

Report on Government Services 2013

**MATERNITY SERVICES  
(CHAPTER 10)**

This chapter reports on the performance of governments in providing public hospitals, with a focus on acute care services. This factsheet focuses on Maternity services.

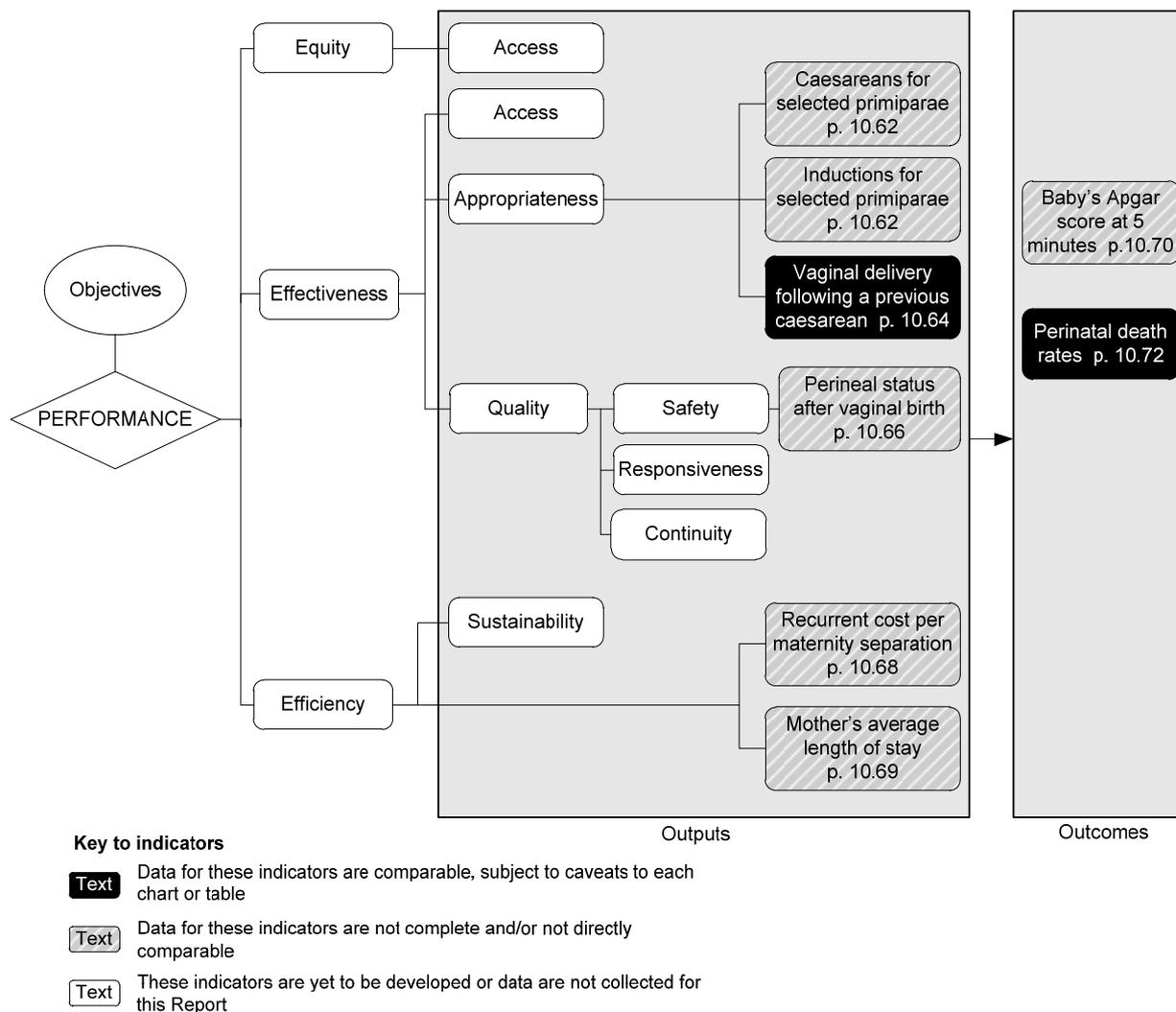
- Maternity services accounted for 8.0 per cent of total acute separations in public hospitals and around 10.9 per cent of the total cost of all acute separations in public hospitals in 2010-11 (p. 10.58).
- In Australian public hospitals in 2010-11, vaginal deliveries accounted for a substantial proportion of the separations for pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium (42.4 per cent). In public hospitals, vaginal deliveries comprised the largest number of overnight acute separations of all overnight separation categories (5.7 per cent of all separations) and the highest cost of all separation categories (\$850.5 million) (p. 10.59).

**Objectives of Maternity services**

Maternity services aim to provide acute and specialist services that are:

- safe and of high quality
  - appropriate and responsive to individual needs
  - affordable, timely and accessible
  - equitably and efficiently delivered (p. 10.15).
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Performance indicators for maternity services (figure 10.24, p. 10.61)



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**Please do not approach other parties for comment before 31 January 2013.**

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Tables with a '10A' prefix (eg table 10A.5) are in the attachments on the Review website.

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