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| 2024 Victorian Public Healthcare Awards General Award criteria |
| Category 13 - Safer Care Victoria award for safety improvement  This award recognises inspiring initiatives by Victorian health services that target safer care, resulting in improved patient outcomes, whether through solving a local or system-wide challenge, streamlining processes, or improving patient experiences.  **Summary**  When making your entry in Award Force you will be asked to provide a brief (max. 100 words) summary of your project outlining:   * the initiative and its objectives * the positive impact or outcomes it has achieved for Victorians.   The summary should be suitable for the general public and written from a third-person perspective.  Should you be a finalist, this summary will be used in our communications. **Note.** This will not be assessed or scored as part of your entry. |
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| Criteria topic | Criteria question | Judging criteria for scoring | Weight |
| Abstract | Provide a clear and brief summary of the organisation and initiative, focusing on its objectives, target population, methods and outcomes. | This section should provide a brief summary of the work being undertaken. The abstract receives no score. | 0 |
| Planning and preparation | Describe the service, system or area that was targeted for improvement.  What was the rationale for the initiative, was it supported by evidence?  How does the work align with organisational priorities? | * Does the initiative focus on improving patient/consumer safety? * Is there a strong rationale for the initiative, supported by robust evidence? * Does the work align with organisational priorities? | 1 |
| Objectives | What were your objectives? Describe how they meet the needs of the target population and support the initiative through improving safety.  How does the initiative improve patient/consumer safety?  How were patient, family and/or community involvement built into your work?  How were Aboriginal people and a diverse range of perspectives included (multicultural, LGBTIQA+, people with a disability) within the objectives? | * Do the objectives clearly address the needs of the targeted population and support the initiative? * Does the initiative improve patient/consumer safety? * Are the objectives supported by patient, family and/or community involvement? * To what extent were Aboriginal people and people with diverse backgrounds and perspectives included (multicultural, LGBTIQA+, people with a disability)? | 1 |
| Methods and implementation | Describe the processes used to plan and implement your work.  Who were the key stakeholders and how were they involved? Include the key tasks, timelines and whether data was used to monitor progress. | * Have measured planning and implementation processes been demonstrated in the entry? * Were the key stakeholders involved in the initiative? * Was data used to monitor and support the initiative’s implementation and continuous improvement? | 2 |
| Results and outcomes | What were the specific results and safety outcomes from the initiative? Describe the way the initiative is improving health outcomes, patient experience or organisational outcomes for the target population and the impact this has had on the community and/or organisation.  What are the demonstrable outcomes in relation to safety improvements?  **Hint:** The judges look for data or service user stories that show how you have achieved your objectives. You are encouraged to supply data (charts and tables, etc.) or qualitative narratives in your support document. Please explain how the data (such as graphs, tables) or stories show improvement/benefit. If relevant include the sample/population size, so the judges know the scale of the work. | * Has the initiative been able to demonstrate improvements in health outcomes, patient experience or organisational outcomes? * Has the entry provided reliable evidence on its results and outcomes? * Does the data substantiate the desired outcomes and benefits for patients, their families and/or the community? * If additional information is provided, does it further illustrate the success of the initiative? | 3 |
| Status and sustainability | What is the current status of the initiative?  What are the plans to ensure this initiative provides ongoing benefits to the patient, their family and/or the community through embedded safety improvements?  Have you shared, or are there opportunities to share the initiative with other areas in your organisation or more broadly with the health sector? | * Has the entry provided adequate information regarding the sustainability of the initiative? * Have there been efforts to share ideas, tools and techniques and spread the initiative? | 2 |
| Budget | What was invested in the initiative, including staff time and financial resources?  Were external financial or in-kind resources secured?  In relation to what was invested, does the approach represent good value? | * In relation to what was invested, does the approach represent good value? | 1 |
| Achieving quality, innovation and excellence in healthcare | How is this initiative innovative?  How does the initiative represent excellence in safety, patient experience or effectiveness?  What challenges or barriers did you overcome? | * Is the initiative innovative? * Does the overall initiative represent excellence in person, family or community-centred care? * Has the initiative overcome significant barriers to improve patient care, patient outcomes or care in the community? * Has the initiative enhanced safety and reduced the risk(s) to the patient? | 3 |

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