



SMART Tag

New disaster triage tagging system for WA

From **8.00am, 14 February 2012**, WA Health will implement SMART Tag across the health system, with support from key stakeholders and health industry partners.

The move to a nationally consistent approach supports the 2009 Council of Australian Governments' (COAG) agreement to implement a range of measures to improve Australia's interagency interoperability, and was endorsed by the Australian Health Protection Committee to standardise the mass casualty triage tag used across Australia.

About SMART Tag

SMART Tag is an internationally recognised disaster triage tagging system which is currently used by the Queensland, Northern Territory and Tasmanian Governments, and is now standard across the nation. It will replace the existing "cruciform" cards and improve the process of prioritising patients at major incident sites.

The new SMART Tags are waterproof, resistant to tearing, and can be written on with almost any type of pen or pencil. The tag offers greatly improved documentation of patient conditions and treatment, and is complemented by a range of accessories, such as glow sticks, which assist responders at the site.

Where SMART Tag will be used

SMART Tags will replace all 'cruciform' tags currently in use in WA.

This change also benefits other emergency management agencies, such as St John Ambulance and RFDS, who work closely with WA Health staff to provide the health disaster response.



From left: Existing 'cruciform' tag, the new SMART Tag

For more information

The WA Health's Disaster Preparedness and Management Unit have prepared an information package for health workers based in hospitals and staff from emergency management agencies. Contact your local Learning and Development Coordinator or Emergency Coordinator for information about training opportunities at your health service.

For SMART Tag information packages

Visit: www.public.health.wa.gov.au

Email: DPMUtraining@health.wa.gov.au

