

Australian Sterilisation Data Report

Report on tribunal-approved medical procedures that resulted in the sterilisation of adults with cognitive impairment 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023

The table below contains statistics on the number of instances where state and territory tribunals have approved, during the period 1 July 2022 and 30 June 2023, a process that results in sterilisation. This is the eighth report following the release of the 'National project on sterilisation data collection practices' undertaken by the Australian Guardianship and Administration Council (AGAC) in 2015 with funding from the Federal Attorney-General's Department. That report and its appendices are available on the AGAC website (www.agac.org.au).

Note that this table records tribunal authorisation of procedures that resulted in the sterilisation of adults with cognitive impairment. Sterilisation of the adult may not have been the primary aim of the procedure in question.

Previous reports on the number of instances where state and territory tribunals and boards have approved a sterilisation process are available on the AGAC website.

The Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability has recommended that AGAC provide more demographic and other detail in its annual collection of adult sterilisation statistics. This will occur in the next (2023-24) report.

Adult sterilisation approvals between 1 July 2022 and 30 June 2023

Jurisdiction	Tribunal	Approvals
Australian Capital Territory	ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal	0
New South Wales	NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal	2*
Northern Territory	Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal	1
Queensland	Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal	6
South Australia	South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal	0
Tasmania	Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal	1**
Victoria	Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal	4
Western Australia	State Administrative Tribunal	0
Total		14

* See published decisions on www.caselaw.nsw.gov.au - QMN [2022] NSWCATGD 24; KXT [2022] NSWCATGD 6

** See published decision on www.austlii.edu.au - TI (Consent to special medical treatment) [2023] TASCAT 105 (14 June 2023)

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