

MSAC Review Progress Summary

CS Health have progressed key pieces of work and continue to monitor their effectiveness through the Coal Services Internal Audit team. The working group has undertaken an independent impact analysis on Recommendations 2, 6 and 14 and expects to receive the report in late March 2024. The preliminary analysis has helped develop strategies for implementation of these recommendations, through collaboration with industry representatives. A communication plan is being developed to support upcoming changes around respiratory surveillance and worker management.

The development of a health standard continues to be a priority of the Coal Services Standing Health Committee. A *Respiratory Health Standard* will be the first standard developed and will incorporate the new respiratory guidelines (Recommendations 2 and 14).

	Recommendation Summary	Status	Comments
Recommendation 1	The medical assessment forms should be modified to better document the work history.	Completed *	CS Health will continue to monitor effectiveness.
Recommendation 2	Develop clear formal guidelines for the management of abnormal findings on spirometry and chest x-rays, or workers with significant symptoms.	In progress (85%)	MSAC Review Working Group awaiting final analysis report.
Recommendation 3	All cases of CMDLD, including emphysema and chronic bronchitis, should be made reportable to the relevant regulatory bodies.	In progress (75%)	Report in draft, being reviewed.
Recommendation 4	Record occupational exposure data in a more detailed and structured format, with data including years of coal mine employment, work setting, and other exposures.	Completed *	CS Health will continue to monitor effectiveness.
Recommendation 5	All chest x-rays taken are classified by certified B Readers.	In progress (95%)	To be clarified in the revised Order 43.
Recommendation 6	Two certified B Readers perform chest x-ray classifications.	In progress (85%)	MSAC Review Working Group awaiting final analysis report.
Recommendation 7	Standardise chest imaging procedures across CS Health and External Doctor Network.	In progress (95%)	To be clarified in the revised Order 43.
Recommendation 8	Expand and standardise data collection to include important variables from spirometry that would permit epidemiologic analysis of data, and early detection of CMDLD.	Completed *	CS Health will continue to monitor effectiveness.
Recommendation 9	An external review of cases in which the FEV1 was less than 70% predicted.	In progress (35 %)	An external review is being undertaken.
Recommendation 10	Educate respiratory physicians on disease associated with coal mine dust exposure.	In progress (25%)	Opportunities identified. Educational material being developed.
Recommendation 11	An external review of cases referred for respiratory physician evaluation.	In progress (35%)	An external review is being undertaken.
Recommendation 12	Consider utilisation of a multidisciplinary team (MDT), to resolve cases with discordant interpretations of chest imaging and opinions regarding causation.	In progress (90%)	An external MDT has been trialled. SLA being developed with provider.
Recommendation 13	CS Health should have access to all records and studies resulting from investigations initiated by CS Health to the extent permissible by law.	In progress (35%)	Consent forms being review by industry stakeholders.
Recommendation 14	Establish formal criteria to return workers with CMDLD or other non-occupational lung diseases to work, or removal from exposure for those with more advanced disease.	In progress (75%)	MSAC Review Working Group awaiting final analysis report.
Recommendation 15	Ensure a firewall within Coal Services between those responsible for determining disability and impairment, and those responsible for workers compensation claims.	Not Applicable	Already in place.
Recommendation 16	Procedures to follow up on abnormal findings should be reviewed and updated.	Completed	CS Health will continue to monitor effectiveness.

*An integrated medical system forms part of the Coal Services IT Roadmap and has been prioritised for completion to support CS Health, workers, employers and external providers to access and manage health information.