

## **HOSPITAL SCIENTISTS (STATE) AWARD**

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMISSION OF NEW SOUTH WALES

### **PART A**

<b>Clause No.</b>	<b>Subject Matter</b>
1	Definitions
2	Salaries
3	Grading Employees
4	Hours
5	Shift Work and Weekend Work
6	Rostering Hours
7	On-Call
8	Permanent Part-Time and Part-Time Employees
9	Overtime
10	Meals
11	Higher Duties
12	Public holidays
13	Annual Leave
14	Long Service Leave
15	Sick Leave
16	Payment and Particulars of Salary
17	Termination of Employment
18	Accommodation and Amenities
19	Inspection of Lockers of Employees
20	Uniform and Laundry Allowance
21	Climatic and Isolation Allowance
22	Notice Boards
23	Union Representative
24	Exemptions
25	Blood Counts
26	Settlement of Disputes
27	Anti-Discrimination
28	Travelling Allowance
29	General Conditions
30	Promotions and Appointments
31	Board and Lodgings
32	Maternity, Adoption & Parental Leave
33	Redundancy-Managing Excess Employees
34	Family and Community Services Leave and Personal/Carer's Leave
35	Mobility, Excess Fares and Travelling
36	Labour Flexibility
37	Salary Packaging
38	Reasonable Hours
39	Salary Sacrifice to Superannuation
40	No Extra Claims
41	Area, Incidence and Duration

## PART B

### Table 1 - Allowances

#### 1. Definitions

Unless the context otherwise indicates or requires the several expressions hereunder defined shall have their respective meaning assigned to them:

**“ADA”** means the daily average of occupied beds adjusted by counting each 700 registered outpatients as one occupied bed. The average shall be taken for the twelve months for the year ending 30 June in each and every year and such average shall relate to the salary for the succeeding year.

**"Day Worker"** means a worker who works ordinary hours from Monday to Friday inclusive and who commences work on such days at or after 6:00 am and before 10 am otherwise than as part of a shift system.

**"Director/Deputy Director"** means an employee appointed as Head of a Department or as second in-charge of a Department, provided that such a position is approved as such by the employer.

**“Secretary”** means the Secretary of the Ministry of Health.

**"Employee"** means a Hospital Scientist, Senior Hospital Scientist, Principal Hospital Scientist, or Trainee Hospital Scientist as defined.

**“Employer”** means the Secretary exercising employer functions on behalf of the Government of New South Wales (and includes a delegate of the Secretary).

**“Health Service”** means a Local Health District constituted under section 8 of the Health Services Act 1997, a Statutory Health Corporation constituted under section 11 of that Act, and an Affiliated Health Organisation constituted under section 13 of that Act.

**"Hospital"** means a public hospital as defined under s.15 of the *Health Services Act 1997*

**"Hospital Scientist"** means an employee who has acquired the Diploma in Medical Technology of the Australian Institute of Medical Technologists (before 1974) or who has obtained a degree in science from an approved university or college of advanced education requiring a minimum of three years full-time study or such qualifications as the employer deems equivalent.

**"Principal Hospital Scientist"** means a Hospital Scientist who has been appointed as such and holds a post graduate degree in science at least equivalent to the degree of Master of Science of an approved university, or such other qualifications deemed by the employer to be equivalent and who has had not less than ten years post graduate experience in an appropriate scientific field.

**"Senior Hospital Scientist"** means an employee who is engaged in scientific work of a professional nature in a public hospital laboratory who holds a degree in science from an approved University or a college of advanced education or such other qualifications deemed by the employer to be appropriate who -

- (a) has been appointed to a position in charge of a section of a laboratory; or
- (b) has been approved by the employer for appointment on the recommendation of the Credentials Committee.

**"Senior or Chief Hospital Scientist"** means an employee who is engaged in scientific work of a professional nature in a public hospital laboratory who holds a degree in science from an approved University or a college of advanced education or such other qualifications deemed by the employer to be appropriate who:

- (a) has been appointed to a position in charge of a laboratory; or
- (b) has been approved by the employer for appointment on the recommendation of the Credentials Committee.

**"Shift Worker"** means a worker who is not a day worker as defined.

**"Service"** means service before and/or after the commencement of this award in any one or more hospitals as defined under s.15 of the *Health Services Act 1997*, or any other hospital deemed acceptable by the employer.

**"Trainee Hospital Scientist"** means an employee appointed as such who is undertaking a part-time degree course in science at an approved University and is engaged in work related to the profession for which he or she is qualifying.

**"Union"** means the Health Services Union NSW.

## 2. Salaries

Salaries for Hospital Scientists, as defined herein, shall be as set out in the Health Professional and Medical Salaries (State) Award.

## 3. Grading of Employees

- (i) Grades: Every employee other than Trainee Hospital Scientist shall be classified in one of the grades of Hospital Scientist, Chief/Senior Hospital Scientist, or Principal Hospital Scientist as provided hereunder.
- (ii) Years of Scale-
  - (a) Within each grade employees shall, at all times be classified not lower than the year of scale corresponding to the minimum described hereunder for their respective qualifications and/or duties advanced by:
    - (1) At least one year of scale for each completed year of service in that grade and hospital; and
    - (2) At least one further year of scale for each completed year of service in the same branch of science in that grade in any other hospital or hospitals.
  - (b) In determining an employee's classification due allowance also shall be made for any post graduate experience.
- (iii) Hospital Scientists who hold or are qualified to hold a degree, diploma or other qualification, as shown hereunder shall not be classified below the respective year of scale in this grade, as follows, with advancement as provided for in subclause (ii) of this clause.

Bachelor's Degree (3 year course) - 1st year;

Bachelor's Degree with Honours (3 year course); Bachelor's degree (4 year course) - 2nd year.

Bachelor's Degree with Honours (4 year course); diploma or Bachelor's degree with at least two years experience concurrent with or after the last two years of the course, - 3rd year.

Master's Degree - 4th year;

Fellow of the Institute of Physics, and/or Fellow of the Australian Institute of Physics, Degree of Doctor of Philosophy - 6th year.

provided such degree with honours or such Master's Degree has been obtained in a subject relevant to the branch of science in which the employee is engaged.

- (iv) Credentials Committee. A committee consisting of two representatives of the employer and two representatives of the Union shall be constituted to consider and recommend to the employer upon application by the Union or the relevant Health Service.
- (a) The appointment of a new employee as a Senior Hospital Scientist (other than a Senior Hospital Scientist in charge of a laboratory or a section of a laboratory), or a Principal Hospital Scientist.
- (b) The promotion of an employee from Hospital Scientist to Senior Hospital Scientist.
- (c) The promotion of an employee from Senior Hospital Scientist to Principal Hospital Scientist.

#### **4. Hours**

- (i) The ordinary hours of work for day workers, exclusive of meal times, shall be 152 hours per 28 calendar days to be worked from Monday to Friday inclusive and to commence on such days at or after 6 am and before 10 am.
- (ii) The ordinary hours of work for shift workers exclusive of meal times, shall not exceed an average of 38 hours per week in each roster cycle.
- (iii) Each day worker shall be free from duty for not less than two full days in each week and each shift worker shall be free from duty for not less than two full days in each week or four full days in each fortnight. Where practicable such days off duty shall be consecutive.
- (iv) (a) The hours of work prescribed in subclauses (i) and (ii) of this clause shall, where possible, be arranged in such a manner that in each roster cycle of 28 days each employee shall not work his or her ordinary hours of work on more than nineteen days in the cycle. The hours worked on each of those days shall be arranged to include a proportion of one hour (in the case of employees working shifts of eight hours duration the proportion of 0.4 of an hour) which shall accumulate towards the employee's allocated day off duty on pay, as the twentieth working day of the cycle.
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (a) of this subclause, employees who were, as at the 30th June, 1984, working shifts of less than eight hours duration may:
- (1) continue to work their existing hours each 28 days but spread over 19 days, or
- (2) with the agreement of the hospital, continue to work shifts of the same duration

over 20 days in each cycle of 28 days.

- (v) The employee's allocated day off duty prescribed in subclause (iv) of this clause shall be determined by mutual agreement between the employee and the employer having regards to the needs of the employer. Where practicable such allocated day off duty shall be consecutive with the days off duty prescribed by subclause (iii) of this clause.
- (vi) Once set the allocated day off duty may not be changed in a current cycle unless there are genuine unforeseen circumstances prevailing. Where such circumstances exist and the allocated day is changed, another day shall be substituted in the current cycle. Should this not be practicable, the day must be given and taken in the next cycle immediately following.
- (vii) Where the employer and the Union agree that exceptional circumstances exist in a particular Health Service, an employee's allocated days off duty prescribed by subclause (iv) of this clause may, with the agreement of the employee concerned, accumulate and be taken at a time mutually agreed between the employee and the employer. Provided that the maximum number of days off duty which may accumulate under this subclause shall be three.
- (viii) There shall be no accrual of 0.4 of an hour for each day of ordinary annual leave taken in accordance with subclause (i) of Clause 13, Annual Leave, of this award. However where an employee has accumulated sufficient time to take his/her allocated day off duty prior to entering on annual leave, and that day would have been taken if the employee had not gone on annual leave, it shall be allowed to the employee on the first working day immediately following the period of leave.

Where an employee has not accumulated sufficient time for an allocated day off duty prior to entering on annual leave, time in credit shall count towards taking the next allocated day off duty falling in sequence after the employee's return to duty.

- (ix) An employee entitled to allocated days off duty in accordance with subclause (iv) of this clause shall continue to accumulate credit towards his/her allocated day off duty whilst on sick leave. Where an employee's allocated day off duty falls during a period of sick leave the employee's available sick leave shall not be debited for that day.
- (x) Where an employee's allocated day off duty falls due during a period of worker's compensation, the employee, on returning to duty, shall be given the next allocated day off duty in sequence irrespective of whether sufficient credits have been accumulated or not.
- (xi) Where an employee's allocated day off duty falls on a public holiday as prescribed by Clause 12 - Public Holidays of this award, the next working day shall be taken in lieu thereof.
- (xii) Except for one meal break each day all time worked between the normal starting and ceasing time each day shall be at the ordinary rates of pay.
- (xii) There shall be one tea break of twenty minutes duration. This is additional to the meal break provided for in subclause (xii) of this Clause.
- (xiv) There shall be a minimum break of eight (8) hours between ordinary rostered shifts.

## **5. Shift Work and Weekend Work**

- (i) Subject to the provisions of this clause, employees may be employed on shift work.
- (ii) The ordinary hours of shift workers shall be worked on not more than five days per week and shall not exceed 152 hours per 28 calendar days.

- (iii) As far as practicable, no employee shall be obliged to work shift work against his/her wishes.
- (iv) Senior Hospital Scientists and Principal Hospital Scientists shall not be required to work shift work against their wishes.
- (v) Before shift work is introduced into any section or department of a Health Service, the proposals relating thereto shall be conveyed to the Union and an opportunity given to discuss such proposals with representatives of the Health Service concerned and the employer.
- (vi) Any disputes arising out of the introduction of new shift systems shall be referred to a committee consisting not more than six members with equal representatives of the employer and the Union.

In the event of no unanimous decision being arrived at, the matter in dispute may be notified to the Industrial Registrar for the consideration of the Public Health Employees (State) Industrial Committee or the Industrial Relations Commission of New South Wales.

- (vii) Work performed by shift workers working during ordinary hours shall be paid at the following rates:
  - (a) on Mondays to Fridays between 8:30 am and 9:00 pm at ordinary time rate of pay.
  - (b) On Mondays to Fridays before 8:30 am and after 9:00 pm at the rate of time and a half.
  - (c) On Saturdays at the rate of time and a half.
  - (d) On Sundays at the rate of time and three quarters.

Provided that a part-time employee shall not be entitled to be paid in addition the loading prescribed in subclause (ii) of Part 2 of Clause 8, Part-Time Employees, of this award.

Provided further that positions which prior to 31 August 1988 were covered under the terms of the Hospital Employees Conditions of Employment (State) Award shall continue to be paid in accordance with provisions of Penalty Rates for Shift Work, Weekend Work and Special Working Conditions, of that Award. Further provided that the provisions of subclauses (iii) and (iv) shall not apply to these positions.

## **6. Roster of Hours**

- (i) The ordinary hours of work for each employee shall be displayed on a roster in a place conveniently accessible to employees. Where reasonably practicable such roster shall be displayed two weeks, but in any case at least one week, prior to the commencing date of the first working period in any roster.

Provided that this provision shall not make it obligatory for the employer to display any roster of ordinary hours of work of members of the relieving staff.

Provided further that a roster may be altered at any time to enable the services of the Health Service to be carried on where another employee is absent from duty on account of illness or in emergency but where any such alteration involves an employee working on a day which would have been his/her day off such time worked shall, subject to subclause (vi) of clause 4, Hours, be paid for at overtime rates. Furthermore, where a change in roster hours occurs with less than 24 hours notice to the employee affected, all time worked outside that shown on the employee's roster (prior to the alteration) shall be paid for at overtime rates.

- (ii) Where an employee is entitled to an allocated day off duty in accordance with Clause 4, Hours, of

this Award, that allocated day off duty is to be shown on the roster of hours for that employee.

## **7. On-Call**

An employee required by the employer to be on call in any one 24 hour period shall be paid an allowance as set out in Item 1 of table 1, Allowances, for that period or any part thereof, provided that only one allowance shall be paid in any period of 24 hours.

Provided that an on-call roster shall not be introduced by a Health Service without the approval of the employer. Principal Hospital Scientists are excluded from the provisions of this clause.

Provided that this clause shall not apply to positions covered by the Public Hospital Medical Technologists (State) Award, prior to 31 August 1988.

## **8. Permanent Part-Time and Part-Time Employees**

### **Part 1 Permanent Part-Time Employees**

- (i) A permanent part-time employee is one who is appointed by the employer to work a specified number of hours each roster cycle which are less than those prescribed for a full-time employee.
- (ii) A permanent part-time employee shall be paid an hourly rate calculated on the basis of one thirty eighth of the normal weekly rate available for full-time employees of the same classification.
- (iii) Persons employed on a permanent part-time basis may be employed for not less than two (2) or more than thirty two (32) hours in any full week of seven days, such week to be coincidental with the pay period. Permanent part-time employees are not entitled to an allocated day off. The specified number of hours may be balanced over a roster cycle, provided that the average weekly hours worked shall be deemed to be the specified number of hours for the purposes of accrual of leave provided for by this award. Provided further that there shall be no interruption to the continuity of employment merely by reason of an employee working on a "week-on", "week-off" basis in accordance with this subclause.
- (iv) Employees engaged under this clause shall be entitled to all other benefits of the Award not otherwise expressly provided for herein in the same proportion as their ordinary hours of work bear to full-time hours.
- (v) All time worked by permanent part-time employees in excess of the total rostered daily ordinary hours of work prescribed for the majority of full-time employees employed on that shift in the ward or section concerned shall be paid for at the rate of time and one half for the first two hours and double time thereafter except that on Sundays such overtime shall be paid for at the rate of double time.
- (vi) Time worked up to the total rostered daily ordinary hours of work prescribed for a majority of the full-time employees employed on that shift in the ward or section concerned shall not be regarded as overtime but an extension of the contract hours for that day and shall be paid at the ordinary rate of pay.

## **Part 2 Part-Time Employees**

- (i) Employees engaged as part-time employees on or before 1 November 2001 are entitled to exercise the option of receiving the benefits of employment specified in Part 1 of this clause.
- (ii) Persons employed on a part-time basis, other than on a permanent part-time basis as outlined in Part 1 of this Clause, may be employed for not less than eight or more than thirty hours in any full week of seven days, such week to be coincidental with the pay period of each hospital respectively, and shall be paid for the actual number of hours worked each week an hourly rate calculated on the basis of one thirty-eighth of the appropriate rate prescribed plus 15 per cent thereof.
- (iii) In an emergency part-time employees may be allowed to work more than thirty hours in one week and in such case will be paid for the hours actually worked at a rate calculated in accordance with sub-clause (ii) of Part 2 of this Clause.
- (iv) With respect to employees employed as part-time workers the provisions of Clause 4 - Hours, sub-clauses (iv) to (xi) of this award shall not apply.
- (v) All time worked by part-time employees in excess of the total rostered daily ordinary hours of work prescribed for the majority of full-time employees employed on that shift in the ward or section concerned shall be paid for at the rate of time and one half for the first two hours and double time thereafter except that on Sundays such overtime shall be paid for at the rate of double time.
- (vi) Time worked up to the total rostered daily ordinary hours of work prescribed for a majority of the full-time employees employed on that shift in the ward or section concerned shall not be regarded as overtime but an extension of the contract hours for that day and shall be paid at the ordinary rate of pay.
- (vii) With respect to employees employed as part-time workers the provisions of Clause 9, Overtime, of this award, except where provided in sub-clauses (v) and (vi) of Part 2 of this clause, shall not apply.

### **9. Overtime**

- (i) All time worked by day workers and shift workers in excess of or outside the ordinary hours prescribed by Clause 4, Hours, and Clause 5, Shift Work and Weekend Work of this Award, respectively, shall be paid for at the rate of time and one half for the first two hours and double time thereafter, provided that all time worked on Sundays shall be paid for at double time; provided further that all overtime worked on public holidays shall be paid for at the rate of double time and one half.
- (ii) Subject to subclauses (iii) – (vii) below, employees who are recalled for duty, whether notified before or after leaving the employer's premises, shall be paid for all time worked at the appropriate overtime rate, with a minimum of four hours at such rates.
- (iii) Employees may be required to perform other work that arises during the recall period. Employees shall not be required to work the full four hour minimum payment period if they complete the work they were recalled to perform and any additional work they are required to undertake, within a shorter period.
- (iv) The employer must have processes in place for the formal release of employees from recall duty.
- (v) Employees who are not formally released and who are recalled again during the four hour minimum payment period are not entitled to any additional payment until the expiration of the four hour period.

- (vi) Employees who are advised they will not be required to perform any additional work and are formally released and who are subsequently recalled again during the four hour minimum payment period, shall be entitled to another four hour minimum payment.
- (vii) Employees required to work overtime after leaving the employer's premises to provide a technology support resolution or clinical appraisal remotely without onsite presence, shall be paid for such work at the appropriate overtime rate, with a minimum payment of one hour at such rates.
- (viii) An employee recalled to work overtime as prescribed by this subclause shall be paid all fares and expenses reasonably incurred in travelling to and from his/her place or work.

Provided further that where an employee elects to use his/her own mode of transport he/she shall be paid an allowance equivalent to the "Transport Allowance" as provided by determination made under the *Health Services Act 1997*, as varied from time to time. .

- (ix) When overtime is necessary it shall wherever reasonably practical, be so arranged that employees have at least eight consecutive hours off duty between the work on successive days or shifts.

For the purposes of assessing overtime each day shall stand alone, provided however, that where any one period of overtime is continuous and extends beyond midnight, all overtime hours in this period shall be regarded as if they had occurred within the one day.

- (x) An employee who works such overtime:
  - (a) between the termination of his/her ordinary work on any day or shift and the commencement of his/her ordinary work on the next day or shift that he/she has not had at least eight consecutive hours off duty between these times; or
  - (b) on a Saturday, a Sunday and a holiday, not being ordinary working day, or on a rostered day off without having had eight consecutive hours off duty in the twenty-four hours preceding his/her ordinary commencing time on his/her next day or shift;

shall, subject to this subclause, be released after completion of such overtime until he/she has had eight consecutive hours off duty without loss of pay for ordinary working time occurring during such absence. If on the instruction of his/her employer such an employee resumes or continues to work without having had such eight consecutive hours off duty, he/she shall be paid at double rates until he/she is released from duty for such period and he/she then shall be entitled to be absent until he/she has had eight consecutive hours off duty without loss of pay for ordinary working time occurring during such absence.

- (xi) When an employee works overtime as an extension of shift and ceases work at a time when reasonable means of transport are not available, he/she shall be paid at ordinary rates for the time reasonably spent travelling from the employer's premises to the employee's home with a maximum payment of one (1) hour.

This subclause shall not apply in the case of call-back nor where the employee has his/her own vehicle available for conveyance home.

- (xii) The provisions of this clause shall not apply to Principal Hospital Scientists.

## **10. Meals**

- (i) An employee who works authorised overtime shall be paid in addition for such overtime -

- (a) as set out in Item 2 of Table 1, Allowances, for breakfast when commencing such overtime work at or before 6:00 am;
- (b) as set out in Item 2 of Table 1, for luncheons when such overtime extends beyond 2:00 pm on Saturdays, Sundays or holidays;
- (c) as set out in Item 2 of the said Table 1, for an evening meal when such overtime is worked for at least one hour immediately following his/her normal ceasing time, exclusive of any meal break, and extends beyond or is worked wholly or after 7:00 pm;

or shall be provided with adequate meals in lieu of payment.

- (ii) The value of payments for meals shall be varied as the equivalent rates are from time to time varied in the Crown Employees (Public Service Condition of Employment) Award.
- (iii) Time not exceeding one hour and not less than thirty minutes shall be allowed for each meal, provided that where an employee is called upon to work for any portion of the meal break, such time shall count as ordinary working time.
- (iv) An employee required to work overtime following on the completion of his or her normal shift for more than two hours shall be allowed twenty minutes for the partaking of a meal and a further twenty minutes after each subsequent four hours' overtime; all such time shall be counted as time worked.
- (v) An employee recalled to work overtime after leaving the employer's premises and who is required to work for more than four hours shall be allowed twenty minutes for partaking of a meal and a further twenty minutes after each subsequent four hours overtime; all such time shall be counted as time worked.
- (vi) Where practicable, employees shall not be required to work more than four (4) hours without a meal break.

## **11. Higher Duties**

An employee who is called upon to relieve an employee in a higher classification continuously for five working days or more, and who satisfactorily performs the whole of the duties and assumes the whole of the responsibilities of the higher classification, shall be entitled to receive, for the period of relief, the minimum pay of such higher classification

## **12. Public Holidays**

- (i) Public Holidays shall be allowed to employees on full pay.
- (ii) Where an employee is required to and does work on any of the holidays set out in subclause (iii) of this clause, whether for a full shift or not, the employee shall be paid one and one half day's pay in addition to the weekly rate prescribed by clause 2 - Salaries of this award, such payment in the case of shift workers to be in lieu of any additional rate for shift work or weekend work which would otherwise be payable had the day not been a public holiday:

Provided that if the employer and the employee so agree, an employee may be paid one half day's pay in addition to the weekly rate and have one day added to his/her period of annual leave for each public holiday worked in lieu of the provisions of the preceding paragraph.

- (iii) For the purpose of this clause, the following shall be deemed public holidays, viz: New Year's Day,

Australia Day, Good Friday, Easter Saturday, Easter Monday, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, Anzac Day, Queen's Birthday, local Labour Day, and other days proclaimed and observed as a public holiday within the area in which the hospital or health institution is situated.

- (iv) Where a public holiday occurs on a shift worker's rostered day off, he/she shall be paid one day's pay in addition to the weekly rate, or if the employer and the employee so agree, have one day added to his period of annual leave.
- (v) An employee who has accrued additional annual leave under subclause (ii) or (iv) of this clause can elect at any time to be paid an amount equivalent to the value of the accrued additional annual leave in lieu of taking additional leave, provided that the amount is a minimum of one week's accrued additional leave and that the salary for the period of additional leave paid out will be calculated as if the period of leave was actually taken.
- (vi) Subclauses (i) and (ii) of this clause shall not apply to part-time employee of this award but each such employee who is required to work on a public holiday as defined in subclause (iii) of this clause shall be paid at the rate of double time and one-half but such employee shall not be entitled to be paid in addition the loading of 15 per cent prescribed in subclause (i) of clause 8 - Part-Time Employees, of this award.
- (vii) Provided that this clause shall not apply to positions covered by the Hospital Employees Conditions of Employment (State) Award, prior to 31 August 1988, the provisions of "Public Holidays" of that award shall apply.
- (vii) In addition to those public holidays specified in subclause (iii), employees are entitled to an extra public holiday each year. Such public holiday will occur on a day in the Christmas-New Year period as determined by the employer following consultation with the Union, or other suitable day as agreed between the employer and the Union. Such public holiday shall be regarded for all purposes of this clause as any other public holiday.

The foregoing will not apply in areas where in each year a day in addition to the ten named public holidays specified in subclause (iii) is proclaimed and observed as a public holiday and will not apply in areas where, in each year, at least two half days in addition to the ten named public holidays specified in the said subclause are proclaimed and observed as half public holidays.

Provided further that in areas where in each year only one half day in addition to the ten named public holidays specified in subclause (iii) is proclaimed and observed as a half public holiday for the purposes of this award, the whole day will be regarded as a public holiday and no additional public holiday, which otherwise would, as a result of this subclause apply, will be observed.

### **13. Annual Leave**

- (i) All employees: See *Annual Holidays Act 1944*.
- (ii) Annual leave on full pay shall be granted on completion of each twelve months service as follows:
  - (a) Principal Hospital Scientists - 5 weeks.
  - (b) All other employees - 4 weeks.
- (iii)
  - (a) This subclause does not apply to part-time employees.
  - (b) Employees who are rostered to work their ordinary hours on Sundays and/or public holidays during the qualifying period of employment for annual leave purposes shall be entitled to

receive additional annual leave as follows:

- (1) If 35 ordinary shifts on such days have been worked - one week.
- (2) If less than 35 ordinary shifts on such days have been worked and the employees work 38 hours per week - proportionately calculated on the basis of 38 hours leave for 35 such shifts worked.
- (3) If less than 35 ordinary shifts on such days have been worked and the employees work less than 38 hours per week - proportionately calculated on the basis of leave equivalent to the number of hours ordinarily worked per week for 35 such shifts worked.

The calculations referred to above shall be made to the nearest one fifth of the ordinary hours worked, half or more than half of one fifth being regarded as one fifth and less than half being disregarded.

Provided that an employee, entitled to additional annual leave by virtue of this subclause, may elect to be paid an amount equivalent to the value of his or her additional leave entitlement, in lieu of taking the additional leave. Such election is to be made in writing by the employee at the commencement of each year of employment.

An employee with accrued annual leave pursuant to this subclause can elect at any time to be paid an amount equivalent to the value of the accrued additional leave in lieu of taking additional leave, provided that the amount is a minimum of one weeks' accrued additional leave and that the salary for the period of additional leave paid out will be calculated as if the period of leave was actually taken.

- (c) Provided further that on termination of employment, employees shall be entitled to payment for any untaken leave due under this subclause together with payment for any untaken leave in respect of an uncompleted year of employment, calculated in accordance with this subclause.
- (iv) The annual leave shall be given by the employer and shall be taken by the employee before the expiration of a period of six months after the date upon which the right to such holidays accrues; provided that the giving and taking of the whole or any separate period of such annual holiday may, with the consent of the employee, be postponed for a period not exceeding 18 months.
- (v) The employer shall give to each employee three months notice where practicable and not less than one month's notice of the date upon which the employee shall enter upon annual leave.
- (vi) An employee who is normally employed to work shifts shall be paid whilst on annual leave his/her ordinary pay plus shift allowances and weekend penalties relating to ordinary time the employee would have worked if he/she had not been on annual leave, provided that shift allowances and weekend penalties shall not be payable for public holidays which occur during a period of annual leave or for days which have been added to annual leave in accordance with the provisions of Clause 12, Public Holidays, of this award.
- (vii) Credit of time towards an allocated day off duty shall not accrue when an employee is absent on ordinary annual leave in accordance with subclause (i) of this clause. Employees entitled to allocated days off duty in accordance with Clause 4, Hours, of this award shall accrue credit towards an allocated day off duty in respect of each day those employees are absent on additional annual leave in accordance with subclause (ii) of Clause 12, Public Holidays, of this award.

- (viii) Employees shall be entitled to an annual leave loading of 17.5 per centum, or shift penalties as set out in subclause (vi) of this clause, whichever is the greater.

**NOTATION:** The conditions under when the annual leave loading shall be paid to employees are the same as generally applied through circulars issued by the Ministry of Health.

#### **14. Long Service Leave**

- (i) (a) Each employee shall be entitled to two months long service leave on full pay after ten years of service; thereafter additional long service shall accrue on the basis of five months long service leave on full pay for each ten years service.

Employees with at least seven years service and less than 10 years service are entitled, proportionate to his or her length of service, to proceed on a proportionate period of long service leave on the basis of two months' long service leave for ten years' service on full pay.

- (b) Where the services of an employee with at least five years service and less than seven years service are terminated by the employer for any reason other than the employee's serious and wilful misconduct, or by the employee, on account of illness, incapacity or domestic or other pressing necessity, he/she shall be entitled to be paid a proportionate amount for long service leave on the basis of two months' long service leave for ten years' service.

Where the services of an employee with at least seven years are terminated by the employer or by the employee, he/she shall be entitled to be paid a proportionate amount for long service leave on the basis of two months' long service leave for ten years' service. Where the services of an employee with at least 10 years service are terminated by the employer or by the employee, he/she shall be entitled to be paid on the basis of two months' long service leave for ten years' service and thereafter on the basis of five months long service leave for each ten years service.

- (ii) For the purposes of subclause (i) of this clause:

- (a) Service shall mean continuous service with the employer. For the purpose of this paragraph, continuous service will be determined in accordance with the provisions of Section 17 of the NSW Health Policy Directive PD2014\_029 Leave Matters for the NSW Health Service, as amended from time to time..

- (b) Broken periods of service with the employer in one or more hospitals shall count as service.

- (c) Service shall not include -

(1) any period of leave without pay except in the case of employees who have completed at least ten years service (any period of absence without pay being excluded there from) in which case service shall include any period of leave without pay not exceeding six months taken after 1 January, 1973;

(2) any period of part-time service, except permanent part-time service, as provided for in subclause (ix).

- (iii) An employee with an entitlement to long service leave may elect to access such entitlement:

- (a) on full pay;  
(b) on half pay; or  
(c) on double pay.

- (iv) When an employee takes long service leave, the leave entitlement will be deducted on the following basis:
  - (a) a period of leave on full pay - the number of days so taken;
  - (b) a period of leave on half pay - half the number of days so taken; or
  - (c) a period of leave on double pay - twice the number of days so taken.
- (v) When taking long service leave and an employee would otherwise have had a rostered shift fall on a public holiday during that period, the amount of long service leave to be deducted is to be reduced by one day for the public holiday.
- (vi) Long Service Leave shall be taken at a time mutually arranged between the employer and the employee.
- (vii)
  - (a) On the termination of employment of an employee, otherwise than by his/her death, an employer shall pay to the employee the monetary value of all long service leave accrued and not taken at the date of such termination and such monetary value shall be determined according to the salary payable to the employee at the date of such termination, unless the employee elects to transfer his or her leave entitlement in accordance with Section 17 of the NSW Health Policy Directive 2014\_029 Leave Matters for the NSW Health Service, as amended from time to time.
  - (b) Where an employee who has acquired a right to long service leave, or after having had five years service and less than ten years service dies, the widow or the widower of such employee, or if there is no such widow or widower, the children of such employee, or if there is no such widow, widower, or children, such person who, in the opinion of the employer, was at the time of the death of such employee, a dependent relative of such employee, shall be entitled to receive the monetary value of the leave not taken or which would have accrued to such employee, had his/her services terminated as referred to in paragraph (b) of subclause (i) of this clause and such monetary value shall be determined according to the salary payable to the employee at the time of his/her death.
 

Where there is a guardian of any children entitled under this paragraph the payment, to which such children are entitled, may be made to such guardian for their maintenance, education and advancement.

Where there is no person entitled under this paragraph to receive the monetary value of any leave payable under the foregoing provisions payment in respect thereof shall be made to the legal personal representative of such employee.
- (viii) The provisions of subclauses (i) to (v) of this clause shall not apply to part-time employees who receive an adjusted hourly rate (as defined in Part II, of clause 8, of this Award). Such employees shall be entitled to long service leave in accordance with the provisions of the *Long Service Leave Act*, 1955, and/or Determination under the *Health Services Act* 1997.
- (ix) A full-time employee shall be entitled to have previous part-time service which is the equivalent of at least two full days' duty per week taken into account for long service purposes in conjunction with full-time service on the basis of the proportion that the actual number of hours worked each week bears to forty hours up until 30 June 1984 and bears to 38 on and from 1 July 1984, provided the part-time service merges without break with the subsequent full-time service.
- (x) Except as provided for in subclause (xi) of this clause, rights to long service leave under this clause shall be in replacement of rights to long service leave, if any, which at the date of commencement of

this award may have accrued or may be accruing to an employee and shall apply only to persons in the employ of the employer on or after the date of commencement of this award. Where an employee has been granted long service leave or has been paid its monetary value prior to the date of commencement of this award, the employer shall be entitled to debit such leave against any leave to which the employee may be entitled pursuant to this clause.

- (xi) The following provisions shall apply only to employees employed in a hospital at 1 January 1973:
- (a) An employee who -
    - (1) has had service in a hospital, to which clause 21, Climatic and Isolation Allowance, applies, prior to 1 January 1973;
    - (2) Is employed in a hospital, to which clause 21, Climatic and Isolation Allowance, applies, at 1 January 1973 shall be granted long service leave in accordance with the long service leave provisions in force prior to 1st January, 1973, in lieu of the provisions provided by this award where such benefits are more favourable to the employee.
  - (b) An employee employed -
    - (1) as a part-time employee at 1st January 1973 may be allowed to continue to be granted long service leave in accordance with the long service provisions in force prior to 1st January 1973 in lieu of the provisions of the Long Service Leave Act 1955, as provided for in sub-clause (viii) of this clause;
    - (2) on a full-time basis at 1 January 1973, but who had prior part-time service may be allowed to continue to be granted long service leave in accordance with the long service leave provisions in force prior to 1 January 1973, in lieu of the provisions provided by this award where such benefits are more favourable to the employee.
- (xii) Where an employee has accrued a right to an allocated day off duty on pay prior to entering a period of long service leave such day shall be taken on the next working day immediately following the period of long service leave.

An employee returning to duty from long service leave shall be given the next allocated day off duty in sequence irrespective of whether sufficient credits have been accumulated or not.

## **15. Sick Leave**

- (i) Full-time employees - a full-time employee shall be entitled to sick leave on full pay by allowing 76 rostered ordinary hours of work for each year of continuous service, less any sick leave on full pay already taken subject to the following conditions.
- (a) All periods of sickness shall be certified to by the Medical Superintendent of the hospital or by a legally qualified Medical Practitioner approved by the employer, provided such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld; provided however, that the employer may dispense with the requirement of the medical certificate where the absence does not exceed two (2) consecutive days or where in the employer's opinion the circumstances are such as to not warrant such requirements.
  - (b) The employer shall not change the rostered hours of work of an employee fixed by the roster or rosters applicable to the seven days immediately following the commencement of sick

leave merely by reason of the fact that the employee is on sick leave.

- (c) An employee shall not be entitled to sick leave until after three months continuous service.
- (d) Service for the purpose of this clause, shall mean service with the employer and shall be deemed to have commenced on the date of engagement by the employer in respect of any period of employment with the employer current at the date of the commencement of this award in respect of employees then so employed and in respect of others it shall be deemed to commence on the first day of engagement by the employer after the commencement of this award.
- (e) Employees who are employed at the date of the commencement of this award shall retain to their credit, until exhausted, any accumulation of sick leave to their credit immediately prior to such a date; provided that such credit is not less than the entitlement otherwise prescribed by this clause.
- (f) "Continuous Service" for the purpose of this clause, shall be calculated in the same manner as provided under sub-clause (ii) (a) of Clause 14, Long Service Leave, of this award, excepting that all periods of service with the employer in any hospital (providing such service is not less than three months actual service) shall be counted.
- (g) Each employee shall take all reasonably practicable steps to inform the employer of his or her inability to attend for duty and as far as possible state the estimated duration for the absence.

Where practicable such notice shall be given within twenty-four hours of the commencement of such absence.

- (ii) Part-time employees - A part-time employee shall be entitled to sick leave in the same proportion of 76 hours as the average weekly hours worked over the preceding twelve months or from the time of the commencement of the employment, whichever is the lesser, bears to 38 ordinary hours of one week. Such entitlements shall be subject to all the above conditions applying to full-time employees.
- (iii) An employee shall not be entitled to sick leave on full pay for any period in respect of which such employee is entitled to accident pay, or worker's compensation; provided, however, that where an employee is not in receipt of accident pay, an employer shall pay to an employee, who has sick leave entitlements under this clause, the difference between the amount received, as worker's compensation and full pay. The employee's sick leave entitlement under this clause shall for each week during which such difference is paid, be reduced by the proportion of hours which the difference bears to full pay. On the expiration of available sick leave, weekly compensation payments only shall be payable.
- (iv) For the purpose of determining a full-time employee's sick leave credit as at the 1st July, 1984, sick leave entitlement shall be proportioned on the basis of 76/80.

## **16. Payment and Particulars of Salary**

- (i) Salaries shall be paid weekly or fortnightly.
- (ii) Employees shall have their salary paid into one account with a bank or other financial institution in New South Wales as nominated by the employee except where agreement as to another method of payment has been reached between the Union and the employer due to the isolation of the work location. Salaries shall be deposited by the employer in sufficient time to ensure that salaries are available for withdrawal by employees no later than pay day provided that this requirement shall not

apply where employees nominate accounts with non-bank financial institutions which lack the technological or other facilities to process salary deposits within 24 hours of the employer making deposits with such financial institutions but in such cases the employer shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that the salaries of such employees are available for withdrawal by no later than pay day.

Subject to adequate notice in writing on each occasion, employees who are rostered off on pay day shall be entitled to have their salary deposited before proceeding on their days off.

- (iii) Notwithstanding the provisions of subclauses (i) and (ii) of this clause, any employee who was given or who has been given notice of termination of employment in accordance with clause 17, Termination of Employment, of this award, shall be paid all monies due to him/her prior to ceasing duty on the last day of employment. Where an employee is dismissed or his or her services are terminated without notice in accordance with clause 17, Termination of Employment, of this award, any moneys due to him or her shall be paid as soon as possible after such dismissal or termination, but in any case, not more than three days thereafter.
- (iv) On each pay day an employee, in respect of the payment then due, shall be furnished with a statement in writing containing the following particulars, namely: name, the amount of ordinary salary, the total hours of overtime worked, if any, other monies paid, and the purpose for which they are paid and the amount of deductions made from the total earnings and the nature thereof.
- (v) Where the retrospective adjustments of wages are paid to employees, such payments where practical shall be paid as a separate payment to ordinary wages. Such payment shall be accompanied by a statement containing particulars as set out in subclause (iv) of this clause.
- (vii) Underpayment and overpayment of salaries – the following process will apply once the issue of underpayment or overpayment is substantiated.
  - (a) Underpayment
    - (1) If the amount underpaid is equal to or greater than one day's gross base pay the underpayment will be rectified within three working days;
    - (2) If the amount underpaid is less than one day's gross base pay it will be rectified by no later than the next normal pay. However, if the employee can demonstrate that rectification in this manner would result in undue hardship, every effort will be made by the employer to rectify the underpayment within three working days.
  - (b) Overpayment
    - (1) In all cases where overpayments have occurred, the employer shall as soon as possible advise the employee concerned of both the circumstances surrounding the overpayment and the amount involved. The employer will also advise the employee of the pay period from which the recovery of the overpayment is to commence.
    - (2) One off overpayments will be recovered in the next normal pay, except that where the employee can demonstrate that undue hardship would result, the recover rate shall be at 10% of an employee's gross fortnightly base pay.
    - (3) Unless the employee agrees otherwise, the maximum rate at which cumulative overpayments can be recovered is an amount, calculated on a per fortnight basis, equivalent to 10% of the employee's gross fortnightly base pay.
    - (4) The recovery rate of 10% of an employee's gross fortnightly base pay referred to in

subclause (b)(3) above may be reduced by agreement, where the employee can demonstrate that undue hardship would result.

- (5) Where an employee's remaining period of service does not permit the full recovery of any overpayment to be achieved on the fortnightly basis prescribed in subclause (b)(3) above, the employer shall have the right to deduct any balance of such overpayment from monies owing to the employee on the employee's date of termination, resignation or retirement, as the case may be.

### **17. Termination of Employment**

- (i) During the first three months of employment, employment shall be from week to week. After three months continuous service, employment may be terminated only by twenty eight days notice given either by the employer or the employee at any time during the week or by payment or forfeiture of twenty eight days salary, as the case may be. Nothing in this clause, however, shall prevent the summary dismissal of an employee for misconduct or neglect of duty.
- (ii) Employees with a credit of time accrued towards an allocated day off duty shall be paid for such accrual upon termination.
- (iii) Provided that this clause shall not apply to positions covered by the Hospital Employees Conditions of Employment (State) Award, prior to 31 August 1988, the provisions of "Termination of Employment", subclause (ii), of that award, shall apply.

### **18. Accommodation and Amenities**

- (i) Suitable dining room accommodation and lavatory conveniences shall be provided for all resident and non-resident employees.
- (ii) In all hospitals erected after 1st January, 1960, dressing room, lockers, hot and cold showers and conveniences also shall be provided for non-resident employees and where practicable, such facilities shall be provided in hospitals erected prior to that date.
- (iii) The following outlines the minimum standards which the employer seeks to achieve in all hospitals:

#### Sanitary conveniences -

- (a) Seats - in the proportion of 1 seat to every 15 employees or fraction of 15 employees of each sex.
- (b) Separate and distinct conveniences for each sex, together with screened approaches to ensure privacy. These facilities must be located conveniently to work places, they must be adequately lighted and ventilated and floors, walls and ceilings finished with a smooth faced surface resistant to moisture.

#### Washing and Bathing Facilities

- (a) Washing provision by way of basins of suitable impervious material with taps set at 600mm centres with hot and cold water supplied, in proportion of one hot tap and one cold tap for each fifteen employees or part of 15 employees of each sex. Space in front of the wash points shall not be less than 900mm.
- (b) Showers spaced at not less than 900mm and with hot and cold water connected for persons ceasing work at any one time in a minimum ratio of one shower for every twenty persons or

part of twenty persons of each sex ceasing work at any one time.

Washing and bathing facilities must be adequately lighted and ventilated; floors, walls and ceilings finished with a smooth-faced surface resistant to moisture.

These facilities should be incorporated in, or communicated direct with the change room and should not be contained within any closet block.

#### Change Rooms and Lockers

- (a) Properly constructed and ventilated change rooms equipped with a vented steel locker, at least 300mm wide by 450mm deep and 1800mm high for each employee.
- (b) Floor area not less than 0.56 sq. m. per employee to be accommodated.
- (c) Space between lockers - set up facing one another and not less than 1.5 metres. Traffic ways not less than one metre wide.
- (d) Sufficient seating not less than 260mm wide by 380mm high should be provided.
- (e) Lockers should be set up with at least 150mm clearance between the floor of the locker and the floor of the room. Lockers shall be of the lock-up type with keys provided.

#### Dining Room

- (a) Well constructed, ventilated and adequately lighted dining room(s). Generally floor area should not be less than 1.0 sq. m. per employee using the meal room at any one time.
- (b) Tables not more than 1.8 m. long, spaced 1.2 m. apart, allowing 0.6 m. of table space per person.
- (c) Chairs or other seating with back rests. Sufficient tables and chairs must be provided for all persons who will use the dining room at any one time.
- (d) Facilities for boiling water, warming and refrigerating food and for washing and storing of dining utensils shall be provided.

#### Rest Room

A well constructed and adequately lighted and ventilated room or screened off portion of the change room for women. Such rest room or rest area to be equipped with day bed or couch with mattress, blankets, pillow and hot water bottle.

- (iv) The above standards shall be the minimum to be included in working drawings approved after 1st December 1976, for new hospitals.
- (v) Where major additions to presently occupied buildings or new buildings are erected within a presently constituted hospital the amenities to be provided in such additions or new buildings shall be the subject of negotiations between the parties.

### **19. Inspection of Lockers of Employees**

Lockers may be opened for inspection in the presence of the employee but in cases where the employee neglects or refuses to be present or in any circumstances where notice to the employee is impracticable such

inspection may be carried out in the absence of the employee by an employee appointed by the employer, and if practicable, a Union Branch Employee, otherwise by any two employees so appointed by the employer.

## **20. Uniform and Laundry Allowance**

- (i) Subject to clause (iii) of this clause, sufficient suitable and serviceable uniforms shall be supplied free of cost to each employee required to wear a uniform provided that an employee to whom a new uniform or part of a uniform has been supplied by the employer who, without good reason, fails to return the corresponding article last supplied to him or her, shall not be entitled to have such article replaced without payment thereof at a reasonable price.
- (ii) An employee, on leaving the service of the employer shall return any uniform or part thereof supplied by the employer which is still in use immediately prior to leaving.
- (iii) In lieu of supplying a uniform to an employee, the employer shall pay to such employee an amount per week as set in Item 3 of Table 1, Allowances.
- (iv) If at any hospital the uniform of the employee is not laundered at the expense of the employer, an allowance per week as set in Item 3 of the said Table 1, shall be paid to such employee.
- (v) Each employee whose duties require him/her to work in a hazardous situation shall be supplied with the appropriate protective clothing and equipment.
- (vi) The allowances referred to in subclauses (iii) and (iv) are payable to part-time employees on the basis of one fifth of the full weekly allowance for each shift worked in the week.

## **21. Climatic and Isolation Allowance**

- (i) Employees employed in hospitals in any place situated upon or to the west of a line drawn as specified in this subclause but not including places as specified in subclause (ii) of this clause shall be paid a weekly allowance as set in Item 4 of Table 1, Allowances, in addition to the salary to which they otherwise are entitled. The line shall be drawn as follows: commencing Tocumwal and thence to the following towns in the order stated, namely, Lockhart, Narrandera, Leeton, Peak Hill, Gilgandra, Dunedoo, Coolah, Boggabri, Inverell, and Bonshaw.
- (ii) Employees employed in hospitals in any place situated upon or to the west of a line drawn as specified in this subclause shall be paid a weekly allowance as set in Item 4 of Table 1, Allowances, in addition to the salary to which they otherwise are entitled. The line shall be drawn as follows: commencing at a point on the right bank of the Murray River at Swan Hill (Victoria) and thence to the following towns in the order stated, namely, Hay, Hillston, Nyngan, Walgett, Collarenebri and Mungindi.
- (iii) Except for the computation of overtime the allowances prescribed in this clause shall be regarded as part of the salary for the purpose of this award.
- (iv) The allowances prescribed by this clause are not cumulative.
- (v) A part-time employee shall be entitled to the allowances prescribed in this clause in the same proportion as average hours worked each week bears to 38 ordinary hours.

## **22. Notice Boards**

The hospital shall permit notice boards of reasonable dimensions to be erected in a prominent position upon which the representative of the Union shall be permitted to post Union Notices.

## **23. Union Representatives**

An employee appointed as Union representative shall upon notification thereof in writing by the Union to the employer, be recognised as an accredited representative of the Union and shall be allowed the necessary time during working hours to interview the employer on matters affecting employees and shall be allowed suitable facilities to collect the Union's dues.

## **24. Exemptions**

This award shall not apply to members, novices or aspirants of religious orders in public hospitals, the names of whom are included or hereafter shall be in the third schedule to the *Health Services Act 1997*.

## **25. Blood Counts**

Every employee who works in close proximity to diagnostic and/or therapeutic X-Ray equipment or any other form of radio-active equipment or substance shall have a blood count carried out free of charge, by the employer at least once in every period of three months including any such period of work.

## **26. Settlement of Disputes**

- (i) Where a dispute arises in a particular section which cannot be resolved between the employees or their representative and the supervising staff, it shall be referred to the Chief Executive Officer of the Health Service or establishment or his/her nominee, who will arrange to have the matter discussed with the employees concerned and a local representative or representatives of the Union.
- (ii) Failing settlement of the issue at this level, the matter shall be referred to the Secretary and the Head office of the Union. The dispute will be dealt with pursuant to subclause (v) of this clause.
- (iii) Whilst these procedures are continuing, no stoppage of work or any form of ban or limitation of work shall be applied.
- (iv) The Union reserves the right to vary this procedure where it is considered a safety factor is involved.
- (v) With view to an amicable and speedy settlement, all disputes that firstly cannot be settled in accordance with subclauses (i) and (ii) of this clause may be submitted to the committee consisting of not more than six (6) members, with equal representatives of the Union and the Secretary . Such committee shall have the power to investigate all matters in dispute and to report to the Chief Executive Officer of the Health Service and the Union respectively with such recommendation as it may think right and, in the event of no mutual decision being arrived at by such committee, the matter in dispute may be referred to the Public Health Employees (State) Industrial Committee.
- (vi) This clause shall not interfere with the rights of either to institute proceedings for the determination of any matter in accordance with the *Industrial Relations Act, 1996*.

## 27. Anti-Discrimination

- (i) It is intention of the parties bound by this award to seek to achieve the object in section 3(f) of the *Industrial Relations Act 1996* to prevent and eliminate discrimination in the workplace. This includes discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, marital status, disability, homosexuality, transgender identity, age and responsibilities as a carer.
- (ii) It follows that in fulfilling their obligations under the dispute resolution procedure prescribed by this award the parties have obligations to take all reasonable steps to ensure that the operation of the provisions of this award are not directly or indirectly discriminatory in their effects. It will be consistent with the fulfilment of these obligations for the parties to make application to vary any provision of the award which, by its terms or operation, has a direct or indirect discriminatory effect.
- (iii) Under the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*, it is unlawful to victimise an employee because the employee has made or may make or has been involved in a complaint of unlawful discrimination or harassment.
- (iv) Nothing in this clause is to be taken to affect:
  - (a) any conduct or act which is specifically exempted from anti-discrimination legislation;
  - (b) offering or providing junior rates of pay to persons under 21 years of age;
  - (c) any act or practice of a body established to propagate religion which is exempted under section 56(d) of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977*;
  - (d) a party to this award from pursuing matters of unlawful discrimination in any State or Federal jurisdiction.
- (v) This clause does not create legal rights or obligations in addition to those imposed upon the parties by the legislation referred to in this clause.

### NOTES –

- (a) Employers and employees may also be subject to Commonwealth anti-discrimination legislation.
- (b) Section 56(d) of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1977* provides:

“Nothing in this Act affects ... any other act or practice of a body established to propagate religion that conforms to the doctrines of that religion or is necessary to avoid injury to the religious susceptibilities of the adherents of that religion.

## 28. Travelling Allowance

- (i) An employee seconded to another hospital may be granted a daily travel allowance at the rate of the difference between the cost of travel by public transport to his/her normal place of employment and travel by public transport to the seconding hospital. Provided that where an employee drives his/her own vehicle, he/she shall, in lieu, be eligible for an allowance based on the casual rate prescribed by the Crown Employees (Public Service Conditions of Employment) Award, from time to time, for the difference between the distance to his/her normal place of employment and distance to the seconding hospital.
- (ii) An employee who with the approval of the employer, uses on official business a motor vehicle primarily for other than official business, shall be paid the above mentioned allowance from time to

time effective. However, where it is estimated that an employee will, with the approval of the employer, be required to use his/her private vehicle on official business on at least fifty days during any period of twelve months and during that period, aggregate at least 850 kilometres of official running, he shall be paid the official business rate prescribed by the Crown Employees (Public Service Conditions of Employment) Award, at the rate in force from time to time throughout the year.

- (iii) For the purpose of subclause (ii) travel on official business -
  - (a) occurs when an employee is required by the employer as part of his/her duty to use his/her motor vehicle to attend away from his/her normal place of employment or seconding hospital to another clinic, annexe or hospital. Where an employee travels on official business direct from his/her place of residence to a clinic, annexe or hospital, other than normal place of employment he/she shall be paid the difference between the distance to his/her normal place of employment or seconding hospital and that other clinic, annexe or hospital.
  - (b) shall include other arrangements as agreed to between the employer and the Union from time to time.
  - (c) does not include "call backs".
- (iv) Nothing in this clause shall make the employer liable for the cost of the employee's daily travel to his/her usual and normal place of employment.

## **29. General Conditions**

An employee required to answer emergency phone calls outside of ordinary working hours, but not recalled to duty, shall be reimbursed rental charges on such telephone on production of receipted accounts.

Provided that, where an employee is required to answer out of hours telephone calls on a relief basis he/she shall be paid one-twelfth of his/her yearly telephone rental for each month or part thereof he/she is so employed.

## **30. Promotions and Appointments**

- (i) Promotion and/or appointment shall be by merit.
- (ii) In the case of an employee or employees disputing a promotion and/or appointment the Union may apply to the Public Health Employees (State) Industrial Committee or its chairman or the Industrial Relations Commission of New South Wales for determination of the dispute.

## **31. Board and Lodging**

- (i) Where an employee lives at a hospital, deductions from his/her salary for accommodation and/or board may be made by the employer at the rates prescribed from time to time by the Public Health System Nurses' and Midwives' (State) Award.
- (ii) Where individual meals only are provided, the employee may be charged the charges applicable under the Public Health System Nurses' and Midwives' (State) Award.
- (iii) No deductions shall be made from the salary of an employee for board or lodging when the employee is absent on annual, sick or long service leave.

## 32. Maternity, Adoption and Parental Leave

### A Maternity Leave

#### (i) Eligibility for Paid Maternity Leave

To be eligible for paid maternity leave a full time or permanent part-time employee must have completed at least 40 weeks continuous service prior to the expected date of birth.

An employee who has once met the conditions for paid maternity leave will not be required to again work the 40 weeks continuous service in order to qualify for a further period of paid maternity leave, unless-

- (a) there has been a break in service where the employee has been re-employed or re-appointed after a resignation, medical retirement, or after her services have been otherwise dispensed with: or
- (b) the employee has completed a period of leave without pay of more than 40 weeks. In this context, leave without pay does not include sick leave without pay, maternity leave without pay, or leave without pay associated with an illness or injury compensable under the *Workers' Compensation Act*.

#### (ii) Portability of Service for Paid Maternity Leave

Portability of service for paid maternity leave involves the recognition of service in government sector agencies for the purpose of determining an employee's eligibility to receive paid maternity leave. For example, where an employee moves between a public service department and a public hospital, previous continuous service will be counted towards the service prerequisite for paid maternity leave.

When determining an employee's eligibility for paid maternity leave, continuous service with an organisation that is part of the government sector as defined in the Government Sector Employment Act 2013 will be recognised, provided that:

- (a) service was on a full-time or permanent part-time basis;
- (b) cessation of service with the former employer was not by reason of dismissal on any ground, except retrenchment or reduction of work;
- (c) the employee immediately commences duty with the new employer. There may be a break in service of up to two months before commencing duty with the new employer. However, such a break in service will not be counted as service for the purpose of calculating any prior service prerequisite for paid maternity leave.

#### (iii) Entitlement to Paid Maternity Leave

An eligible employee is entitled to fourteen weeks at the ordinary rate of pay from the date maternity leave commences. This leave may commence up to fourteen weeks prior to the expected date of birth.

It is not compulsory for an employee to take this period off work. However, if an employee decides to work during the nine weeks prior to the date of birth it is subject to the employee being able to satisfactorily perform the full range of normal duties.

Paid maternity leave may be paid:

- on a normal fortnightly basis; or
- in advance in a lump sum; or
- at the rate of half pay over a period of twenty-eight weeks on a regular fortnightly basis.

Annual and/or long service leave credits can be combined with periods of maternity leave on half pay to enable an employee to remain on full pay for that period.

(iv) Unpaid Maternity Leave

- (a) Full time and permanent part time employees who are entitled to paid maternity leave are entitled to a further period of unpaid maternity leave of not more than 12 months after the actual date of birth.
- (b) Full time and permanent part time employees who are not eligible for paid maternity leave are entitled to unpaid maternity leave of not more than 12 months.

(v) Applications

An employee who intends to proceed on maternity leave should formally notify her employer of such intention as early as possible, so that arrangements associated with her absence can be made.

Written notice of not less than eight weeks prior to the commencement of the leave should accordingly be given. This notice must include a medical certificate stating the expected date of birth and should also indicate the period of leave desired.

(vi) Variation after Commencement of Leave

After commencing maternity leave, an employee may vary the period of her maternity leave once only without the consent of her employer by giving the employer notice in writing of the extended period at least fourteen days' before the start of the extended period. An employer may accept less notice if convenient.

An employee may extend the period of maternity leave at any time with the agreement of the employer.

The conditions relating to variation of maternity leave are derived from Section 64 of the *Industrial Relations Act 1996*.

(vii) Staffing Provisions

In accordance with obligations established by the *Industrial Relations Act 1996* (Section 69) any person who occupies the position of an employee on maternity leave must be informed that the employee has the right to return to her former position. Additionally, since an employee has the right to vary the period of her maternity leave, offers of temporary employment should be in writing, stating clearly the temporary nature of the contract of employment. The duration of employment should be also set down clearly; to a fixed date or until the employee elects to return to duty, whichever occurs first.

(viii) Effect of Maternity Leave on Accrual of Leave, Increments etc.

When the employee has resumed duties, any period of full pay leave is counted in full for the accrual of annual leave, sick leave and long service leave and any period of maternity leave on half pay is taken into account to the extent of one half thereof when determining the accrual of annual leave, sick leave and long service leave.

Except in the case of employees who have completed ten years' service the period of maternity leave without pay does not count as service for long service leave purposes. Where the employee has completed ten years' service the period of maternity leave without pay shall count as service provided such leave does not exceed six months.

Maternity leave without pay does not count as service for incremental purposes. Periods of maternity leave at full pay and at half pay are to be regarded as service for incremental progression on a pro-rata basis.

Where public holidays occur during the period of paid maternity leave, payment is at the rate of maternity leave received i.e., public holidays occurring in a period of full pay maternity leave are paid at full rate and those occurring during a period of half pay leave are paid at half rate.

(ix) Illness Associated with Pregnancy

If, because of an illness associated with her pregnancy an employee is unable to continue to work then she can elect to use any available paid leave (sick, annual and/or long service leave) or to take sick leave without pay.

Where an employee is entitled to paid maternity leave, but because of illness, is on sick, annual, long service leave, or sick leave without pay prior to the birth, such leave ceases nine weeks prior to the expected date of birth. The employee then commences maternity leave with the normal provisions applying.

(x) Transfer to a More Suitable Position

Where, because of an illness or risk associated with her pregnancy, an employee cannot carry out the duties of her position, an employer is obliged, as far as practicable, to provide employment in some other position that she is able to satisfactorily perform. This obligation arises from Section 70 of the *Industrial Relations Act 1996*. A position to which an employee is transferred under these circumstances must be as close as possible in status and salary to her substantive position.

(xi) Miscarriages

In the event of a miscarriage any absence from work is to be covered by the current sick leave provisions

(xii) Stillbirth

In the case of a stillbirth, (as classified by the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages) an employee may elect to take sick leave, subject to production of a medical certificate, or maternity leave. She may resume duty at any time provided she produces a doctor's certificate as to her fitness.

(xiii) Effect of Premature Birth on Payment of Maternity Leave

An employee who gives birth prematurely and prior to proceeding on maternity leave shall be treated as being on maternity leave from the date leave is commenced to have the child. Should an employee return to duty during the period of paid maternity leave, such paid leave ceases from the date duties are resumed.

(xiv) Right to Return to Previous Position

In accordance with the obligations set out in Section 66 of the *Industrial Relations Act 1996*, an employee returning from maternity leave has the right to resume her former position.

Where this position no longer exists the employee is entitled to be placed in a position nearest in status and salary to that of her former position and to which the employee is capable or qualified.

(xv) Further Pregnancy While on Maternity Leave

Where an employee becomes pregnant whilst on maternity leave a further period of maternity leave shall be granted. If an employee enters on the second period of maternity leave during the currency of the initial period of maternity leave, then any residual maternity leave from the initial entitlement ceases.

An employee who commences a subsequent period of maternity leave while on unpaid maternity leave under subclause (iv)(a) of Part A of this clause or subclause (i)(b) of Part D of this clause is entitled to be paid at their normal rate (ie the rate at which they were paid before proceeding on maternity leave).

An employee who commences a subsequent period of maternity leave during the first 12 months of a return to duty on a part time basis as provided under subclause (i)(c) of Part D of this clause is entitled to be paid at their substantive full time rate for the subsequent period of maternity leave.

An employee who commences a subsequent period of maternity leave more than 12 months after returning to duty on a part time basis under subclause (i)(c) of Part D of this clause, will be entitled to paid maternity leave for the subsequent period of maternity leave at their part time rate.

## **B Adoption Leave**

(i) Eligibility

All full time and permanent part time employees who are adopting a child and are to be the primary care giver of the child are eligible for unpaid adoption leave.

To be eligible for paid adoption leave a full time or permanent part-time employee must also have completed at least 40 weeks continuous service prior to the date of taking custody of the child.

An employee who has once met the conditions of paid adoption leave, will not be required to again work the 40 weeks continuous service in order to qualify for further periods of paid adoption leave, unless:

- (a) there has been a break in service where the employee has been re-employed or re-appointed after a resignation, medical retirement, or after their services have been otherwise dispensed with; or
- (b) the employee has completed a period of leave without pay of more than 40 weeks. In this context, leave without pay does not include sick leave without pay, maternity leave without pay, or leave without pay associated with an illness or injury compensable under the Worker's Compensation Act.

(ii) Portability of Service for Paid Adoption Leave

As per maternity leave conditions.

(iii) Entitlement

(a) Paid Adoption Leave

Eligible employees are entitled to paid adoption leave of fourteen weeks at the ordinary rate of pay from and including the date of taking custody of the child.

Paid adoption leave may be paid:

- on a normal fortnightly basis; or
- in advance in a lump sum; or
- at the rate of half pay over a period of twenty-eight weeks on a regular fortnightly basis.

Annual and/or long service leave credits can be combined with periods of adoption leave at half pay to enable an employee to remain on full pay for that period.

(b) Unpaid Adoption Leave

Eligible employees are entitled to unpaid adoption leave as follows:

- where the child is under the age of 12 months - a period of not more than 12 months from the date of taking custody;
- where the child is over the age of 12 months and under 18 years old - a period of up to 12 months, such period to be agreed upon by both the employee and the employer.

(iv) Applications

Due to the fact that an employee may be given little notice of the date of taking custody of a child, employees who believe that, in the reasonably near future, they will take custody of a child, should formally notify the employer as early as practicable of the intention to take adoption leave. This will allow arrangements associated with the adoption leave to be made.

(v) Variation after Commencement of Leave

After commencing adoption leave, an employee may vary the period of leave, once without the consent of the employer and otherwise with the consent of the employer. A minimum of fourteen days' notice must be given, although an employer may accept less notice if convenient.

- (vi) Staffing Provisions  
As per maternity leave conditions.
- (vii) Effect of Adoption Leave on Accrual of Leave, Increments, etc  
As per maternity leave conditions.
- (viii) Right to Return to Previous Position  
As per maternity leave conditions.

## **C Parental Leave**

### **(i) Eligibility**

To be eligible for parental leave a full time or permanent part-time employee must have completed at least 40 weeks continuous service prior to the expected date of birth or to the date of taking custody of the child.

An employee who has once met the conditions for paid parental leave will not be required to again work the 40 weeks continuous service in order to qualify for a further period of paid parental leave, unless-

- (a) there has been a break in service where the employee has been re-employed or re-appointed after a resignation, medical retirement, or after their services have been otherwise dispensed with: or
- (b) the employee has completed a period of leave without pay of more than 40 weeks. In this context, leave without pay does not include sick leave without pay, maternity leave without pay, or leave without pay associated with an illness or injury compensable under the *Workers' Compensation Act 1987*.

### **(ii) Portability of Service for Paid Parental Leave**

As per maternity leave conditions.

### **(iii) Entitlements**

Eligible employees whose spouse or partner (including a same sex partner) is pregnant or is taking custody of a child, are entitled to a period of leave not exceeding 52 weeks, which includes one week of paid leave, and may be taken as follows:

- (a) an unbroken period of up to one week at the time of the birth of the child, taking custody of the child or other termination of the pregnancy (short parental leave), and
- (b) a further unbroken period in order to be the primary caregiver of the child (extended parental leave).
- (c) The entitlement of one week's paid leave may be taken at anytime within the 52 week period and shall be paid:

- at the employees ordinary rate of pay for a period not exceeding one week

- on full pay, or  
two weeks at half pay or the period of parental leave taken, whichever is the lesser period.

- (d) Extended parental leave cannot be taken at the same time as the employee's spouse or partner is on maternity or adoption leave except as provided for in subclause (i)(a) of Part D Right to Request of this clause.

Annual and/or long service leave credits can be combined with periods of parental leave on half pay to enable an employee to remain on full pay for that period.

(iv) Applications

An employee who intends to proceed on parental leave should formally notify their employer of such intention as early as possible, so that arrangements associated with their absence can be made.

- (a) In the case of extended parental leave, the employee should give written notice of the intention to take the leave.
- (b) The employee must, at least four weeks before proceeding on leave, give written notice of the dates on which they propose to start and end the period of leave, although it is recognised in situations of taking custody of a child, little or no notice may be provided to the employee. In such an instance, the employee should notify the employer as early as practicable.
- (c) The employee must, before the start of leave, provide a certificate from a medical practitioner confirming that their spouse or partner is pregnant and the expected date of birth, or in the case of an adoption, an official form or notification on taking custody of the child.
- (d) In the case of extended parental leave, the employee must, before the start of leave, provide a statutory declaration by the employee stating:
  - (1) if applicable, the period of any maternity leave sought or taken by his spouse, and
  - (2) that they are seeking the period of extended parental leave to become the primary care giver of the child.

(v) Variation after Commencement of Leave -

After commencing parental leave, an employee may vary the period of her/his parental leave, once without the consent of the employer and otherwise with the consent of the employer. A minimum of fourteen days' notice must be given, although an employer may accept less notice if convenient.

(vi) Effect of Parental Leave on Accrual of Leave, Increments etc.

As per maternity leave conditions.

(vii) Right to Return to Previous Position

As per maternity leave conditions.

## **D Right to Request**

- (i) An employee entitled to maternity, adoption or parental leave may request the employer to allow the employee:
  - (a) to extend the period of simultaneous maternity, adoption or parental leave use up to a maximum of eight weeks;
  - (b) to extend the period of unpaid maternity, adoption or extended parental leave for a further continuous period of leave not exceeding 12 months;
  - (c) to return from a period of maternity, adoption or parental leave on a part time basis until the child reaches school age;to assist the employee in reconciling work and parental responsibilities.
- (ii) The employer shall consider the request having regard to the employee's circumstances and, provided the request is genuinely based on the employee's parental responsibilities, may only refuse the request on reasonable grounds related to the effect on the workplace or the employer's business. Such grounds might include cost, lack of adequate replacement staff, loss of efficiency and the impact on customer service.
- (iii) The employee's request and the employer's decision made under subclauses (i)(b) and (c) must be recorded in writing.
- (iv) Where an employee wishes to make a request under subclause (i)(c):
  - (a) the employee is to make an application for leave without pay to reduce their full time weekly hours of work
  - (b) such application must be made as early as possible to enable the employer to make suitable staffing arrangements. At least four weeks notice must be given.
  - (c) salary and other conditions of employment are to be adjusted on a basis proportionate to the employee's full time hours of work i.e. for long service leave the period of service is to be converted to the full time equivalent and credited accordingly.
  - (d) employees who return from leave under this arrangement remain full time employees. Therefore the payment of any part time allowance to such employees does not arise.

## **E Communication During Leave**

- (i) Where an employee is on maternity, adoption or parental leave and a definite decision has been made to introduce significant change at the workplace, the employer shall take reasonable steps to:
  - (a) make information available in relation to any significant effect the change will have on the status or responsibility level of the position the employee held before commencing the leave; and
  - (b) provide an opportunity for the employee to discuss any significant effect the change

will have on the status or responsibility level of the position the employee held before commencing the leave.

- (ii) The employee shall take reasonable steps to inform the employer about any significant matter that will affect the employee's decision regarding the duration of the leave to be taken, whether the employee intends to return to work and whether the employee intends to request to return to work on a part time basis.
- (iii) The employee shall also notify the employer of changes of address or other contact details which might affect the employer's capacity to comply with subclause (i).

NOTE:

- (a) The entitlement to maternity, adoption and parental leave for part-time employees who receive an adjusted hourly rate (as defined in clause 8, Part 2, in this award), along with casual employees, are in accordance with the provisions of Part 4, Parental Leave of the *Industrial Relations Act 1996* and/or Determination under the *Health Services Act 1997*.
- (b) Where a casual employee is entitled to parental leave under the Industrial Relations Act 1996, the following provisions shall also apply in addition to those set out in the Act.

An employer must not fail to re-engage a casual employee because:

- the employee or employee's spouse is pregnant; or
- the employee is or has been immediately absent on parental leave.

The rights of the employer in relation to engagement and re-engagement of casual employees are not affected, other than in accordance with this clause.

- (c) Part time employees who receive an adjusted hourly rate are also entitled to the provisions of Part D Right to Request and Part E Communication During Leave of this clause.
- (d) Liability for Superannuation Contributions

During a period of unpaid maternity, adoption or parental leave, the employee will not be required to meet the employer's superannuation liability.

### **33. Redundancy – Managing Excess Employees**

Employees shall be entitled to the provisions of Ministry of Health Policy Directive PD2012\_021 Managing Excess Staff of the NSW Health Service, as amended from time to time.

### **34. Family and Community Services Leave and Personal/Carers' Leave**

- (i) Family and Community Services (FACS) Leave and Personal/Carer's Leave are separate, stand alone entitlements.
- (ii) The provisions outlined in Parts A and B of this clause are available to all employees covered by this Award, other than casual employees as defined in subclause (iii) below.
- (iii) Casual employees as defined in the Health Industry Status of Employment (State) Award are entitled to the provisions outlined in Part C of this clause.

**A. FACS Leave**

**(i) FACS Leave - General**

(a) For the purpose of this clause relating to FACS leave:

“relative” means a person related by blood, marriage or affinity;

“affinity” means a relationship that one spouse because of marriage has to blood relatives of the other; and

“household” means a family group living in the same domestic dwelling.

(b) The employer may grant FACS leave to an employee:

- (1) to provide care and/or support for sick members of the employee’s relatives or household; or
- (2) for reasons related to the family responsibilities of the employee (e.g. to arrange and or attend a funeral of a relative; to accompany a relative to a medical appointment where there is an element of emergency; parent/teacher meetings; education week activities; to meet elder-care requirements of a relative); or
- (3) for reasons related to the performance of community service by the employee (e.g. in matters relating to citizenship; to office holders in local government, other than as a mayor, for attendance at meetings, conferences or other associated duties; representing Australia or the State in major amateur sport other than in Olympic/Commonwealth Games); or
- (4) in a case of pressing necessity (e.g. where an employee is unable to attend work because of adverse weather conditions which either prevent attendance or threaten life or property; the illness of a relative; where a child carer is unable to look after their charge).

(ii) FACS leave replaces compassionate leave.

(iii) An employee is not to be granted FACS leave for attendance at court to answer a criminal charge, unless the employer approves the grant of leave in the particular case.

Applications for FACS leave to attend court, for reasons other than criminal charges, will be assessed on an individual basis.

**(iv) FACS Leave – entitlement**

(a) The maximum amount of FACS leave on full pay that may be granted to an employee is:

- (1) 3 working days during the first year of service, commencing on and from 1 January 1995, and thereafter 6 working days in any period of 2 years; or
- (2) 1 working day, on a cumulative basis effective from 1 January 1995, for each year of service after 2 years’ continuous service, minus any period of FACS leave already taken by the employee since 1 January 1995,

whichever method provides the greater entitlement.

- (b) For the purposes of calculating entitlements under (vi)(a)(1) and (2) above, a working day for employees working 38 hours per week shall be deemed to consist of 8 hours, and a working day for employees working 35 hours per week shall be deemed to consist of 7 hours. The rate at which FACS leave is paid out and utilised shall be on actual hours absent from a rostered shift.

Example A: An employee working 38 hours per week will have an entitlement, in their first year of employment, to 24 hours of FACS leave. If the employee take FACS leave for a full 10 hour shift, the employee would be debited 10 hours of FACS leave.

Example B: An employee working 35 hours per week will have an entitlement, in their first year of employment, to 21 hours of FACS leave. If the employee takes FACS leave for a full 7 hour shift, the employee would be debited 7 hours of FACS leave.

Example C: An employee, employed prior to 1 January 1995, applies for FACS leave on 20 February 1997. The employee is entitled to 6 days in any period of two years. Therefore, to calculate the employee's available FACS leave as at 20 February 1997, add all FACS leave taken from 21 February 1995 to 20 February 1997 and deduct that amount from the 6 days entitlement.

- (c) FACS leave is available to part-time employees on a pro rata basis, based on the average number of hours worked per week. A working day shall consist of one-fifth of the employee's average weekly hours during the preceding 12 months or during the employee's period of employment, whichever is the lesser period.

Example: An employee working an average of 30 hours per week will have an entitlement, in his/her first year of employment, of 18 hours of FACS leave. If the employee takes FACS leave for a full rostered shift eg of 4 hours, the employee would be debited 4 hours of FACS leave. Likewise, if the employee was rostered for 8 hours and was absent for the full 8 hours on FACS leave, he/she would be debited 8 hours of FACS leave.

- (v) Additional FACS leave for bereavement purposes

Where FACS leave has been exhausted, additional FACS leave of up to 2 days for bereavement may be granted on a discrete, "per occasion" basis to an employee on the death of a relative or member of a household as defined in subclause (i) (a) of Part A of this clause.

- (vi) Use of other leave entitlements

The employer may grant an employee other leave entitlements for reasons related to family responsibilities or community service, by the employee.

An employee may elect, with the consent of the employer, to take annual leave; long service leave; or leave without pay.

## **B. Personal/Carer's Leave**

- (i) **Use of sick leave to care for the person concerned – definitions**

A person who needs the employee's care and support is referred to as the "person concerned" and is:

- (a) a spouse of the employee; or  
(b) a de facto spouse, who, in relation to a person, is a person of the opposite sex to the first

mentioned person who lives with the first mentioned person as the husband or wife of that person on a bona fide domestic basis although not legally married to that person; or

- (c) a child or an adult child (including an adopted child, a step child, a foster child or an ex nuptial child), parent (including a foster parent and legal guardian), grandparent, grandchild or sibling of the employee or spouse or de facto spouse of the employee; or
- (d) a same sex partner who lives with the employee as the de facto partner of that employee on a bona fide domestic basis; or
- (e) a relative of the employee who is a member of the same household, where for the purpose of this clause relating to Personal/Carer's Leave:

“relative” means a person related by blood, marriage or affinity;

“affinity” means a relationship that one spouse because of marriage has to blood relatives of the other; and

“household” means a family group living in the same domestic dwelling.

**(ii) Use of sick leave to care for the person concerned – entitlement**

- (a) The entitlement to use sick leave in accordance with this subclause is subject to:
  - (1) the employee being responsible for the care and support of the person concerned; and
  - (2) the person concerned being as defined in subclause (i) of Part B of this clause.
- (b) Other than a casual or any other employee who receives a loading in lieu of sick leave, an employee with responsibilities in relation to a person who needs their care and support shall be entitled to use the untaken sick leave, from that year's annual sick leave entitlement, to provide care and support for such persons when they are ill.
- (c) Sick leave accumulates from year to year. In addition to the current year's grant of sick leave available under (b) above, sick leave untaken from the previous 3 years may also be accessed by an employee with responsibilities in relation to a person who needs their care and support.
- (d) The employer may, in special circumstances, make a grant of additional sick leave. This grant can only be taken from sick leave untaken prior to the period referred to in subclause (c) above.
- (e) The employee shall, if required, establish either by production of a medical certificate or statutory declaration, that the illness of the person concerned is such as to require care by another person.
- (f) The employee has the right to choose the method by which the ground for leave is established, that is, by production of either a medical certificate or statutory declaration.
- (g) The employee is not required to state the exact nature of the relevant illness on either a medical certificate or statutory declaration.
- (h) The employee shall, wherever practicable, give the employer notice prior to the absence of the intention to take leave, the name of the person requiring care and that person's relationship to the employee, the reasons for taking such leave and the estimated length of absence. If it is not practicable for the employee to give prior notice of absence, the employee shall notify the

employer by telephone of such absence at the first opportunity on the day of absence.

- (i) In normal circumstances, the employee must not take leave under this part where another person has taken leave to care for the same person.

**(iii) Use of other leave entitlements**

An employee may elect, with the consent of the employer, to take:

- (a) annual leave, including annual leave not exceeding 10 days in single day periods or part thereof, in any calendar year at a time or times agreed by the parties. An employee and employer may agree to defer payment of the annual leave loading in respect of single day absences, until at least 5 consecutive annual leave days are taken. An employee may elect with the employer's agreement to take annual leave at any time within a period of 24 months from the date at which it falls due.
- (b) long service leave; or
- (c) leave without pay for the purpose of providing care and support to the person concerned as defined in subclause (i) of Part B of this clause.

**(iv) Time off in lieu of payment of overtime**

- (a) An employee may elect, with the consent of the employer, to take time off in lieu of payment of overtime at a time or times agreed with the employer within 12 months of the said election
- (b) Overtime taken as time off during ordinary time shall be taken at the ordinary time rate, that is, one hour off for each hour of overtime worked.
- (c) If, having elected to take time as leave in accordance with (iv)(a) above and the leave is not taken for whatever reason, payment for time accrued at overtime rates shall be made at the expiry of the twelve 12 month period from the date the overtime was worked, or earlier by agreement, or on termination.
- (d) Where no election is made in accordance with paragraph (iv)(a) above, the employee shall be paid overtime rates in accordance with the provisions of clause 9, Overtime.

**(v) Use of make-up time**

- (a) An employee may elect, with the consent of the employer, to work "make-up time". "Make-up time" is worked when the employee takes time off during ordinary hours for family or community service responsibilities, and works those hours at another time, during the spread of ordinary hours provided for in clause 4 of this Award, at the ordinary rate of pay.
- (b) An employee on shift work may elect, with the consent of the employer, to work "make-up time" (under which the employee takes time off during ordinary hours and works those hours at another time) at the applicable shift work rate which would have been applicable to the hours taken off.

**C Entitlements for Casual Employees**

**(i) Bereavement entitlements for casual employees**

- (a) Casual employees are entitled to not be available to attend work or to leave work upon the death

in Australia of a relative or member of a household as prescribed in subclause (i)(a) of Part A of this clause.

- (b) The employer and the employee shall agree on the period for which the employee will be entitled to not be available to attend work. In the absence of agreement, the employee is entitled to not be available to attend work for up to 48 hours (ie two days) per occasion. The casual employee is not entitled to any payment for the period of non-attendance.
  - (c) An employer must not fail to re-engage a casual employee because the employee accessed the entitlements provided for in this part. The rights of an employer to engage or not engage a casual employee are otherwise not affected.
- (ii) Personal carers entitlement for casual employees
- (a) Subject to the evidentiary and notice requirements in subclauses (ii)(e) – (h) of Part B of this clause casual employees are entitled to not be available to attend work, or to leave work if they need to care for a person prescribed in subclause (i) of Part B of this clause who are sick and require care and support, or who require care due to an unexpected emergency, or the birth of a child.
  - (b) The employer and the employee shall agree on the period for which the employee will be entitled to not be available to attend work. In the absence of agreement, the employee is entitled to not be available to attend work for up to 48 hours (ie two days) per occasion. The casual employee is not entitled to any payment for the period of non-attendance.
  - (c) An employer must not fail to re-engage a casual employee because the employee accessed the entitlements provided for in this part. The rights of an employer to engage or not to engage a casual employee are otherwise not affected.

### **35. Mobility, Excess Fares and Travelling**

For the purpose of this clause accustomed place of work shall mean the location where an employee is regularly required to commence duty by the employer.

- (i) An employee shall be required to proceed to the accustomed place of work and return home once on each ordinary working day or shift in the employee's own time and at the employee's own expense.
- (ii)
  - (a) Where an employee is directed to report for duty to a place of work other than the employee's accustomed place of work the employee shall travel to and from the alternative place of work in the employer's time for those periods in excess of time normally taken to travel to and from the accustomed place of work.
  - (b) If the excess of travelling time on a particular day or shift is greater than the prescribed ordinary hours of duty for the particular category of staff for that day or shift, then the excess of hours shall be paid at the ordinary rate of pay to the extent of travelling time.
  - (c) Fares incurred by such employee in excess of the fares normally incurred in travelling to the employee's accustomed place of work and returning home from the accustomed place of work shall be reimbursed.
  - (d) Where the employee is required to report to an alternative place of work and has the prior approval of the employer to travel by his/her own mode of conveyance, the employee shall be paid a kilometre allowance for kilometres travelled in excess of the kilometres the employee normally travels between the accustomed place of work and home. The kilometre

allowance will be prescribed from time to time by the Crown Employees (Public Service Conditions of Employment) Award.

- (iii) (a) Where an employer has determined that an employee or employees should report to a new accustomed place of work on a permanent basis, the decision must be discussed with the affected employee(s) and the local branch of the Union prior to notice of changed accustomed place of work being given.
- (b) The employer shall give the employee reasonable notice of the requirement to report to a new accustomed place of work. For the purpose of this subclause "reasonable notice" shall be one calendar month prior to the date the employee is first required to report to the new accustomed place of work.
- (c) Where the accustomed place of work is changed on a permanent basis by the employer, the employee shall report to the new accustomed place of work on the date specified by the employer.
- (d) If there is disagreement about such a decision after such discussion or if a significant number of employees are involved, the matter should be referred to the Secretary , who will discuss the matter with the Union and will determine the date upon which notice will be given to employee(s).
- (iv) (a) The provision of this clause shall not apply to an employee appointed to regularly perform relief duties or to employees specifically employed to perform duties at more than one place of work except as provided in (b) hereunder.
- (b) If a reliever incurs fares in excess of \$5 per day in travelling to and from the relief site, the excess shall be reimbursed.

Where a reliever, with the prior approval of the employer, travels by his/her own mode of conveyance and incurs travelling costs in excess of \$5 per day to and from the relief site, such excess shall be reimbursed. The rate applicable shall be the kilometre allowance prescribed from time to time in the Crown Employees (Public Service Conditions of Employment) Award less \$5.

\* This \$5 shall be reviewed annually by the employer.

- (v) No payment shall be made under this clause unless the employer is satisfied that the employee has incurred additional expenditure in having to report to an alternative place of work, at the direction of the employer.
- (vi) Travel to an alternative place of work, either by public transport or own mode of conveyance, shall in all instances be by the most direct route.

### **36. Labour Flexibility**

- (i) The employer may direct an employee to carry out such duties as are reasonable, and within the limits of the employee's skill, competence and training consistent with employee's classification, grouping and/or career stream provided that such duties are not designed to promote deskilling.
- (ii) The employer may direct an employee to carry out such duties and use such tools and equipment as may be required provided that the employee has been properly trained or has otherwise acquired the necessary skills in the use of such tools and equipment.
- (iii) Any direction issued by the employer pursuant to sub-clause (i) and (ii) shall be consistent with the employer's responsibilities to provide a safe and healthy work environment.
- (iv) Existing provisions with respect to the payment of higher duties allowances shall apply in such circumstances.

### **37. Salary Packaging**

- (i) By agreement with their employer, employees may elect to package part or all of their salary in accordance with this clause, to obtain a range of benefits as set out in the NSW Health Services Salary Packaging Policy and Procedure Manual, as amended from time to time. Such election must be made prior to the commencement of the period of service to which the earnings relate. Where an employee also elects to salary sacrifice to superannuation under this award, the combined amount of salary packaging/sacrificing may be up to 100 per cent of salary.

Any salary packaging above the fringe benefit exemption cap will attract fringe benefits tax as described in paragraph (iv) below.

- (ii) Where an employee elects to package an amount of salary:
  - (a) Subject to Australian taxation law, the packaged amount of salary will reduce the salary subject to PAYE taxation deductions by that packaged amount.
  - (b) Any allowance, penalty rate, overtime payment, payment for unused leave entitlements, weekly workers' compensation, or other payment other than any payment for leave taken in service, to which an employee is entitled under this award or statute which is expressed to be determined by reference to an employee's salary, shall be calculated by reference to the salary which would have applied to the employee under this award in the absence of any salary packaging or salary sacrificing made under this award.
  - (c) 'Salary' for the purpose of this clause, for superannuation purposes, and for the calculation of award entitlements, shall mean the award salary as specified in Clause 2. Salaries, and which shall include 'approved employment benefits' which refer to fringe benefit savings, administration costs, and the value of packaged benefits.
- (iii) Any pre-tax and post-tax payroll deductions must be taken into account prior to determining the amount of available salary to be packaged. Such payroll deductions may include but are not limited to superannuation payments, HECS payments, child support payments, judgement debtor/garnishee orders, union fees, and private health fund membership fees.
- (iv) The salary packaging scheme utilises a fringe benefit taxation exemption status conferred on public hospitals and Local Health Districts, which provides for a fringe benefit tax exemption cap of \$17,000 per annum. The maximum amount of fringe benefits-free tax savings that can be achieved under the scheme is where the value of benefits when grossed-up, equal the fringe benefits exemption

cap of \$17,000. Where the grossed-up value exceeds the cap, the employer is liable to pay fringe benefits tax on the amount in excess of \$17,000, but will pass this cost on to the employee. The employer's share of savings, the combined administration cost, and the value of the package benefits, are deducted from pre-tax dollars.

- (v) The parties agree that the application of the fringe benefits tax exemption status conferred on public hospitals and area health services is subject to prevailing Australian taxation laws.
- (vi) If an employee wishes to withdraw from the salary packaging scheme, the employee may only do so in accordance with the required period of notice as set out in the Salary Packaging Policy and Procedure Manual.
- (vii) Where an employee ceases to salary package, arrangements will be made to convert the agreed package amount to salary. Any costs associated with the conversion will be borne by the employee, and the employer shall not be liable to make up any salary lost as a consequence of the employee's decision to convert to salary.
- (viii) Employees accepting the offer to salary package do so voluntarily. Employees are advised to seek independent financial advice and counselling to apprise them of the implications of salary packaging on their individual personal financial situations.
- (ix) The employer and the employee shall comply with the procedures set out in the NSW Health Services Salary Packaging Policy and Procedure Manual as amended from time to time.

### **38. Reasonable Hours**

- (i) Subject to sub-clause (ii) the employer may require an employee to work reasonable overtime at overtime rates unless or as otherwise provided for under the award.
- (ii) The employee may refuse to work overtime in circumstances where the working of such overtime would result in the employee working hours which are unreasonable.
- (iii) For the purposes of sub-clause (ii) what is unreasonable or otherwise will be determined having regard to:
  - (a) any risk to employee health and safety.
  - (b) The employee's personal circumstances including any family and carer responsibilities.
  - (c) The needs of the workplace or enterprise.
  - (d) The notice (if any) given by the employer of the overtime and by the employee of his or her intention to refuse it; and
  - (e) Any other relevant matter.

### **39. Salary Sacrifice to Superannuation**

- (i) Notwithstanding the salaries prescribed in Clause 2. Salaries as varied from time to time, an employee may elect, subject to the agreement of the employee's employer, to sacrifice a part or all of the salary payable under the salaries clause to additional employer superannuation contributions. Such election must be made prior to the commencement of the period of service to which the earnings relate. The amount sacrificed together with any salary packaging arrangements under Clause 37. Salary Packaging, of this award may be made up to one hundred (100) per cent of the salary payable

under the salaries clause, or up to one hundred (100) per cent of the currently applicable superannuable salary, whichever is the lesser.

In this clause, 'superannuable salary' means the employee's salary as notified from time to time to the New South Wales public sector superannuation trustee corporations.

- (ii) Any pre-tax and post-tax payroll deductions must be taken into account prior to determining the amount of available salary to be packaged. Such payroll deductions may include but are not limited to superannuation payments, HECS payments, child support payments, judgement debtor/garnishee orders, union fees and private health fund membership fees.
- (iii) Where the employee has elected to sacrifice a part or all of the available payable salary to additional employer superannuation contributions:
  - (a) The employee shall be provided with a copy of the signed agreement. The salary sacrifice agreement shall be terminated at any time at the employee's election and shall cease upon termination of the employee's services with the employer.
  - (b) Subject to Australian taxation law, the amount of salary sacrificed will reduce the salary subject to appropriate PAYE taxation deductions by the amount sacrificed; and
  - (c) Any allowance, penalty rate, overtime, payment for unused leave entitlements, weekly workers' compensation, or other payment, other than any payment for leave taken in service, to which an employee is entitled under the relevant award or any applicable award, act, or statute which is expressed to be determined by reference to an employee's salary, shall be calculated by reference to the salary which would have applied to the employee under the salaries clause in the absence of any salary sacrifice to superannuation made under this award.
- (iv) The employee may elect to have the specified amount of payable salary which is sacrificed to additional employer superannuation contributions:
  - (a) paid into the superannuation scheme established under the First State Superannuation Act 1992 as optional employer contributions; or
  - (b) subject to the employer's agreement, paid into a private sector complying superannuation scheme as employer superannuation contributions.
- (v) Where an employee elects to salary sacrifice in terms of subclause (iv) above, the employer will pay the sacrificed amount into the relevant superannuation fund.
- (vi) Where the employee is a member of a superannuation scheme established under:
  - (a) the Police Regulation (Superannuation) Act, 1906;
  - (b) the Superannuation Act, 1916;
  - (c) the State Authorities Superannuation Act, 1987;
  - (d) the State Authorities Non-contributory Superannuation Act, 1987; or
  - (e) the First State Superannuation Act, 1992.

The employee's employer must ensure that the amount of any additional employer superannuation contributions specified in subclause (i) above is included in the employee's superannuable salary which is notified to the New South Wales public sector superannuation trustee corporations.

- (vii) Where, prior to electing to sacrifice a part or all of their salary to superannuation, an employee had

entered into an agreement with their employer to have superannuation contributions made to a superannuation fund other than a fund established under legislation listed in subclause (v) above, the employer will continue to base contributions to that fund on the salary payable under Clause 2. Salaries of this award to the same extent as applied before the employee sacrificed that amount of salary to superannuation. This clause applies even though the superannuation contributions made by the employer may be in excess of the superannuation guarantee requirements after the salary sacrifice is implemented.

#### **40. No Extra Claims**

Other than as provided for in the *Industrial Relations Act 1996* and the *Industrial Relations (Public Sector Conditions of Employment) Regulation 2014*, there shall be no further claims/demands or proceedings instituted before the Industrial Relations Commission of New South Wales for extra or reduced wages, salaries, rates of pay, allowances or conditions of employment with respect to the employees covered by the Award that take effect prior to 30 June 2016 by a party to this award.

#### **41. Area, Incidence and Duration**

- (i) This Award takes effect from 1 July 2015 and shall remain in force for a period of one year.
- (ii) This Award rescinds and replaces the Hospital Scientists (State) Award published 24 April 2009 (367 IG 1191) and all variations thereof.
- (iii) This Award shall apply to persons employed in classifications contained herein employed in the NSW Health Service under section 115(1) of the *Health Services Act 1997*, or their successors, assignees or transmittes.

**PART B**

**Table 1 – Allowances**

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Clause No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Rate from 1.7.2015 \$</b>
1	7	On call - per 24 hours or any part thereof	11.30
2	10	Meal Allowance for overtime (a) Breakfast at or before 6.00 a.m. (b) Evening at least 1 hour after normal ceasing time and extends beyond or is worked wholly after 7.00 p.m. (c) Lunch beyond 2.00 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays or Holidays	28.20 28.20 28.20
3	20(iii)(iv)	Uniform and Laundry Allowance - Uniform - Laundry	2.33 2.43
4	21(i)(ii)	Allowances for persons employed in hospitals upon or west of the line commencing at Tocumwal, etc (see clause 21(i))	3.44
		Allowance for persons employed in hospitals upon or west of the line commencing at Murray River etc. (see clause 21(ii))	6.89