

Appendix 6: South Australia

Prisoner health services

- Adult prisoners and persons held on remand in South Australia are under the care of the Department for Correctional Services. The Department of Health through the South Australian Prison Health Service (SAPHS) provides health services in the eight State administered Correctional Services institutions: four country facilities and four metropolitan with the Adelaide Pre-release Centre and Adelaide Woman's Prison co-located at Northfield.
- SAPHS provides a range of primary services from nursing staff, salaried medical officers, visiting medical practitioners and a limited range of allied health services.
- Yatala Labour Prison and the Adelaide Remand Centre have small observation facilities capable of managing semi-acute health problems. A limited 24-hour nursing service is provided at these sites.
- On-site psychiatric clinics are provided by Forensic Mental Health Services who also have an inpatient facility at James Nash House.
- Most secondary and tertiary health care and most allied health services are provided off-site through the public health system.

Key policy directions

- To provide prisoners and offenders with health care comparable to that of the general community.
- To work with the Department for Correctional Services in developing strategies to improve identification of and response to health needs of prisoners and offenders.
- To review and develop SAPHS practices that are evidence-based and consistent with accepted standards.
- To develop and introduce electronic data management systems.
- To improve the continuity and consistency of health care in prison and during the transition back into the general community.
- To promote healthy lifestyle choices.