### Policy Title

**ADMISSION CRITERIA POLICY**

### Purpose of the Policy

To ensure those patients referred to the DRU (Gymnasium / Hydrotherapy) are appropriate and able to actively participate and interact in a group exercise setting.

### Definitions (if applicable)

N/A

### Policy

Suitable patients will be those who meet the following criteria:

1. **Cognitively intact, or with minimal cognitive impairment only, with an ability to participate, and undertake the new learning required for a rehabilitation program.**
   
   Significant cognitive impairment is a barrier to effective participation in an intensive rehabilitation program. All patients over the age of 75 and all confused patients will need to have a Mini Mental State Examination (MMSE) prior to being referred for consideration to the Day Rehabilitation Unit.

   Calvary Day Rehabilitation Unit is not resourced or designed to safely care for delirious or wandering patients. Patients with acute delirium and wandering patients will not be admitted.

2. **Potential for functional improvement from the rehabilitation program.**

3. **Medically stable.**
   
   The obvious issues in this regard relate to such things as fevers, infections, delirium, tracheotomies, heavy nursing issues e.g. long dressings etc.

   Significant medical instability is a barrier to effective participation in an intensive rehabilitation program. Also, Calvary Day Rehabilitation Unit is not resourced to manage acutely unwell or medically unstable patients.

   If the patient becomes significantly medically or surgically unstable whilst attending the Calvary Day Rehabilitation Unit, they will be able to be transferred to St. George Hospital as a priority in line with the “Transfer of Patients from Calvary Hospital to the St George Emergency Department” policy.

4. **Ability to self-administer medicines.**

5. **Safe for staff to access a person’s home environment and to transport the patient to the Day Rehabilitation Unit**

6. **Socially able to integrate into a rehabilitation setting.**
   
   This would exclude significantly incontinent patients who were not able to manage their incontinence themselves and significantly aggressive or...
uncooperative patients.

7. Motivated to improve independence, and remain at home (or hostel). Aware of what is involved in the Calvary Day Rehabilitation Unit Program and agreeing to being involved.

8. Where relevant, the patient’s family / carers should also be aware of what is involved in the Calvary Day Rehabilitation Unit Program and agreeing to the patient being involved.

9. Resident of the St George District i.e. the municipalities of Rockdale, Kogarah and Hurstville.
It is a basic premise of Rehabilitation (ratified by the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine of the Royal Australian College of Physicians) that rehabilitation should be undertaken in the closest appropriate facility to the patient's place of residence. The Department of Health funding allocation has also been developed to reflect this. Non medicare patients from out of area, may be considered for admission but will be required to participate in multiple treatment modalities each session ie: gym and hydrotherapy.

10. Adult, i.e. 16 years and above.
It is acknowledged that the majority of patients in the unit, as with all general rehabilitation units will be over 60 years of age and this will need to be taken into account when assessing the suitability of the unit for very young adult patients.

It should be noted that, the Director of CRAGS is able to consider admitting to the Day Rehabilitation Program, patients who do not strictly fit the above admission criteria, after consultation with the Senior Multidisciplinary Staff of the Calvary Day Rehabilitation Unit.

Admission Process:
All referrals for admission to the Unit must have a completed "CALVARY DAY REHABILITATON UNIT REFERRAL FORM or equivalent" faxed to the: Day Rehabilitation Unit

Calvary Day Rehabilitation Unit Intake Fax: 9553 3109

Inpatient teams, physiotherapists, private specialists and local medical officers can make referrals. All patients need a referral from a GP to the Day Rehabilitation Unit Rehabilitation Specialist Consultant.

Prior to being admitted into the unit all patients will have been reviewed by
Rehabilitation Physicians or Registrars, either in hospital prior to discharge, in the Calvary Rehabilitation Clinic or in the community. A letter will be sent to all referrers after that assessment.

Appropriate patients being discharged from Calvary Inpatient Unit are given preference for admission to the Day Rehabilitation Unit. To this end all patients should be considered for admission at their first inpatient case conference.