

**Issue: Standard Reference List**

Raised by: Various sources

Background: There is a need to have clinical reference material available in Remote Health Centres

A number of versions of what was considered to be the main references or texts that should be available in Remote Health Branch Health Centres, have previously existed. However it was recognised that an NT wide standard should now be applied. In view of the need to review the wide range of options that are commercially available, against suitability for the NT Remote context and the careful use of DHCS funds, this was appropriately progressed through a Best Practice Group recommendation followed by Executive authorisation.

Discussion: The clinical protocols that are mandated for practice form the basis for the standard list.

The next major area of need for supportive information is medication guidance. A significant portion of the recommended list is related to this. The number of inclusions in the recommended list, related to this area, is quite comprehensive. Notably, the MIMS products are not included, as they have been deemed less cost efficient, and the information in the recommended references should be sufficient.

In general texts have not been included. The availability of Clinical Resources on Line (CROC) overrides the value of purchasing most texts. Exceptions are seen to be a number of clinical areas where good illustrations are particularly helpful, e.g. dermatology. The Best Practice Group is going to review available books and will make a later recommendation for additions of this type.

Consultation: Suppliers / current field staff.

References: Nil

Outcome: A Standard Reference List has been developed and has been endorsed by RHB Executive.

An Atlas item has been developed and will be where the Standard Reference List will be maintained in the future.