



Specific Accreditation Criteria

Transition Policy for the implementation of the ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services 2019

Issue date: March 2019

Effective date: July 2019

© Copyright National Association of Testing Authorities, Australia 2019

This publication is protected by copyright under the Commonwealth of Australia Copyright Act 1968.

NATA's accredited facilities or facilities seeking accreditation may use or copy this publication or print or email this publication internally for accreditation purposes.

Individuals may store a copy of this publication for private non-commercial use or copy a reasonable portion of this publication in accordance with the fair dealing provisions in Part III Division 3 of the Copyright Act 1968.

You must include this copyright notice in its complete form if you make a copy of this publication.

Apart from these permitted uses, you must not modify, copy, reproduce, republish, frame, upload to a third party, store in a retrieval system, post, transmit or distribute this content in any way or any form or by any means without express written authority from NATA.

Transition Policy for the implementation of the ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services

Introduction

This policy is effective from 1 July 2019 and describes changes to the NATA Accreditation Criteria (NAC) applicable to all applicant and accredited Sleep Disorders Services facilities.

Background

In March 2019 the ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services was republished following a two year revision process. The standard was approved by the ASA Clinical Committee in March 2019.

The 2019 version has been updated to align with the current paediatric guidelines. The Standard was revised by the ASA Paediatric Working Group and the Sleep Disorders Services Accreditation Advisory Committee (AAC) with the support of NATA.

Assessment of facilities to the ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services

As described in the *NATA Procedures for Accreditation*, facilities must obtain a copy of the standard for which accreditation is held or being sought. Accordingly, Sleep Disorders Services facilities must obtain a copy of the revised standard from the ASA website: <https://www.sleep.org.au/>.

Applicant facilities

Applicant facilities will be assessed against the new standard if they have not yet had an assessment conducted by NATA prior to 1 July 2019.

Accredited facilities

Assessment to the new standard can occur either:

- at the time of the next scheduled NATA activity after 1 July 2019 (refer to 3.2.1); or
- on request of the facility as a chargeable variation to accreditation (refer to 3.2.2).

The changes between the ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services 2016 and the ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services 2019 are such that some assessment will be necessary to convert accreditation to the new standard.

To assist facilities, a *Gap Analysis* between the two editions of the standard has been prepared, identifying the new and amended requirements detailed in the ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services 2019. This document can be downloaded from the NATA website at www.nata.com.au.

An additional *ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services 2019 Implementation Checklist* has been prepared which identifies the specific changes accredited facilities need to adopt to satisfy the requirements of the new standard. This checklist is appended to this policy.

Assessment against the new standard at the next scheduled NATA activity

From 1 July 2019, accredited facilities will be assessed to the new standard at the time of their next routine on-line activity or reassessment visit.

Facilities will be required to complete the *ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services 2019 Implementation Checklist* and to supply evidence (policies, procedures and/or records as necessary) demonstrating compliance with the new standard, as part of the routine preliminary arrangements prior to the next assessment activity.

Any areas of non-compliance identified at the scheduled on-site visit will be detailed in the assessment report or on-line response letter as conditions as per the current NATA process. Facilities will need to respond to these in the usual manner prior to accreditation being continued and granted to the new standard.

The scope of accreditation will be updated to reference the new standard following confirmation of compliance, or where conditions have been raised, following a satisfactory response to these.

Assessment against the new standard on request of the facility

Facilities may seek accreditation against the new standard prior to a scheduled NATA visit by requesting a chargeable variation to the scope of accreditation. In order for this request to be considered, the facility must formally advise NATA in writing and submit supporting evidence to demonstrate compliance to the new standard. As per 3.2.1 above, NATA will request information to be provided.

Following review of the supporting information provided, NATA may request further evidence be provided, or may determine that an on-site review is necessary, should compliance against the new standard not be confirmed through desk-top review.

The scope of accreditation will be updated to reference the new standard following confirmation of compliance, or where conditions have been raised, following a satisfactory response to these.

Variation visits are chargeable activities in accordance with NATA's Fee Schedule current at the time.

Further information

Further information can be obtained by contacting your NATA Client Coordinator.

ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services 2019 Implementation Checklist

Where highlighted (bold) text has been included for clauses identified as a “Major Change”, it emphasizes the key change(s) of the requirement (compared to the previous version of the standard).

ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services 2019	Emphasis of Change	Summary of text/extract from ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services 2019	Action taken with reference to supporting evidence (as necessary) (Attach supporting evidence separately and include reference to the clause number)
4.1.5 (f)	Major	In the case where services are provided to children (less than or equal to 15 years), there must be an identified Paediatric sleep physician with responsibilities to oversee services provided to children.	
4.4.1 (a)	Major	A sleep service must conduct testing only after the necessity for such has been determined and appropriately documented by a qualified sleep physician, consultant respiratory physician or a medical practitioner working under his/her supervision.	

ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services 2019	Emphasis of Change	Summary of text/extract from ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services 2019	Action taken with reference to supporting evidence (as necessary) (Attach supporting evidence separately and include reference to the clause number)
5.1.3 (a)	New	All staff working in a paediatric sleep service require specific training in working with infants, children and young people, commensurate with the duties they perform.	
5.3.1 (b)	New	Audio-visual monitoring of patients (by infrared or low light video) must be recorded for paediatric patients and is desirable for adult patients.	
5.3.1 (e)	New	In paediatric laboratories, the sensors and other equipment interfaced with the patient must be appropriately sized and a range of sizes must be available for each study.	

ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services 2019	Emphasis of Change	Summary of text/extract from ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services 2019	Action taken with reference to supporting evidence (as necessary) (Attach supporting evidence separately and include reference to the clause number)
5.3.4.3	New	The service must have a documented process in place to verify signal quality when biological signal verification cannot be performed (e.g. paediatric).	
5.4.2	Major	The service must have processes in place to cope with the demand for its services. Where demand for services exceeds capacity, the service must have a system for prioritizing referrals, which includes timeframes for categorising and performing urgent studies and implementation of treatment. This should include a process for escalation of urgent referrals.	

ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services 2019	Emphasis of Change	Summary of text/extract from ASA Standard for Sleep Disorders Services 2019	Action taken with reference to supporting evidence (as necessary) (Attach supporting evidence separately and include reference to the clause number)
5.7.1.5	New	Paediatric services must have clear protocols in place for management of all forms of non-invasive ventilation and invasive ventilation provided by the service.	
5.7.1.10	New	Paediatric services should provide specialist behavioral sleep management services, including for Disorders of the Initiation and Maintenance of Sleep and Circadian Rhythm Disturbances. Procedures must be in place for referral of management of behavioral sleep problems to appropriate personnel where services cannot be provided in-house.	

Amendment Table

The table below provides a summary of changes made to the document with this issue.

Section or Clause	Amendment
Whole document	Added Security Classification Label