

MEDIA RELEASE

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**National Launch of
*Windows into Safety and Quality in Health Care 2009***

Professor Chris Baggoley, Chief Executive of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, today announced the launch of the Commission's 2009 report *Windows into Safety and Quality in Health Care 2009*.

This report provides an insight into aspects of the safety and quality of patient care in 2009 and builds upon, and extends, the coverage of the Commission's *Windows 2008* report.

Professor Baggoley said "This year's *Windows* report offers a perspective on the innovative work currently being undertaken to improve the safety and quality of the Australian healthcare system, as well as showing the need for continuing action".

Windows into Safety and Quality in Health Care 2009 provides a number of insights into the current state of safety and quality in both the public and private health sectors.

Each chapter of *Windows into Safety and Quality in Health Care 2009* focuses on a specific area of patient safety. Topics covered in the report include clinical deterioration, general practice, hospital mortality rates and antimicrobial stewardship. Other chapters focus on the analysis of patient complaints, sentinel events and other forms of reporting, hospital indicators and the impact of clinical registries. The report also includes a look back to the 2008 report providing an update on what has happened in a number of the areas examined in last year's report.

"Each year the *Windows into Safety and Quality in Health Care* report highlights both the achievements and the challenges we all face in making health care safer, more effective and more patient focused" Professor Baggoley concluded.

To read *Windows into Safety and Quality in Health Care 2009* please visit the Publication section on our web site www.safetyandquality.gov.au.

Background

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care was established by the Australian, State and Territory Health Ministers to lead and coordinate improvements in safety and quality. As the peak national safety and quality body, the Commission has been tasked with reporting publicly on the state of safety and quality in health care.

For more information or to arrange an interview with Professor Baggoley, please contact Amy Winter, Communications, on 02 9263 3605 or amy.winter@safetyandquality.gov.au.