

# Australian Mental Health Care Classification

## Version 1.0



The Australian Mental Health Care Classification (AMHCC) version 1.0 is a clinically relevant classification that explains resource consumption (costs) by persons seeking mental health care services.

The AMHCC was developed to provide consistent information about the services offered across the different mental health care settings.

The AMHCC has the potential to support integrated service delivery by providing information across health services.

It is designed to enable mental health services to be priced and funded on an activity basis.

## AMHCC variables

The classification has six major splitting variables.

### • Setting:

- The *admitted setting* includes patients who complete a hospital's formal admission process and are therefore admitted for mental health care treatment.
- The *community setting* (also known as ambulatory) includes mental health care services delivered to people who are not admitted to an inpatient facility or reside in a residential mental health care facility, and who meet the mental health care type definition.

- The **mental health phase of care** in the AMHCC describes the primary goal of care at a specific point in time. It is reported prospectively and describes the type and intensity of expected care. There are five categories: acute, functional gain, intensive extended, consolidating gain, and assessment only.

- The AMHCC utilises three **age group** ranges: 0-17 years, 18-64 years, and 65+ years.

- The **Health of the Nation Outcomes Scale** (HoNOS) is a clinical tool that measures the health and social functioning of mentally ill people. The AMHCC combines three different HoNOS categories:

- HoNOSCA (child and adolescents 0-17 years)

- HoNOS (adults 18-64 years)
- HoNOS65+ (older persons over 65 years).

- The **Abbreviated Life Skills Profile** (LSP-16) is a clinical outcomes instrument that measures the life skills of how successfully people with a chronic mental illness live in the community. The AMHCC uses LSP-16 in the community setting only, for the age group of 18-64 years with moderate HoNOS complexity.
- **Mental health legal status** (MHLS) is an indicator of whether mental health care is being provided under the state or territory mental health legislation. An involuntary patient may be detained in hospital under mental health legislation for the purpose of assessment or provision of appropriate treatment or care. The AMHCC uses MHLS in the admitted acute setting and in the 18-64 age group only.

## Further information

- **AMHCC User Manual** – provides detailed information for users of the AMHCC Version 1.0
- **Mental health phase of care fact sheet** – provides an overview on how clinicians assess the mental health phase of care

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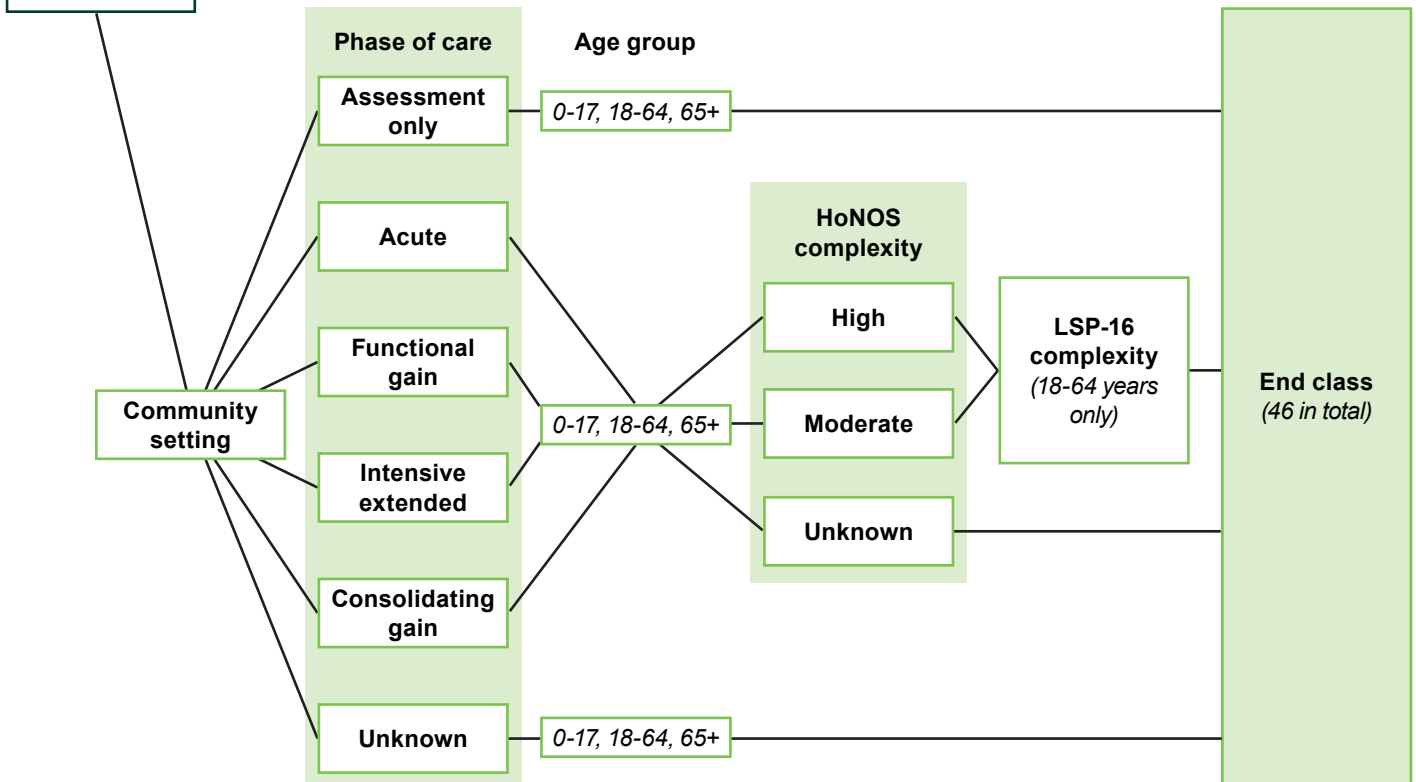
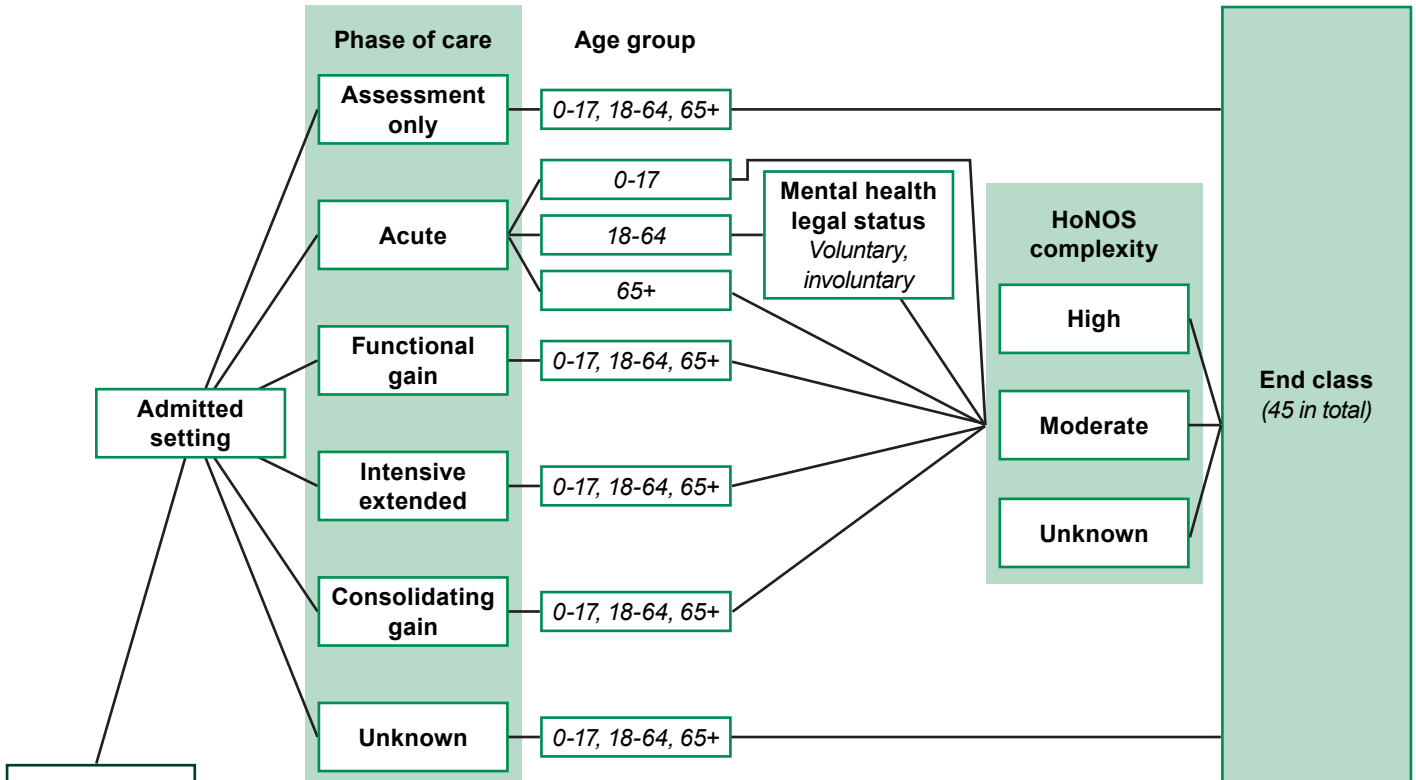
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HoNOS = Health of the Nation Outcomes Scale

LSP-16 = Abbreviated life skills profile