## Summary of service provider complaint report

## **Alfred Health**

2022-23



#### Introduction

#### Purpose

The purpose of this summary presentation is to showcase key data for complaints to the MHCC and complaints and compliments directly to your service, largely focusing on the 2022-23 reporting year.

This summary outlines a range of complaints and compliments statistics, including who complainants are, what issues are raised, and how the complaints are resolved.

#### Interpreting the data

Caution should be used when drawing conclusions from relative numbers of complaints reported by services.

High numbers of complaints reported by services may represent effective complaints reporting processes, a positive complaints culture and/or demonstrate high numbers of issues experienced by people who use the service.

Conversely, low numbers of complaints may indicate issues with the recording of complaints or the service's approach to complaints, or a high level of satisfaction with the service.

Complaints represent people's experience, and a sign of a positive complaints culture would be higher numbers of complaints to services and lower number of complaints to the MHCC, reflecting that people feel confident to raise their concerns with the service.



#### The role of the MHCC

The MHCC collates and analyses complaints data about public mental health services to:



identify key themes and emerging issues across the sector



gain insights into the concerns/experiences of consumers, families and carers



increase awareness of systemic issues and improvement opportunities



understand the status of complaint processes and reporting across the sector



inform our projects and recommendations





Number of complaints and compliments



#### How many complaints were made? 2022-23

85
Complaints to MHCC about Alfred Health

249
Complaints to Alfred
Health

- The number of complaints made to the MHCC about Alfred Health declined from 2021-22 to 2022-23, continuing the trend from between 2020-21 and 2021-2022.
- The number of complaints made directly to the service increased markedly between 2021-22 and 2022-23.
- Consistent with the previous years, the number of complaints made to the MHCC about Alfred Health was lower than complaints directly to the service in 2022-23.

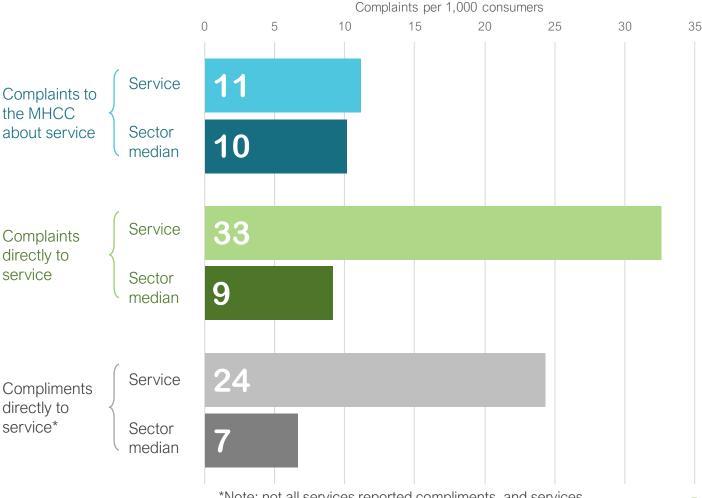




## Complaint and compliment rates 2022-23

- Sector medians instead of averages are shown, as the majority of services have relatively lower rates of complaints and compliments, with fewer services having higher rates of complaints and compliments. Half of all services have complaint and compliment rates below the sector median.
- The rate of complaints received by the MHCC about Alfred Health has declined since 2021-22, becoming more in line with the sector median in 2022-23.
- The rate of complaints directly to the service increased since 2021-22, remaining significantly higher than the sector median.
- Compliments made directly to the service were given at a much higher rate than the sector median.





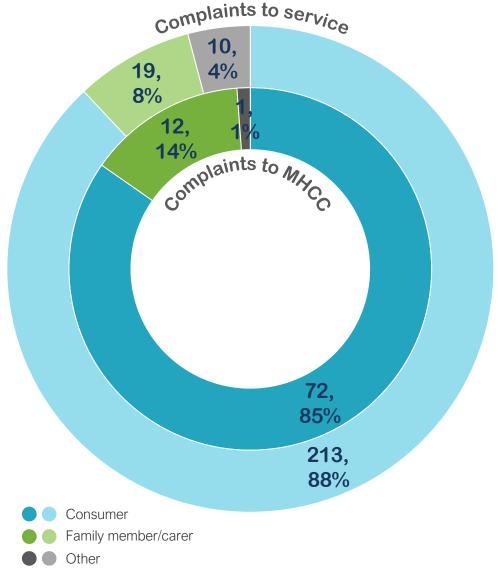
\*Note: not all services reported compliments, and services likely used different approaches to capture compliments data



### Who is making complaints? 2022-23

Complaints raised about Alfred Health

- Consumers made the vast majority of complaints to the MHCC about Alfred Health (85%) and complaints to Alfred Health directly (88%).
- In contrast, family members / carers made slightly over a tenth of complaints to the MHCC about Alfred Health and just under a tenth of complaints directly to the service.









# Issues raised in complaint



## How does the MHCC categorise issues?

The MHCC uses three levels of issue categories to classify complaints.

#### Level 1



- treatment
- communication
- conduct and behaviour
- medication
- diagnosis
- access
- facilities
- records
- complaint management

#### Level 2

Level 2 issues break down Level 1 issues into more specific categories.

For example, the Level 1 category **Medication** includes the following Level 2 issues:

- medication error
- disagreement with medication
- oversedation or side effects
- refusals to prescribe

#### Level 3



For example, the Level 2 category Medication Error includes the following Level 3 issues:

- wrong medication or dose
- wrong prescription
- known allergy/reaction not considered



### What were complaints about? 2022-23

to the MHCC (n=85)
to the service (n=249)

Health

**Complaints about Alfred** 

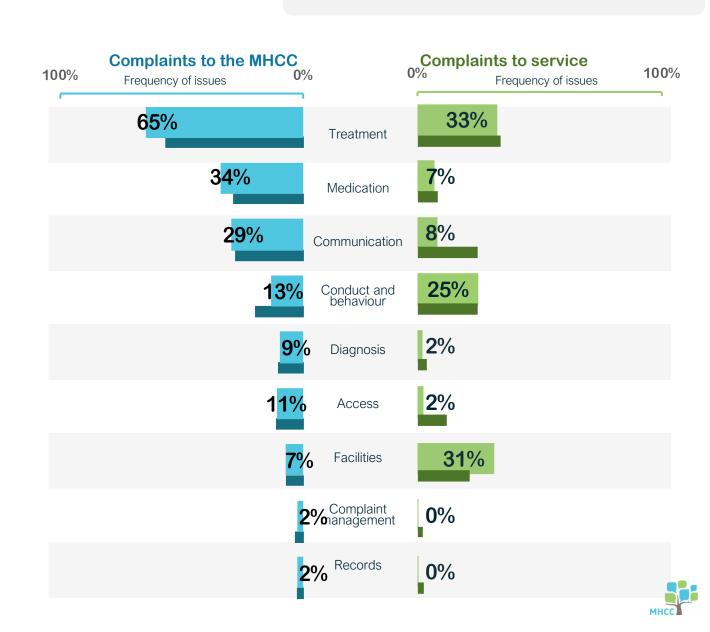
to the MHCC (n=1442)

Sector-wide complaints

to the service (n=1671)

Level 1 issues raised about Alfred Health

- The complaints shown on this page consist of all those made by consumers, family members / carers and any other persons.
- Issues raised in complaints to the MHCC about Alfred Health were consistent with those raised in complaints to the MHCC for the sector, with commonly raised issues related to Treatment, Medication and Communication.
- Issues raised in complaints directly to the service were less consistent with those raised across the sector, with Treatment, Facilities and Conduct & behaviour being the most frequently raised issues.



## What were complaints about? 2022-23

Complaints about Alfred Health

to the MHCC (n=85)

to the service (n=249)

to the MHCC (n=1442) to the service (n=1671)

Sector-wide complaints

Most frequent Level 3 issues raised about Alfred Health

- The issues most frequently raised in complaints made to the MHCC about Alfred Health were disagreements with treatment orders, and dissatisfaction with prescribed medications.
- Lost or damaged property and lack of empathy / compassion were the most frequently raised issues among complaints made directly to the service each occurring at a higher frequency than that recorded across the sector.





### Issues raised by consumers 2022-23

Most frequent Level 3 issues raised about Alfred Health

 Dissatisfaction with treatment orders and dissatisfaction with prescribed medication were the most frequently occurring issues in complaints made by consumers to the

MHCC about Alfred

Health.

 Lost or damaged property, lack of empathy / compassion and lack of care / attention were the frequently occurring issues in complaints made by consumers directly to the service.



**Complaints about Alfred** 

to the MHCC (n=72)

to the service (n=213)

Health



Sector-wide complaints

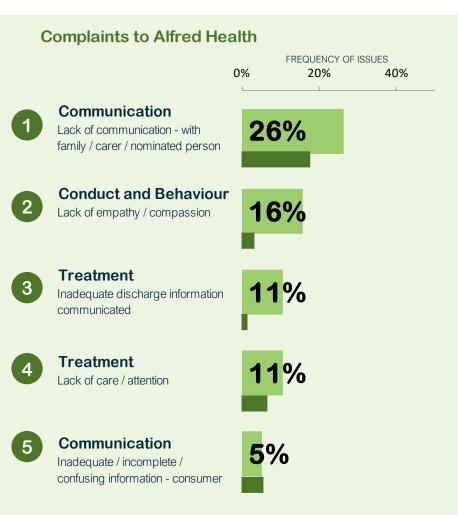
to the MHCC (n=1074)to the service (n=1039)

## Issues raised by carers 2022-23

Most frequent Level 3 issues raised about Alfred Health

- The issues most frequently raised in complaints by carers to the MHCC about Alfred Health were related to communication, including a lack of communication and inadequate / misleading / confusing information.
- Lack of communication with family / carer were also the most frequently raised in complaints by carers directly to Alfred Health.





Sector-wide complaints

to the MHCC (n=320)to the service (n=380)

**Complaints about Alfred** 

to the MHCC (n=12)

to the service (n=19)

Health





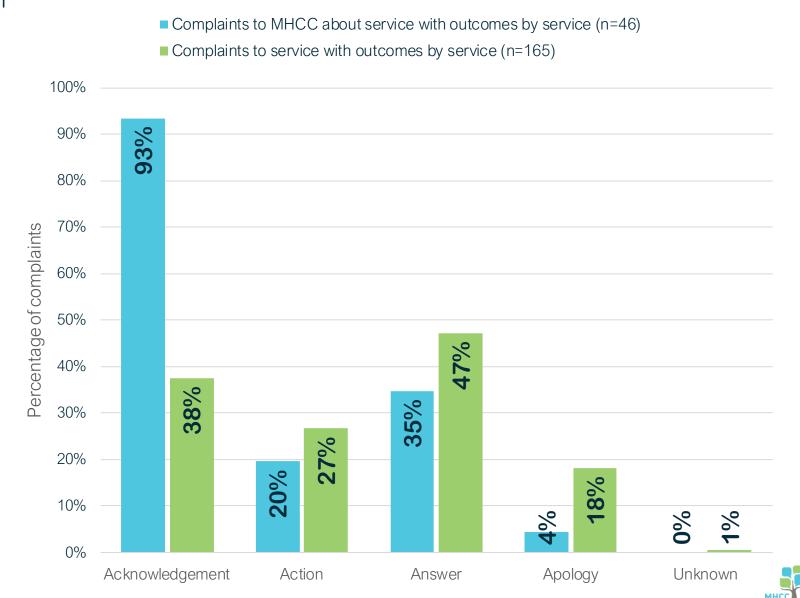
## Outcomes of complaints



## What were the outcomes of complaints? 2022-23

Closed complaints about Alfred Health

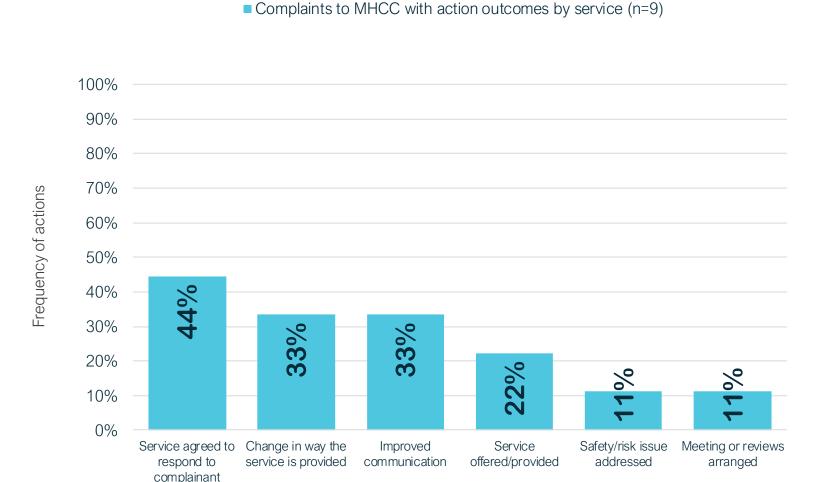
- Outcomes of complaints are framed in terms of the '4 A's' of complaint resolution - acknowledgement, action, answers and apology.
- This chart only includes complaints
  to the MHCC about Alfred Health
  that were assessed as being in
  scope for resolution or having a
  known service outcome. The most
  common outcome for these
  complaints was acknowledgement of
  the issue(s) raised by the
  complainant followed by an answer
  in response to the complaint.
- The most common outcome of complaints made directly to Alfred Health was an answer given in response to the complaint, followed by acknowledgement of the issue(s).



### What actions were taken by the service? 2022-23

Top specific actions taken by service in response to complaints to the MHCC

- Actions most frequently undertaken by Alfred Health in response to complaints to the MHCC included:
  - agreeing to respond to the complainant
  - change in the way a service is provided
  - improving communication







## Themes in compliments

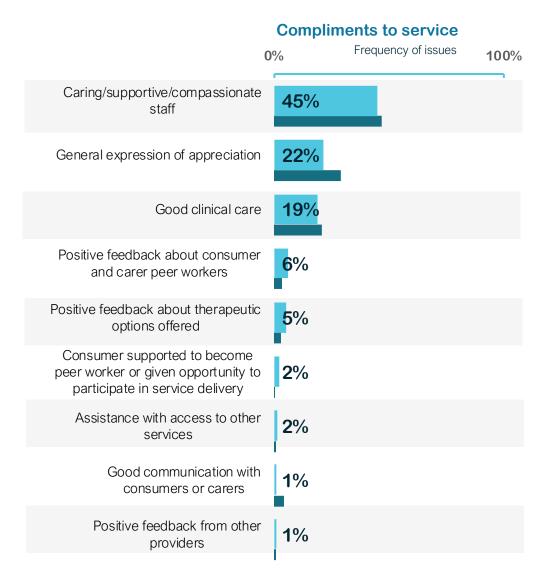


**Compliments to Alfred Health** (n=186)

Compliments to services sector-wide (n=1041)

Issues raised in compliments about Alfred Health

- The most frequently raised compliment topic was caring / supportive / compassionate staff.
- Other notable compliment issues include general expression of appreciation (22%) and good clinical care (19%).
- A considerable level of detail was provided by Alfred Health about their compliments data that enabled the MHCC to identify more specific themes.





#### Key points to consider



#### **Complaint numbers**

- The number of complaints made to the MHCC about Alfred Health declined from 2021-22 to 2022-23, continuing the trend from between 2020-21 and 2021-2022.
- The number of complaints made directly to the service increased markedly between 2021-22 and 2022-23.
- Consumers made majority of complaints to the MHCC about Alfred Health (85%) and complaints to Alfred Health directly (88%).



#### **Issues raised**

- Issues raised in complaints to the MHCC about Alfred Health were consistent with those raised in complaints to the MHCC for the sector, with commonly raised issues related to Treatment, Medication and Communication.
- Issues raised in complaints
   directly to the service were less
   consistent with those raised
   across the sector, with Treatment,
   Facilities and Conduct &
   behaviour being the most
   frequently raised issues.



#### **Outcomes**

- The most common outcome of complaints made directly to Alfred Health was an answer given in response to the complaint, followed by acknowledgement of the issue(s).
- The most common action undertaken by Alfred Health in response to complaints to the MHCC was agreeing to respond to the complainant.

