



AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION ON
SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTHCARE



APHA National Congress

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▶ Commission Update 2011

- ✓ Establishment as a Statutory Authority under the NHHN and CAC Acts
- ✓ Programmes continue unabated
- ✓ Additional requirements and activities

▶ National processes

- ❖ First NHHN Agreement early 2010
- ❖ *National Health and Hospitals Network Act 2011* developed during 2010 and received assent in April 2011
- ❖ ACSQHC commenced as an authority 1 July 2011
- ❖ National Health Reform Agreement signed August 2011

▶ National Health and Hospitals Network Act 2011

Ongoing Functions of the ACSQHC:

- a) **promote, support and encourage implementation** of S&Q arrangements, programs and initiatives
- b) collect, analyse, interpret and disseminate **information**
- c) advise the Minister
- d) publish reports and papers relating to S&Q
- l) formulate model national schemes for **S&Q accreditation** of organisations that provide health care services
- m) consult and cooperate widely
- n) undertake functions specified by Minister
- o) promote, support, encourage, conduct and evaluate training programs for purposes relating to the Commission functions
- p) promote, support, encourage, conduct and evaluate research for purposes relating to the Commission functions
- q) do anything conducive to the performance of these functions

▶ National Health and Hospitals Network Act 2011

New Functions of the ACSQHC:

- e) Formulate **standards** relating to health care S&Q matters
- f) Formulate guidelines relating to health care S&Q matters
- g) Formulate **indicators** relating to health care S&Q matters
- h) Promote, support and encourage the implementation of these standards and guidelines
- i) Promote, support and encourage use of these indicators
- j) Monitor implementation and impact** of these standards and guidelines
- k) Advise all Health Ministers which standards should be adopted as **national clinical standards**



▶ NHHN Agreement

NHHN Agreement 2010

- **Performance and Accountability Framework**

18b: '**national clinical quality and safety standards** developed by the ACSQHC'

- **National Governance**

19d: 'continuation and expansion of the role of the ACSQHC to set **national clinical standards** for the delivery of health services'

National Health Reform Agreement 2011

- Reinforced the role of States and Territories as system managers and varied the financial mechanisms of the health reforms but retained commitment to LHNs and Medicare Locals, national reporting through the NHPA and the commitment to activity based funding through IHPA. **The role of the ACSQHC in the Agreement is retained.**



▶ National Health Reform Agreement 2011

B80. The role of the ACSQHC is to:

- a. **lead and coordinate** improvements in safety and quality in health care in Australia by identifying issues and policy directions, and recommending priorities for action;
- b. **disseminate knowledge** and advocate for safety and quality;
- c. **report publicly** on the state of safety and quality including performance against national standards;
- d. **recommend national data sets** for safety and quality, working within current multilateral governmental arrangements for data development, standards, collection and reporting;
- e. provide strategic advice to the Standing Council on Health on best practice thinking to drive quality improvement, including **implementation strategies**; and
- f. recommend **nationally agreed standards** for safety and quality improvement.

▶ National Health Reform Agreement 2011

B81. The ACSQHC will expand its role of developing **national clinical standards** and strengthened clinical governance. These arrangements will be further developed in consultation with States.

B82. The ACSQHC will:

- a. **formulate and monitor safety and quality standards** and work with clinicians to identify best practice clinical care, to ensure the **appropriateness** of services being delivered in a particular health care setting; and
- b. provide **advice** to the Standing Council on Health about which of the standards are suitable for implementation as **national clinical standards**.

B83. The ACSQHC does not have regulatory functions.

▶ National Health Reform Agreement 2011

National Bodies

- Independent Hospital Pricing Authority
- National Health Performance Authority
- ACSQHC
- **Local and other bodies**
- LHNs and Medicare Locals
- States and Territories as health system managers
- COAG Reform Council
- Lead Clinicians Groups

▶ National Safety and Quality Goals

- ❖ Request from AHMAC
- ❖ Rapid development in 2011/12
- ❖ Basis for integrated national approach to safety and quality improvement



▶ ACSQHC operations

- ❖ Interim Board appointed
- ❖ Interim CEO appointed
- ❖ Substantive Board and CEO anticipated early 2012
- ❖ Program managers unchanged, staff continue as public servants employed by the Commission. No staff losses as result of transition.
- ❖ The sky remains up there!



▶ An Australian Health Services Safety and Quality Accreditation Scheme

- National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards
- National coordination



National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards

June 2011



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▶ The NSQHS Standards

Standard 1
**Governance for Safety and
Quality in Health
Service Organisations**



Standard 2
**Partnering with
Consumers**



Standard 10
**Preventing Falls and
Harm from Falls**



Standard 3
**Healthcare
Associated
Infections**



Standard 9
**Recognising and
Responding to Clinical
Deterioration in Acute
Health Care**



Standard 4
**Medication
Safety**



Standard 8
**Preventing and
Managing Pressure
Injuries**



Standard 5
**Patient Identification
and Procedure
Matching**



Standard 7
**Blood and Blood
Products**



Standard 6
**Clinical
Handover**





▶ National Coordination

- Clearer accountabilities
- Approved accrediting agencies
- Regulators informed and involved
- National oversight of the accreditation by the Commission
- Implementation and maintaining standards supported by the programs of the Commission



NSQHS Standards Guides for

Hospitals

Day Procedure Services

Dental Practices

Available on:

www.safetyandquality.gov.au

go to 'Our Work' and then to Draft Guides



National Safety and Quality
Health Service Standards

DRAFT

Guide for use in
Hospitals

October 2011

NSQHS Standards Guides for

Hospitals

Day Procedure Services

Dental Practices

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▶ Issues to be resolved

- Who is the regulator?
- Certification
- JSANZ
- Tier 2 benefits



▶ Timeframes

- Consultation on the Guides for Health Services underway
 - Close 15 December 2011
 - Pilot guides in health services - completed December 2011
- Accrediting Agencies granted interim approval
- Implementation sector underway
- Mandatory assessment against NSQHS Standards – from 1 January 2013





▶ Ongoing maintenance of the NSQHS Standards

- Review of core and developmental actions
– completed by 2015
- Review of guides – ongoing,
comprehensive review by 2015
- Review of Standards – completed by 2017





► For more information

Commission's website:

www.safetyandquality.gov.au.

For access to:

- NSQHS Standards
- Draft Guides for hospitals, day surgery services, dental practices
- List of Approved Accrediting Agencies
- Fact sheets on the NSQHS Standards
- Commission resources and tools to support the implementation of the Standards

