

Please note that the following document was created by the former Australian Council for Safety and Quality in Health Care. The former Council ceased its activities on 31 December 2005 and the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care assumed responsibility for many of the former Council's documents and initiatives. Therefore contact details for the former Council listed within the attached document are no longer valid.

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care can be contacted through its website at <http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/> or by email mail@safetyandquality.gov.au

Note that the following document is copyright, details of which are provided on the next page.

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care was established in January 2006. It does not print, nor make available printed copies of, former Council publications. It does, however, encourage not for profit reproduction of former Council documents available on its website.

Apart from not for profit reproduction, and any other use as permitted under the Copyright Act 1968, no part of former Council documents may be reproduced by any process without prior written permission from the Commonwealth available from the Attorney General's Department. Requests and inquiries concerning reproduction and rights should be addressed to Commonwealth Copyright Administration, Attorney General's Department, Robert Garran Offices, National Circuit, Barton ACT 2600 or posted at <http://www.ag.gov.au/cca>



Open Disclosure

What is it about?

Encouraging open and effective communication with patients

Acknowledging that adverse events occur

Saying sorry to the patient for any harm suffered during their care

Finding out the cause of the problem

Supporting staff if something goes wrong

Changing the culture of organisations from blame to improvement

Making the health system safer