Western Health	Remediation - General	Organisation wide	Audit of current practice and risks to inform local practice and occupational violence interventions/strategies
Western Health	Remediation - General	MH	Duress system to improve staff and patient security and safety in aged care
Western Health	Remediation - General	Organisation wide	Establish Police, Justice & health service Consultative Committee to improve reporting of violence against health workers
Barwon South West Region			
Western District Health Service	Remediation - ED	ED	Enhanced environmental design in ED and Pharmacy waiting areas to reduce occupational violence risk.
Gippsland Region			
Bairnsdale Regional Health Service	Remediation - General	Organisation wide	Upgrade of duress alarm system to improve safety across acute campus
Bass Coast Regional Health (Wonthaggi)	Remediation - Small Project	ED	Enhanced ED staff safety through environmental design
Omeo District Health	Remediation - Small Project	ED	Improvement to emergency treatment room safety.
Warragul Hospital, WGHG	Remediation - Small Project	ED	Upgrade of ED facilities to improve safe assessment of clients.
Grampians Region			
Djerriwarrh Health Services	Remediation - Small Project	ED	Upgrade of ED facilities to improve safe assessment of clients.
Dunmunkle Health Service	Remediation - General	Organisation wide	Improved safety for staff through improved security and alarm systems
East Grampians Health Service	Remediation - General	Organisation wide	Improved safety for staff through provision of duress alarms
East Wimmera Health Service	Remediation - ED	ED	Improve environmental design to minimise occupational violence in EDs
Stawell Regional Health	Remediation - General	Aged Care/GEM	Improved safety for staff through provision of duress alarms in residential care units
West Wimmera Health Service (Jeparit)	Remediation - Small Project	General Areas, including entry	Improve environmental design to minimise occupational violence in hospital ward
West Wimmera Health Service (Nhill)	Remediation - Small Project	ED	Improve environmental design and security to minimise occupational violence in hospital
Hume Region			
Alpine Health	Remediation - General	Organisation wide	Improve environmental design to minimise occupational violence in EDs across 3 sites
Cobram District Hospital	Remediation - Small Project	ED	Improve environmental design to minimise occupational violence in ED
Goulburn Valley Health	Remediation - Small Project	ED & Aged care	Minimise occupational violence risks through improvements to emergency & pharmacy areas.
Mansfield District Hospital	Remediation - Small Project	Aged Care/GEM	Improved staff safety through upgrade of duress alarm system
North East Health Wangaratta	Remediation - ED	ED	Improve environmental design to minimise occupational violence in EDs
Numurkah District Health Service	Remediation - General	Organisation wide	Improved staff safety through duress alarm system installation
Orbost Regional Health	Remediation - Small Project	General Areas, including entry	Upgrade of physical security system for high occupational violence risk areas.
Wodonga Regional Health Service	Remediation - General	Organisation wide	Improved staff safety through environmental design to areas including maternity & nursery.
Yarrawonga District Health Service	Remediation - Small Project	General Areas, including entry	Improve environmental design to minimise occupational violence across the hospital
Yea & District Memorial Hospital	Remediation - Small Project	General Areas, including entry	Improvement of reception after-hours security and safety systems
Loddon Mallee Region			
Boort District Hospital	Remediation - Small Project	Organisation wide	Improved staff safety through duress alarm system enhancements
Cohuna District Hospital	Remediation - Small Project	General Areas, including entry	Improved staff safety through duress alarm and security system enhancements
Echuca Regional Health	Remediation - ED	ED	Greater safety for staff through security and reception area enhancements.
Inglewood & Districts health service	Remediation - General	Organisation wide	Greater safety for staff through security and reception area enhancements.
Kyabram and District health	Remediation - Small Project	General Areas, including entry	Improve environmental design and duress system to minimise occupational violence in EDs
Kyneton District Health Service	Remediation - Small Project	ED	Audit of current practice to inform local practice and occupational violence interventions/strategies
Maryborough District Health Service	Remediation - Small Project	ED	Improve ED staff safety through environmental design and security systems
Maryborough District Health Service	Remediation - ED	ED	Upgrade of ED facilities to improve safe assessment of clients.
McIvor Health and Community Services	Remediation - Small Project	General Areas, including entry	Improve environmental design and security system to minimise occupational violence in EDs
Mildura Base Hospital	Remediation - General	Organisation wide	Improved staff safety through upgrade of duress alarm system including community based services
Mildura Base Hospital	Remediation - Small Project	General Areas, including entry	Enhancements to ED facilities to improve safe assessment of clients.
<i>Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) has been defined as systematic processes of creating features within built environments that influence social behaviour in a positive way.</i>			

Table 3: OVPF 2008-2011 Round 1 Initiatives/projects funded by health service

The remediation works funded in Round 1 will provide immediate improvements and address the high priority occupational violence risks identified by health services. Measures such as engineering controls are higher order controls outlined in the occupational health and safety 'hierarchy of control' approach and ensure that health workers and members of the public are given the highest level of protection against risks to their health and safety as is reasonably practicable in the circumstances. It is likely that subsequent OVPF rounds will include initiatives that target lower order controls to address issues that are of moderate risk (rather than high risks) as well as some innovation and best practice projects.

OVPF Round 2 opens in September 2008.