

WA Health Intellectual Property Mandatory Policy

- Intellectual Property (IP) is recognised as an intangible asset which can potentially be exploited for economic benefit. As such it aligns with the WA Health Financial Management Manual definition of an Asset as being a resource controlled by a WA health entity, from which future economic benefits are expected to flow to the health entity.
- Future economic benefits can be in the form of cash, cash equivalents or the potential to provide goods and services to achieve the health entities' objectives.
- The purpose of the Intellectual Property Policy is to specify processes that must be followed for the management of IP by WA health system entities in order to facilitate compliance.

The key requirements Health Service Providers (HSP) must meet are:

1. Contact the nominated NMHS Intellectual Property contact person:

Theresa Marshall, Executive Director NMHS
Email: he14583@health.wa.gov.au
Landline: 08 6457 3560

2. The contact person must receive and appropriately forward information regarding significant IP. *Significant IP is considered to be that which potentially has strategic and/or commercial value or risks being unlawfully copied or otherwise misappropriated or misused by external parties thus potentially resulting in loss and/or risk for the WA health system.*

3. HSP staff must notify the IP contact person of any significant IP they have developed or have been involved in developing.

NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Each WA health system entity must ensure that their staff are made aware of the requirement to advise their Chief Executive, through their IP contact point, of any significant IP that they have developed, or have been involved in developing. This ensures that employees of the WA health system entities:
 - comply with the reporting/registration requirements of the WA health system
 - provide relevant information for the IPAC, and potentially the ad hoc IP expert group, to advise on the potential benefits (e.g. operational and commercial) and risks (e.g. legal, administrative and financial) that this IP might signify
 - provide information that could potentially support requests for funding by the Department of Health of very early stage development of significant IP.

4. The contact person must record any significant IP in an IP register which is maintained by the Research and Innovation office (RIO) at the Department of Health by:

Neil Lynch, RIO Senior Policy Officer
Email: Neil.Lynch@health.wa.gov.au
Landline: 08 9222 4053

REGISTRATION PROCESS

Each WA health system entity must record any significant IP developed in, or in collaboration with, their entity in an IP Register, which will be maintained by the Research and Innovation Office of the Department of Health. This register will be populated through the notifications received from the IP contact points of the WA health system entities.