

Standards of service

Strategic plan for hospital play specialist services	Every healthcare institution providing care for pēpē, tamariki, rangatahi shall have a strategic plan for providing a comprehensive play specialist service
Leadership	Hospital Play specialist services throughout the institution shall be led by a suitably qualified hospital play specialist
Te tiriti o Waitangi	Hospital play specialist services shall honour their obligations to Māori as tangata whenua of Aotearoa
Culturally safe practice	Hospital play specialist services shall be provided in a manner that maintains cultural safety.
Scope of Service	The hospital play specialist service shall include direct services, consultation and teaching, advocacy, environmental planning, and research.
Approach to care	Hospital play specialists shall work in collaboration with whānau, as members of multi disciplinary teams.
Staffing	Sufficient hospital play specialists shall be available to assess, plan, evaluate and safely provide comprehensive hospital play specialist services for pēpē, tamariki, rangatahi and whānau.
Professional Qualifications and development	Hospital play specialists shall be suitably qualified and meet Hospital Play Specialist Association competency standards. They shall engage in professional growth and development.
Policies and procedures	Hospital play specialist services shall be guided by written policies and procedures based on the Official Documents of the Hospital Play Specialists Association of Aotearoa/NZ, Ministry of Education regulations for Hospital Based Early Childhood Educational services, and all relevant requirements of the healthcare institution.
Documentation	Hospital play specialist services shall be documented in patient care records and in service statistics.
Quality Assurances	Hospital play specialist services shall have a quality assurance process for regular review, evaluation and improvement

Funding and facilities

There shall be a designated budget, playroom space, facilities, resources and equipment which are adequate to fulfil the needs of the clinical, education and administrative aspects of the hospital play specialist service.¹

¹ Reviewed August 2023