# Australian COmmission on Safety and Quality in Health Care logo with Radar imageOn the Radar

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**On the Radar**

Editor: Dr Niall Johnson [niall.johnson@safetyandquality.gov.au](mailto:niall.johnson@safetyandquality.gov.au)

Contributors: Niall Johnson

**Reports**

*Mental and physical health: Practical ideas for improving care*

Q Improvement Lab and Mind

London: NHS Improvement and The Health Foundation; 2019. p. 72.

*What matters to me? Service principles for providing care for people with both mental health problems and persistent back and neck pain*

Q Improvement Lab and Mind

London: NHS Improvement and The Health Foundation; 2019. p. 13.

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| URL | <https://qlabessays.health.org.uk/essay/ideas-and-solutions-to-improve-care/>  <https://qlabessays.health.org.uk/essay/what-matters-to-me-service-principles-for-providing-care/> |
| Notes | A pair of reports stemming from a collaboration between Q Improvement Lab (an initiative led by the Health Foundation and supported by NHS Improvement and NHS England) and Mind (a mental health charity) that focused on improving care for people living with both mental and physical health problems. The outputs from the project include:   * A practical guide to support health care professionals improve services, for and with, people living with both mental and physical health problems. The guide identifies six high level problems and corresponding solutions that need action to improve care in this area. These relate to:   + Local knowledge   + Skills and training   + Environment and processes   + Patient expectations and understanding   + Coordination and collaboration   + Evidence base and business case. * A set of service principles that can be used to inform decisions about improving, designing or commissioning services across mental health and persistent back and neck pain. The principles describe what good quality care looks like. The principles are:   + Cultivate enabling relationships   + Understand and cater to context   + Learn together and build a shared understanding   + Jointly explore risks, options and expectations   + Collaborate across services and agencies. |

**Journal articles**

*Digital transformation of hospital quality and safety: real-time data for real-time action*

Barnett A, Winning M, Canaris S, Cleary M, Staib A, Sullivan C

Australian Health Review. 2019;43(6):656-661.

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| DOI | <https://doi.org/10.1071/AH18125> |
| Notes | This piece describes how one Australian hospital developed an electronic dashboard to monitor live performance of quality and safety standard that also provides the means to address accreditation needs against the National Safety and Quality Health Service standards. The paper describes the approach, including the skills, leadership and governance, needed to achieve this in quaternary integrated digital hospital. |

For information on the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards, see <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/standards/nsqhs-standards>

*Framework for better care: reconciling approaches to patient safety and quality*

Johnson A, Clay-Williams R, Lane P

Australian Health Review. 2019;43(6):653-655.

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| DOI | <https://doi.org/10.1071/AH18050> |
| Notes | Within the framework proposed in this paper, the authors categorise care into “Reliable”, “Robust” and “Resilient” based on the complexity and (un)predictability. The authors argue that each category suggests different tools for addressing safety and quality. In “Reliable” or low-complexity, predictable situations, tools that focus on compliance and controlling variability, such as standardisation, are effective.’  The “Robust” category focuses on ‘making care better in everyday work’, the majority of healthcare. Tools here include standards, audit and feedback, addressing variation.  The “Resilient” category suggests tools for assisting healthcare workers in ‘dealing with the unexpected’ in situations of high complexity and unpredictability, allowing systems to flex but not break. Here the tools need ‘to support healthcare workers to problem solve and make decisions when challenged by the unexpected.” |

*Implementation effectiveness of health interventions for indigenous communities: a systematic review*

Harding T, Oetzel J

Implementation Science. 2019;14(1):76.

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| DOI | <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13012-019-0920-4> |
| Notes | Implementation of an intervention, whether it is a change in policy or the translation of research into practice, is recognised as being difficult. This paper reports on a review that looked at whether a particular implementation framework – He Pikinga Waiora (HPW) – is ‘reflected in studies involving the implementation of a non-communicable disease health intervention in an Indigenous community’. From 21 studies the involved the implementation or evaluation of a health intervention targeting non-communicable diseases for Indigenous communities in Australia, Canada, New Zealand or the United States of America, the authors found that ‘The HPW Implementation Framework is a comprehensive model for potentially understanding implementation effectiveness in Indigenous communities. The review suggests that the studies are reflective of high levels of community engagement and culture-centredness. The long-term sustainability and translation of evidence to practice may be inhibited because of lower levels of systems thinking and integrated knowledge translation.’ |

*A systematic review of clinical outcomes associated with intrahospital transitions*

Bristol AA, Schneider CE, Lin S-Y, Brody AA

The Journal for Healthcare Quality (JHQ). 9000;2019.

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| DOI | <https://doi.org/10.1097/JHQ.0000000000000232> |
| Notes | Transitions of care have long been recognised as times of potential risk. This paper reports on a systematic review that looked at the specific issues intrahospital transitions. Based on 14 studies published between January 2003 and December 2018, the authors found that the major outcomes reported included delirium, hospital length of stay, mortality, and adverse events. They also report ‘Delirium, hospital length of stay, and morbidity and mortality rates were associated with delayed transfers and transfers to inappropriate units. In addition, increased fall risk and infection rates were associated with higher rates of transfer.’ |

For information on the Commission’s work on clinical handover, see <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/communicating-safety/clinical-handover>

For guidance, tools and resources to support the core skills for communicating for safety, see the *Communicating for Safety* resource portal <https://www.c4sportal.safetyandquality.gov.au/>

*Developing health care organizations that pursue learning and exploration of diagnostic excellence: An action plan*

Singh H, Upadhyay DK, Torretti D

Academic Medicine. 2019 [epub].

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| DOI | <https://doi.org/10.1097/ACM.0000000000003062> |
| Notes | Issues around diagnosis have come to the fore in recent years. The authors of this piece put forward an action plan for healthcare organisations/systems to pursue “diagnostic excellence”. The recommendations include:   1. implementing a virtual hub to **coordinate organizational activities for improving diagnosis**, such as identifying risks among competing priorities, prioritizing interventions that cross intra-institutional silos, and promoting a culture of learning and safety 2. participating in novel scientific initiatives to **generate and translate evidence**, given the rapidly evolving “basic science” of diagnostic excellence 3. avoiding the “tyranny of metrics” by focusing on **measurement for improvement** rather than using measures to reward or punish 4. **engaging clinicians** in activities for improving diagnosis and framing missed opportunities positively as learning opportunities rather than negatively as errors 5. developing an **accountable culture** of engaging and learning from patients, who are often underexplored sources of information. |

*Performance of UK National Health Service compared with other high income countries: observational study*

Papanicolas I, Mossialos E, Gundersen A, Woskie L, Jha AK

BMJ. 2019;367:l6326.

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| DOI | <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.l6326> |
| Notes | While this paper has a focus on examining how the UK’s National Health Service compares with the health systems in a number of other high income countries, the data on Australia (one of the comparators) if of interest. The authors note that the UK had the lowest expenditure and lowest growth in expenditure and had ‘pockets of good performance’ but ‘patient safety and population health were all below average to average’. Examining the data for Australia also reveals a mixed bag of results – many of which are know from other sources, such as the OECD’s *Health at a Glance* series (2019 edition <https://doi.org/10.1787/4dd50c09-en>) or the Commonwealth Fund’s surveys. In this cohort, Australia has lower spending (but higher out of pocket costs and very low long-term care spending), larger health workforce, higher usage/throughput (GP visits, hospital discharges and shorter length of stay), lower maternal and infant mortality, better cancer survival rates but also lower cancer screening rates, higher avoidable admissions, and higher reported rates of patient safety issues. |

*Public Health Research & Practice*

December 2019, Volume 29, Issue 4

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| URL | <http://www.phrp.com.au/issues/december-2019-volume-29-issue-4/> |
| Notes | A new issue of *Public Health Research & Practice* has been published. Articles in this issue of *Public Health Research & Practice* include:   * Editorial: **Promoting health, preventing disease** – making it happen (Don Nutbeam) * **Aboriginal childhood overweight and obesity**: the need for Aboriginal designed and led initiatives (Simone L Sherriff, Louise A Baur, Michael G Lambert, Michelle L Dickson, Sandra J Eades, Sumithra Muthayya) * **Defining, controlling and analysing Indigenous data**: commitment to historical consistency or commitment to Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples? (Kristy Crooks, Sandra Carlson, Craig Dalton) * From eye rolls to punches: experiences of harm from others’ drinking among **risky-drinking adolescents** across Australia (Tina Lam, Anne-Marie Laslett, Rowan P Ogeil, Dan I Lubman, W Liang, T N Chikritzhs, W T Gilmore, S R Lenton, J Fischer, A Aiken, R P Mattick, L A Burns, R Midford, S J Allsop) * Primary health care provider–focused interventions for improving outcomes for people with **type 2 diabetes**: a rapid review (Nighat Faruqi, L Thomas, S Parker, B Harris-Roxas, J Taggart, C Spooner, V Wong, M F Harris) * Comparative use of **cancer therapies in Australian farm, rural nonfarm and urban residents** aged 45 years and older (Julie Depczynski, Timothy Dobbins, Bruce Armstrong, Tony Lower) * Developing a screening tool to recognise **social determinants of health in Australian clinical settings** (Kathryn Browne-Yung, Toby Freeman, Malcolm Battersby, Doug R McEvoy, Fran Baum) * An Australian **incremental guideline for particulate matter (PM2.5)** to assist in development and planning decisions (Adam Capon, Jackie Wright) * Culture clash? Recovery in **mental health under Australia’s National Disability Insurance Scheme** – a case study (Sebastian Rosenberg, Chris Redmond, Pam Boyer, Prue Gleeson, Paul Russell) * Exposure to **fast-food and sweetened-drink marketing** at community sports clubs in Australia (Jia Ying Ooi, John H Wiggers, Melanie Kingsland, Christophe Lecathelinais, Jennifer Tindall, Tameka McFadyen, Bosco C Rowland, Shauna Sherker, Allan Murphy, Rachael Heaton, Luke Wolfenden) |

*Australian Health Review*

Volume 43(6)

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| URL | <https://www.publish.csiro.au/ah/issue/9371> |
| Notes | A new issue of the *Australian Health Review* has been published. Articles in this issue of the *Australian Health Review* include:   * How Local Health Districts can prepare for the **effects of climate change**: an adaptation model applied to metropolitan Sydney (Lucie Rychetnik, Peter Sainsbury and Greg Stewart) * Transforming **institutional racism** at an Australian hospital (Christopher John Bourke, Henrietta Marrie and Adrian Marrie) * Disparities in **access to health care** in Australia for people with mental health conditions (L Corscadden, E J Callander and S M Topp) * Understanding the role of the public transport network in the greater Sydney area in providing **access to dental care** (Raj Patel, M Tennant and E Kruger) * **Health justice partnerships**: a promising model for increasing access to justice in health services(Virginia Lewis, Lauren Adamson and F Hawthorne) * Socioeconomic differences in **access to care** in Australia for **women fearful of birth** (Jocelyn Toohill, Emily Callander, Haylee Fox, Daniel Lindsay, Jenny Gamble, Debra Creedy and Jennifer Fenwick) * Reductions in **quality of life** and increased **economic burden** associated with **mental disorders** in an Australian adult sample (Sonia M McCallum, Philip J Batterham, Alison L Calear, Matthew Sunderland and Natacha Carragher) * Framework for better care: reconciling approaches to **patient safety and quality** (Andrew Johnson, Robyn Clay-Williams and Paul Lane) * **Digital transformation of hospital quality and safety**: real-time data for real-time action (Amy Barnett, Michelle Winning, Stephen Canaris, Michael Cleary, Andrew Staib and Clair Sullivan) * A 5-year retrospective cohort study of **unplanned readmissions** in an Australian tertiary paediatric hospital (Huaqiong Zhou, Phillip Della, Pamela Roberts, Paul Porter and Satvinder Dhaliwal) * Fostering **healthcare innovation** in public hospitals: the Queensland experience (Linda Mundy, Sarah Howard, Liam McQueen, Jacqui Thomson and Kaye Hewson) * Research as the gatekeeper: introduction of **robotic-assisted surgery** into the public sector (Kate E McBride, Daniel Steffens, Michael J Solomon, Teresa Anderson, Jane Young, Scott Leslie, Ruban Thanigasalam and Paul G Bannon) * Factors that contribute to high-quality **clinical supervision of the rural allied health workforce**: lessons from the coalface (Priya Martin, Katherine Baldock, Saravana Kumar and Lucylynn Lizarondo) * Cost impact of **high staff turnover on primary care** in remote Australia (Yuejen Zhao, Deborah J Russell, Steven Guthridge, Mark Ramjan, Michael P Jones, John S Humphreys and John Wakerman) * **Physiotherapy clinical education** in Australia: an exploration of clinical educator characteristics, confidence and training requirements (Clint Newstead, Catherine L Johnston, Gillian Nisbet and Lindy McAllister) * Analysis of **uncertainty in the surgical department**: durations, requests and cancellations (Belinda Spratt, Erhan Kozan and Michael Sinnott) * **Testimonials within health advertising** in Australia: an analysis of current policy (Alexander C L Holden) * Improving the utility of **multisource feedback for medical consultants** in a tertiary hospital: a study of the psychometric properties of a survey tool (Helen Corbett, Kristen Pearson, Leila Karimi and Wen Kwang Lim) |

*Health Affairs*

Volume 38, No. 12

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| URL | <https://www.healthaffairs.org/toc/hlthaff/38/12> |
| Notes | A new issue of *Health Affairs* has been published with the theme “**Rural Health**”. Articles in this issue of *Health Affairs* include:   * Recovery Residences Combat **Addiction In Rural Communities** (B Rinker) * Bringing **Palliative Care** To Underserved **Rural Communities** (C Huff) * Structural Urbanism Contributes To **Poorer Health Outcomes For Rural America** (Janice Probst, Jan Marie Eberth, and Elizabeth Crouch) * **What Is Rural?** Challenges And Implications Of Definitions That Inadequately Encompass Rural People And Places (Kevin J Bennett, Tyrone F Borders, George M Holmes, Katy Backes Kozhimannil, and Erika Ziller) * **Lack Of Access To Specialists Associated With Mortality And Preventable Hospitalizations** Of Rural Medicare Beneficiaries (Kenton J Johnston, Hefei Wen, and Karen E Joynt Maddox) * Higher US **Rural Mortality Rates** Linked To Socioeconomic Status, Physician Shortages, And Lack Of Health Insurance (Gordon Gong, Scott G Phillips, Catherine Hudson, Debra Curti, and Billy U Philips) * The Decline In **Rural Medical Students**: A Growing Gap In Geographic Diversity Threatens The **Rural Physician Workforce** (Scott A Shipman, Andrea Wendling, K C Jones, I Kovar-Gough, J M Orlowski, and J Phillips) * Rural Counties With Majority Black Or Indigenous Populations Suffer The Highest **Rates Of Premature Death** In The US (Carrie E Henning-Smith, A M Hernandez, R R Hardeman, M R Ramirez, and K Backes Kozhimannil) * Healthy People 2020: **Rural Areas** Lag In Achieving Targets For Major **Causes Of Death** (Sirin Yaemsiri, Johanna M Alfier, Ernest Moy, Lauren M Rossen, Brigham Bastian, J Bolin, A O Ferdinand, T Callaghan, and M Heron) * **Rural Residents With Mental Health Needs** Have Fewer Care Visits Than Urban Counterparts (James B Kirby, Samuel H Zuvekas, Amanda E Borsky, and Quyen Ngo-Metzger) * Enhancing **Staffing In Rural Community Health Centers** Can Help Improve **Behavioral Health Care** (Xinxin Han, and Leighton Ku) * Declines In **Pediatric Mortality** Fall Short For Rural US Children (Janice Probst, Whitney Zahnd, and Charity Breneman) * Rural-Urban Differences In **Severe Maternal Morbidity And Mortality** In The US, 2007–15 (Katy Backes Kozhimannil, Julia D Interrante, Carrie Henning-Smith, and Lindsay K Admon) * When **Rural Hospitals** Close, The Physician Workforce Goes (Hayley Drew Germack, Ryan Kandrack, and Grant R. Martsolf) * Access, Quality, And Financial Performance Of **Rural Hospitals** Following Health System Affiliation (Claire E O’Hanlon, Ashley M. Kranz, Maria DeYoreo, Ammarah Mahmud, Cheryl L Damberg, and Justin Timbie) * When People You Love Are The **Unintended Consequences Of Opioid Policy** (Mary Beth Foglia) |

*BMJ Quality and Safety* online first articles

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| URL | <https://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/early/recent> |
| Notes | *BMJ Quality and Safety* has published a number of ‘online first’ articles, including:   * Demonstrating the value of **postgraduate fellowships for physicians in quality improvement and patient safety** (Jennifer S Myers, Meghan Brooks Lane-Fall, Angela Ross Perfetti, Kate Humphrey, Luke Sato, Kathy N Shaw, April M Taylor, Anjala Tess) * **Measuring safety** of healthcare: an exercise in futility? (Khara Sauro, William A Ghali, Henry Thomas Stelfox) * Implementation of **clinical decision support to manage acute kidney injury** in secondary care: an ethnographic study (Simon Bailey, Carianne Hunt, Adam Brisley, Susan Howard, Lynne Sykes, Thomas Blakeman) * **The illusion of perfection** (Peter Smulowitz) * Editorial: **Home care after elective vascular surgery**: still more questions than answers (Christine D Jones, Rebecca S Boxer) |

*International Journal for Quality in Health Care* online first articles

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| URL | <https://academic.oup.com/intqhc/advance-articles> |
| Notes | *International Journal for Quality in Health Care* has published a number of ‘online first’ articles, including:   * Contemporaneous **patient and health professional views of patient-centred care**: a systematic review (Daniel Jaensch; Nicky Baker; Susan Gordon) * Measuring quality and impact of **telehealth services in home dialysis patients** (Susie Q Lew) * **Public health**: The voice of professionals (Pedro L Ferreira, Rui Passadouro) |

**Online resources**

*[UK] NICE Guidelines and Quality Standards*

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance>

The UK’s National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has published new (or updated) guidelines and quality standards. The latest reviews or updates are:

* NICE Guideline NG23 ***Menopause****: diagnosis and management* <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng23>

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