



12 December 2010

Windows into Safety and Quality in Health Care 2010

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care released the Commission's 2010 report *Windows into Safety and Quality in Health Care 2010*. This report provides perspectives on aspects of the safety and quality of health care in 2010 and builds upon, and extends, the coverage of the Commission's previous *Windows 2008* and *2009* reports.

Each chapter of *Windows into Safety and Quality in Health Care 2010* focuses on a specific area of safety and quality of health care. Topics covered in the report include how patient experience can improve the safety and quality of health care, clinical deterioration, antibiotic resistance, clinical handover, medication safety and accreditation.

Other chapters focus on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' experience of safe and high quality health care, falls prevention in older people and the use of reporting by hospitals to monitor and improve patient safety. To read the full report:
<http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/internet/safety/publishing.nsf/Content/windows-into-safety-and-quality-in-health-care-2010>

Observation and Response Chart (ORC): Usability and Pilot Testing

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (the Commission) are calling for expressions of interest to participate in a national project, conducted by the University of Technology Sydney (UTS), to examine the usability of evidence-based Observation and Response Charts (ORCs)

One of the main initiatives of the Commission's larger national program, *Recognising and Responding to Clinical Deterioration* (ACQSHC, 2010), is to develop an *Evidence-based adult general Observation and Response Chart* (ORC) that incorporates features to support the identification of the deteriorating patient and trigger appropriate, timely action.

Five ORCs have been developed for usability testing in the clinical environment. The most relevant ORC that aligns with your Hospital's current practices and observation chart will be selected for testing. Response criteria parameters on the ORC can be modified to correlate with existing response systems in your Hospital.

Five hospitals will be selected to participate in the Usability Testing Phase depending on size, role and location including: one principal referral, one medium or large metropolitan, one regional, one small acute, and one private hospital. The application form needs to be returned to UTS by 4pm Friday 4 February 2011. For more information email Emily.Allen@uts.edu.au or visit:
<http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/internet/safety/publishing.nsf/Content/prog-patientsrisk-lp>

Implementation Guidelines for the National Mental Health Standards 2010



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ts to accompany the National Standards for Mental Health

1. Implementation guidelines for Public Mental Health Services and Private Hospitals
2. Implementation guidelines for Private Office Base Mental Health Services
3. Implementation guidelines for Non-government Community Services

They can be found on the Mental Health Standing Committee (MHSC) website:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/mhsc/publishing.nsf/Content/publications-1>

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