



Hon Meredith Hammat MLA

MINISTER FOR HEALTH; MENTAL HEALTH

Via: admin.hammat@dpc.wa.gov.au

Dear Minister

ADVICE ON PERTH CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL WATER TESTING RESULTS

I am writing to advise you of five new exceedances of lead recorded in the Perth Children's Hospital water testing program during August and September 2025, which are detailed below:

Sample Date	Test Result	Remediation
05/09/2025	0.014	Decommissioned – Flushing regime in place
05/09/2025	0.0064	Decommissioned – Flushing regime in place
05/09/2025	0.013	Decommissioned – Flushing regime in place
05/08/2025	0.0057	Flush, aerator changed. Decommissioned
05/08/2025	0.019	Flush, aerator changed. Decommissioned

As per the details above, the five exceedances were reported across two locations, one accessible to staff and the other accessible to visitors.

I have reviewed the five new exceedances recorded in August and September 2025 and can assure the community that the water at Perth Children's Hospital is safe to drink.

The testing recently conducted during August was part of the Perth Children's Hospital well-established testing program and the September results were an outcome of Child and Adolescent Health Service proactively retesting to ensure the safety of all patients and staff.

I have confidence in this testing, it is a proactive program so that the Child and Adolescent Health Service can undertake the necessary remediation when exceedances are detected. I am advised that these sites are currently offline and under remediation. Exceedances are typically isolated to specific outlets or fixtures, and do not impact the entire hospital water system.

In June 2025, National Health and Medical Research Council updated the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines and lowered the threshold for lead in drinking water, which now makes Australian standards some of the most rigorous in the world.

The Perth Children's Hospital water testing program which completes about 740 samples annually, in approximately 52 locations, demonstrates the hospital has a committed program in place aligned to the national benchmark for drinking water safety. The testing program at Perth Children's Hospital is working, and it is identifying the results that the hospital needs to know and allows CAHS the opportunity to act on them and remediate the issue, which they have done.

I can assure you that the water at Perth Children's Hospital remains safe to drink. The program in place demonstrates a strong commitment to national benchmarks for drinking water safety and ensures that any exceedances are promptly detected and addressed.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Robertson', with a stylized, cursive script.

Dr Andrew Robertson CSC, PSM
CHIEF HEALTH OFFICER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL
PUBLIC AND ABORIGINAL HEALTH

10 September 2025