Implementation of the Australian Health Service Safety and Quality Accreditation Scheme

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Ten national safety and quality health service standards

1. Governance for Safety and Quality in Health Service Organisations
2. Partnering with Consumers
3. Healthcare Associated Infection
4. Medication Safety
5. Patient Identification and Procedure Matching
6. Clinical Handover
7. Blood and Blood Products
8. Prevention and Management of Pressure Injuries
9. Recognising and Responding to Clinical Deterioration in Acute Health Care
10. Preventing Falls and Harm from Falls

Note: A total of approximately 125 ‘items’ and 256 ‘actions required’ sit under these ten standards.
National standards and coordination

1. Australian Health Service Safety and Quality Accreditation Scheme
2. Provides a single set of national safety and quality health service standards
3. Allows for reporting and ability to learn across jurisdictions from like services
4. Outlines a system for national coordination
5. Based around 10 national accreditation standards
The model national accreditation scheme developed by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (commission) proposes that all health services that pose high risk of harm to patients should participate in accreditation and be assessed against the standards. **High-risk health services are those that undertake 'invasive' procedures into a body cavity or dissect skin while using anaesthesia or sedation.**

This would mean that accreditation against the standards is required for:

- **public hospitals**
- **private hospitals**
- **day procedure and day hospitals**
- **practitioner rooms where high-risk activities can occur**, for example cosmetic surgery, endoscopy and dentistry.
In Victoria the new accreditation scheme will cover:

- All public hospitals, including small rural health services
- Public dental services in community health services
In Victoria public health services will be required to be accredited against:

- The 10 national standards
- An additional standard on nutrition (to be developed)
Implementation phases

Transition phase

To commence once standards endorsed by Ministers (imminent) and to continue to at least 31 December 2012.

Full implementation

At this stage full implementation will commence from 1 January 2013, however, this date may be pushed back depending on progress.
What has Victoria been doing?

- Working internally across department branches (integrated care; mental health; performance, acute programs and rural health; health regulation and reform; aged care) on development of national standards
- Communicating and consulting with health services
- Liaising with the Commission
- Department representatives on national working party for implementation
- Development of requirements for accreditation for Victorian public health services (upon implementation of the National Safety and Quality in Health Service Standards)
Several implementation issues have been identified.

The commission has set up working groups to assist in clarifying and resolving identified issues:

– Regulators working group
– Accrediting agencies working group
Examples of issues from regulators working group

- Scope of accreditation.
- Data collection and reporting.
- Piloting of the national standards guides for health services.
- The Commission’s communication plan for the new standards.
- Fact sheets
What next?

The Department will continue to work with the Commission, accrediting bodies and health services regarding implementation