



On the Radar

Issue 621

25 September 2023

On the Radar is a summary of some of the recent publications in the areas of safety and quality in health care. Inclusion in this document is not an endorsement or recommendation of any publication or provider. Access to particular documents may depend on whether they are Open Access or not, and/or your individual or institutional access to subscription sites/services. Material that may require subscription is included as it is considered relevant.

On the Radar is available online, via email or as a PDF or Word document from <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/newsroom/subscribe-news/radar>

If you would like to receive *On the Radar* via email, you can subscribe on our website <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/newsroom/subscribe-news> or by emailing us at mail@safetyandquality.gov.au. You can also send feedback and comments to mail@safetyandquality.gov.au.

For information about the Commission and its programs and publications, please visit <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au>. You can also follow us on Twitter @ACSQHC.

On the Radar

Editor: Dr Niall Johnson niall.johnson@safetyandquality.gov.au

Contributors: Niall Johnson, Broni Smith

Patient Power: Healthcare Rights and Positive Change

<https://www.hcnsw.org.au/news-resources/patient-power-podcast/>

A new podcast and vodcast series has dropped called *Patient Power: Healthcare Rights and Positive Change*. Developed by Health Consumers NSW with the support of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, it aims to raise awareness about the [Australian Charter of Healthcare Rights and](#) support health literacy.

In each episode, host Julie McCrossin AM is joined by up to four guests, including health consumer representatives and family advocates with diverse backgrounds and experiences, as well as clinicians and other experts. Each episode provides practical strategies and examples of how the voice of patients, carers, family and friends can help improve health care for individuals and across the health system itself:

- Episode 1: Australian Charter of Healthcare Rights
- Episode 2: Shared Decision Making
- Episode 3: Feedback
- Episode 4: Community Representatives Improving Healthcare
- Extra Episode: Summary of the Australian Charter of Healthcare Rights.

Watch or listen now to learn more.



Reports

Patient engagement for patient safety: The why, what, and how of patient engagement for improving patient safety

OECD Health Working Papers No. 159

Kendir C, Fujisawa R, Fernandes ÓB, de Bienassis K, Klazinga N

Paris: OECD Publishing; 2023. p. 75.

| | |
|-------|---|
| DOI | https://doi.org/10.1787/5fa8df20-en |
| Notes | <p>The OECD (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development) has released their latest Health working paper, <i>Patient engagement for patient safety: The why, what, and how of patient engagement for improving patient safety</i>. The authors observe that ‘Patients’ and citizens’ perspectives and their active engagement are critical to make health systems safer and people-centred — and are key for co-designing health services and co-producing good health with healthcare professionals and building trust. Patients, families, caregivers and citizens can contribute towards improving patient safety at the clinical (local), institutional (e.g., hospital, nursing home), community (e.g., primary care, home care) and national (in the development of national policies) levels of healthcare systems.’ The report examines the impacts of patient engagement, including the evidence on economic impacts.</p> <p>The report includes seven recommendations for enhancing patient engagement for patient safety:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Building trust for safer healthcare through stronger patient and family engagement: 2. Institutionalising patient engagement for patient safety 3. Establishing better platforms and networks for sharing experiences and good practices in patient engagement 4. Strengthening patient engagement for patient safety at institution and clinical levels 5. Enhancing monitoring of patient safety for keeping track of progress and building accountability 6. Anchoring collection and use of patient safety data to OECD’s Recommendations of the Council on Health Data Governance 7. Improving quality of patient-reported safety indicators and systematically using them for improving patient safety: <p>The Australian Commission on Safety & Quality in Health Care recently released the <i>Partnering with Consumers: A guide for consumers</i>. This guide is available at https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/partnering-consumers-guide-consumers</p> |

For information on the Commission’s work on partnering with consumers, see <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/partnering-consumers>

For the Commission’s materials for consumers, see <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/consumers>

Journal articles

BMJ Quality & Safety

Volume 32, Issue 10, October 2023

| URL | |
|-------|--|
| Notes | <p>https://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/32/10</p> <p>A new issue of <i>BMJ Quality & Safety</i> has been published. Many of the papers in this issue have been referred to in previous editions of <i>On the Radar</i> (when they were released online). Articles in this issue of <i>BMJ Quality & Safety</i> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Editorial: Disclosing medical errors: prioritising the needs of patients and families (Thomas H Gallagher, Carole Hemmelgarn, Evan M Benjamin)• Editorial: Progressing patient safety in the Emergency Medical Services (Sinéad Lydon, Siobhán Masterson, Conor Deasy, Paul O'Connor)• Editorial: Five golden rules for successful measurement of improvement (Edward Etchells, Patricia Trbovich)• Editorial: Moving the needle: using quality improvement to address gaps in sickle cell care (Seethal A Jacob, Jennifer C Yui)• Types and effects of feedback for emergency ambulance staff: a systematic mixed studies review and meta-analysis (Caitlin Wilson, Gillian Janes, Rebecca Lawton, Jonathan Benn)• Error disclosure in neonatal intensive care: a multicentre, prospective, observational study (Loïc Passini, Stephane Le Bouedec, Gilles Dassieu, Audrey Reynaud, Camille Jung, Marie-Laurence Keller, Aline Lefebvre, Therese Katty, Jean-Marc Baleyte, Richard Layese, Etienne Audureau, Laurence Caeymaex)• Visual identifiers for people with dementia in hospitals: a qualitative study to unravel mechanisms of action for improving quality of care (Elizabeth Sutton, Natalie Armstrong, Louise Locock, Simon Conroy, Carolyn Tarrant)• Successful quality improvement project to increase hydroxyurea prescriptions for children with sickle cell anaemia (Ofelia A Alvarez, Hector Rodriguez-Cortes, E Leila Jerome Clay, Sandra Echenique, Julie Kanter, John J Strouse, Talia Buitrago-Mogollon, Cheryl Courtlandt, Laura Noonan, Ifeyinwa Osunkwo) |

| | |
|-------|--|
| URL | https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/the-joint-commission-journal-on-quality-and-patient-safety/vol/49/issue/10 |
| Notes | <p>A new issue of <i>The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety</i> has been published. Articles in this issue of <i>The Joint Commission Journal on Quality and Patient Safety</i> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Editorial: Technology Cannot Fix Dysfunctional Teams: Safety Culture Is Essential to Surgical Safety Checklist Effectiveness (Vishal R Patel, Alex B Haynes) • Editorial: Taking Action Against Burnout: Organizations Moving Forward with Impact (Liselotte N Dyrbye) • Clinician Well-Being Assessment and Interventions in Joint Commission–Accredited Hospitals and Federally Qualified Health Centers (Beth A Longo, Stephen P Schmaltz, Scott C Williams, T D Shanafelt, C A Sinsjy, D W Baker) • The Long-Term Effect of Financial Penalties on 30-Day Hospital Readmission Rates (Jatinder Lachar, Cynthia J. Avila, Rehan Qayyum) • Application of Participatory Ergonomics to the Dissemination of a Quality Improvement Program for Optimizing Blood Culture Use (Anping Xie, Danielle W Koontz, Elizabeth A Colantuoni, Annie Voskertchian, Marlene R Miller, James C Fackler, Aaron M Milstone, Charlotte Z Woods-Hill) • Time to Transfer as a Quality Improvement Imperative: Implications of a Hub-and-Spoke Health System Model on the Timing of Emergency Procedures (Sara P Ginzberg, Jeffrey L Roberson, Ariel Nehemiah, Jacqueline M Soegaard Ballester, Alexander K Warshauer, Heather Wachtel, Margaret S Erdman, Katlin L Dlugosz, Lisa J George, J C Lynn, N D Martin, J S Myers) • Clinical Pathway Adherence and Missed Diagnostic Opportunities Among Children with Musculoskeletal Infections (Joseph A Grubenhoff, Leigh Anne Bakel, Fidelity Dominguez, Jan Leonard, Kaitlin Widmer, Julia S Sanders, Sandra P Spencer, Jill M Stein, Justin B. Searns) • Iatrogenic Injury During Intraoperative Transesophageal Echocardiography: Implications for Medical Equipment Storage (Catherine M Call, James O Onyeukwu, Agnieszka Trzcinka, S McKay, D M Drzymalski) • Using a Quality Improvement Approach to Implement Measurement-Based Care (MBC) in Outpatient General Psychiatry (Katherine Bailey, Lindsay A Lo, Bianca Chauhan, Fatima Formuli, Jared R Peck, Tara A Burra) • Use of Technology to Improve the Adherence to Surgical Safety Checklists in the Operating Room (Akash Bihari Pati, Tushar S Mishra, Preetam Chappity, Mahalingam Venkateshan, Jawahar S K Pillai) |

| URL | https://www.milbank.org/quarterly/issues/september-2023/ |
|-------|---|
| Notes | <p>A new issue of the <i>Milbank Quarterly</i> has been published. Articles in this issue of the <i>Milbank Quarterly</i> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toward a Values-Informed Approach to Complexity in Health Care: Hermeneutic Review (Trisha Greenhalgh, Eivin Engebretsen, Roland Bal, Sofia Kjellström) • The Profound Implications of the Meaning of Health for Health Care and Health Equity (Kevin Fiscella, Ronald M Epstein) • Electoral Democracy and Working-Age Mortality (Jennifer Karas Montez, Kent Jason Cheng, Jacob M Grumbach) • The Role of Primary Care in Advancing Civic Engagement and Health Equity: A Conceptual Framework (Daniel R S Habib, Lauren M Klien, Eliana M Perrin, Andrew J Perrin, Sara B Johnson) • The Water Surrounding the Iceberg: Cultural Racism and Health Inequities (Eli K Michaels, Tracy Lam-Hine, Thu T Nguyen, Gilber C Gee, Amani M Allen) • Politics and the Public Health Workforce: Lessons Suggested from a Five-State Study (Michael S Sparer, Lawrence D Brown) • Measuring Trust in Primary Care (Zachary Merenstein, Jill C Shuemaker, Robert L Phillips) • Evidence on Scaling in Health and Social Care: An Umbrella Review (Robert Da Carvalho Corôa, Amédé Gogovor, Ali Ben Charif, Asma Ben Hassine, Hervé Tchala Vignon Zomahoun, Robert K D McLean, Andrew Milat, Karine V Plourde, Nathalie Rheault, Luke Wolfenden, France Légaré) • Structural Factors and Racial/Ethnic Inequities in Travel Times to Acute Care Hospitals in the Rural US South, 2007–2018 (Arianna Marie Planey, Donald A Planet, Sandy Wong, Sara L McLafferty, Michelle J Ko) • Can US Medical Schools Teach About Structural Racism? (Anthony L Schlaff, Ndidiamaka N Amutah-Onukagha, Dorca Mabilia, Jasmin Kamruddin, Fernando F Ona) |

| URL | https://journals.sagepub.com/toc/cric/28/4 |
|-------|---|
| Notes | <p>A new issue of the <i>Journal of Patient Safety and Risk Management</i> has been published. Articles in this issue of the <i>Journal of Patient Safety and Risk Management</i> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Editorial: Five strategies for how patients and families can improve patient safety: World Patient Safety Day 2023 (Albert W Wu, Irina Papieva, Susan Sheridan, Kiran Gupta, Helen Haskell, Ayda Taha, Elliott R Haut, Maki Kajiwarra, Neelam Dhingra) • Achieving a restorative Just Culture through the patient safety incident response framework (Olivia Lounsbury, Mark Sujun) • Patient activated rapid response – the ‘999’ for patients admitted to hospital (Merveille Ngoya Ntumba, Eirian Edwards, Filip Haegdorens, Peter Walsh, Christian P Subbe) • Gender differences of fatigue in the workplace for surgeons (Jacob Thomas Merriman, James E Humphries, Roberto Ferrero, Iain Hennessey) |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effect of clinical risk management training on patient safety competency and related aspects in nursing students (Mahnaz Padash, Sakineh Miri, Mansoor Azizzadeh Forouzi, Somayeh Jouparinejad, Jamileh Farokhzadian) • Management of bloodborne pathogen exposures in primary care: A quality improvement project (Sarah E Hewitt, Erik P Southard) • Why did it make sense at the time? Applying an ecological dynamics perspective to analyse local rationality (Paul Stretton) |
|--|---|

BMJ Quality & Safety online first articles

| URL | https://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/early/recent |
|-------|---|
| Notes | <p><i>BMJ Quality & Safety</i> has published a number of ‘online first’ articles, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handling missing values in the analysis of between-hospital differences in ordinal and dichotomous outcomes: a simulation study (Reinier C A van Linschoten, Marzyeh Amini, Nikki van Leeuwen, Frank Eijkenaar, Sanne J den Hartog, Paul J Nederkoorn, Jeannette Hofmeijer, Bart J Emmer, Alida A Postma, Wim van Zwam, Bob Roozenbeek, Diederik Dippel, Hester F Lingsma MR CLEAN Registry Investigators) • CheckPOINT: a simple tool to measure Surgical Safety Checklist implementation fidelity (Rachel Moyal-Smith, James C Etheridge, Nathan Turley, Shu Rong Lim, Yves Sonnay, Sarah Payne, Henriette Smid-Nanninga, Rishabh Kothari, William Berry, Joaquim Havens, Mary E Brindle) • What can Safety Cases offer for patient safety? A multisite case study (Elisa Giulia Liberati, Graham P Martin, Guillaume Lamé, Justin Waring, Carolyn Tarrant, Janet Willars, Mary Dixon-Woods) • Editorial: Making lemonade out of lemons: an approach to combining variable race and ethnicity data from hospitals for quality and safety efforts (Kayla L Karvonen, Naomi S Bardach) • Editorial: Medical safety huddles to engage frontline physicians in patient safety: calling physicians back to the table (Camilla B Pimentel, Marc Philip T Pimentel, Christine W Hartmann) • Editorial: Towards comprehensive fidelity evaluations: consideration of enactment measures in quality improvement interventions (Holly Walton) |

International Journal for Quality in Health Care online first articles

| URL | https://academic.oup.com/intqhc/advance-articles |
|-------|--|
| Notes | <p><i>International Journal for Quality in Health Care</i> has published a number of ‘online first’ articles, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes of completed quality activities in an Australian tertiary hospital 2015-2019 (Qun Catherine Li, Jonathan Karnon, Jim Codde) • Can guidelines rein in oxygen use? A retrospective cross-sectional study using routinely collected data (Usman Talat et al) |

Online resources

Connection. Strength. Resilience. | Voice Referendum: Social and Emotional Wellbeing Resources

<https://healthinfonet.ecu.edu.au/learn/special-topics/voice-referendum-social-emotional-wellbeing-resources>

The National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) and the Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet have launched this portal that brings together a collection of resources aimed at supporting and reducing social and emotional harms to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the period prior and post the Voice referendum.

[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 include:

- Quality Standard QS10 ***Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in adults***
<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs10>

[USA] Effective Health Care Program reports

<https://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/>

The US Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has an Effective Health Care (EHC) Program. The EHC has released the following final reports and updates:

- *Potential Harms Resulting From Patient- Clinician Real-Time Clinical Encounters Using **Video-Based Telehealth**: A Rapid Evidence Review*
<https://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/products/patient-safety-telehealth/research>

COVID-19 resources


<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/covid-19>

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care has developed a number of resources to assist healthcare organisations, facilities and clinicians. These and other material on COVID-19 are available at <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/covid-19>

These resources include:

- ***COVID-19 infection prevention and control risk management*** This primer provides an overview of three widely used tools for investigating and responding to patient safety events and near misses. Tools covered in this primer include incident reporting systems, Root Cause Analysis (RCA), and Failure Modes and Effects Analysis (FMEA).
<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/covid-19-infection-prevention-and-control-risk-management-guidance>

- *Poster – Combined contact and droplet precautions*
<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/infection-prevention-and-control-poster-combined-contact-and-droplet-precautions>





















VISITOR RESTRICTIONS MAY BE IN PLACE

For all staff

Combined contact & droplet precautions*

in addition to standard precautions

| Before entering room/care zone | At doorway prior to leaving room/care zone |
|---|--|
| <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">1</div>  </div> <p>Perform hand hygiene</p> | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">1</div>  </div> <p>Remove and dispose of gloves if worn</p> |
| <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">2</div>  </div> <p>Put on gown</p> | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">2</div>  </div> <p>Perform hand hygiene</p> |
| <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">3</div>  </div> <p>Put on surgical mask</p> | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">3</div>  </div> <p>Remove and dispose of gown</p> |
| <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">4</div>  </div> <p>Put on protective eyewear</p> | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">4</div>  </div> <p>Perform hand hygiene</p> |
| <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">5</div>  </div> <p>Wear gloves, in accordance with standard precautions</p> | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">5</div>  </div> <p>Remove protective eyewear</p> |
| <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">6</div>  </div> <p>Perform hand hygiene</p> | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">6</div>  </div> <p>Perform hand hygiene</p> |
| <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">7</div>  </div> <p>Remove and dispose of mask</p> | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">7</div>  </div> <p>Remove and dispose of mask</p> |
| <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">8</div>  </div> <p>Leave the room/care zone</p> | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">8</div>  </div> <p>Leave the room/care zone</p> |
| <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">9</div>  </div> <p>Perform hand hygiene</p> | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: #ff0000; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 5px;">9</div>  </div> <p>Perform hand hygiene</p> |


What else can you do to stop the spread of infections?

- Always change gloves and perform hand hygiene between different care activities and when gloves become soiled to prevent cross contamination of body sites
- Consider patient placement
- Minimise patient movement

*e.g. Acute respiratory tract infection with unknown aetiology, seasonal influenza and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)

For more detail, refer to the Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare and your state and territory guidance.

- *Poster – Combined airborne and contact precautions*
<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/poster-combined-airborne-and-contact-precautions>


















VISITOR RESTRICTIONS IN PLACE

For all staff

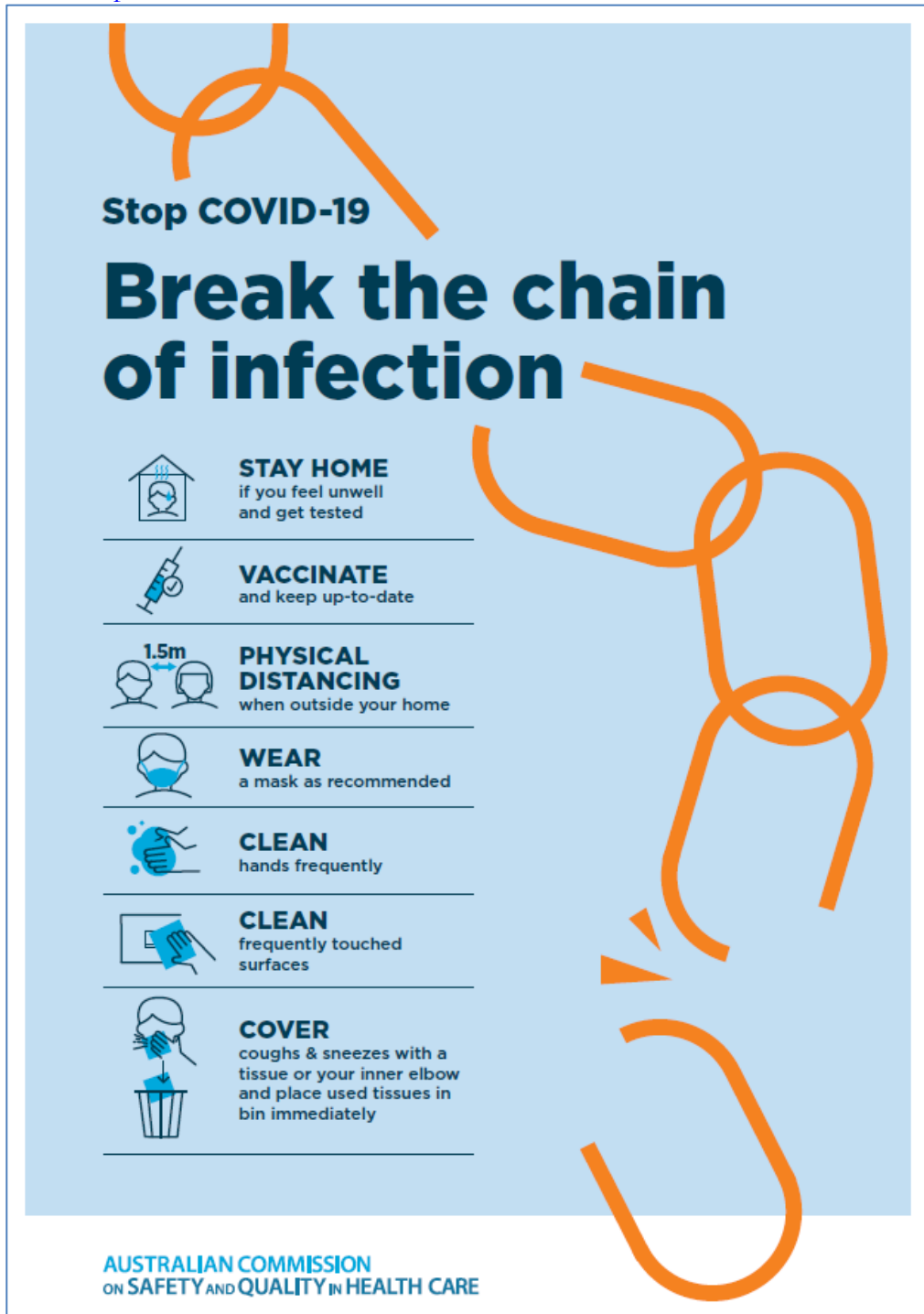
Combined airborne & contact precautions

in addition to standard precautions

| Before entering room/care zone | At doorway prior to leaving room/care zone |
|--|---|
| <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 10px;">1</div>  <div>Perform hand hygiene</div> </div> | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 10px;">1</div>  <div>Remove and dispose of gloves</div> </div> |
| <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 10px;">2</div>  <div>Put on gown</div> </div> | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 10px;">2</div>  <div>Perform hand hygiene</div> </div> |
| <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 10px;">3</div>  <div>Put on a particulate respirator (e.g. P2/N95) and perform fit check</div> </div> | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 10px;">3</div>  <div>Remove and dispose of gown</div> </div> |
| <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 10px;">4</div>  <div>Put on protective eyewear</div> </div> | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 10px;">4</div>  <div>Leave the room/care zone</div> </div> |
| <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 10px;">5</div>  <div>Perform hand hygiene</div> </div> | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 10px;">5</div>  <div>Perform hand hygiene (in an anteroom/outside the room/care zone)</div> </div> |
| <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 10px;">6</div>  <div>Put on gloves</div> </div> | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 10px;">6</div>  <div>Remove protective eyewear (in an anteroom/outside the room/care zone)</div> </div> |
| | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 10px;">7</div>  <div>Perform hand hygiene (in an anteroom/outside the room/care zone)</div> </div> |
| | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 10px;">8</div>  <div>Remove and dispose of particulate respirator (in an anteroom/outside the room/care zone)</div> </div> |
| | <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: red; color: white; border-radius: 50%; width: 30px; height: 30px; display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center; margin-right: 10px;">9</div>  <div>Perform hand hygiene</div> </div> |

KEEP DOOR CLOSED AT ALL TIMES

- *Environmental Cleaning and Infection Prevention and Control*
www.safetyandquality.gov.au/environmental-cleaning
- *COVID-19 infection prevention and control risk management – Guidance*
<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/covid-19-infection-prevention-and-control-risk-management-guidance>
- *Safe care for people with cognitive impairment during COVID-19*
<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/cognitive-impairment/cognitive-impairment-and-covid-19>
- *Stop COVID-19: Break the chain of infection* poster
<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/break-chain-infection-poster-a3>



- *COVID-19 and face masks – Information for consumers*
<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/covid-19-and-face-masks-information-consumers>

AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION
ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE

INFORMATION
for consumers

COVID-19 and face masks

Should I use a face mask?

Wearing face masks may protect you from droplets (small drops) when a person with COVID-19 coughs, speaks or sneezes, and you are less than 1.5 metres away from them. Wearing a mask will also help protect others if you are infected with the virus, but do not have symptoms of infection.

Wearing a face mask in Australia is recommended by health experts in areas where community transmission of COVID-19 is high, whenever physical distancing is not possible. Deciding whether to wear a face mask is your personal choice. Some people may feel more comfortable wearing a face mask in the community.


When thinking about whether wearing a face mask is right for you, consider the following:

- Face masks may protect you when it is not possible to maintain the 1.5 metre physical distance from other people e.g. on a crowded bus or train
- Are you older or do you have other medical conditions like heart disease, diabetes or respiratory illness? People in these groups may get more severe illness if they are infected with COVID-19
- Wearing a face mask will reduce the spread of droplets from your coughs and sneezes to others (however, if you have any cold or flu-like symptoms you should stay home)
- A face mask will not provide you with complete protection from COVID-19. You should also do all of the other things listed below to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

What can you do to prevent the spread of COVID-19?

Stopping the spread of COVID-19 is everyone's responsibility. The most important things that you can do to protect yourself and others are to:

- Stay at home when you are unwell, with even mild respiratory symptoms
- Regularly wash your hands with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand rub
- Do not touch your face
- Do not touch surfaces that may be contaminated with the virus
- Stay at least 1.5 metres away from other people (physical distancing)
- Cover your mouth when you cough by coughing into your elbow, or into a tissue. Throw the tissue away immediately.



National Clinical Evidence Taskforce

<https://clinicalevidence.net.au/>

The National Clinical Evidence Taskforce is a multi-disciplinary collaboration of 35 member organisations – Australia’s medical colleges and peak health organisations – who share a commitment to provide national evidence-based treatment guidelines for urgent and emerging diseases.

This alliance established the world’s first ‘living guidelines’ for the care of people with COVID-19 and MPX.

Funding has now been discontinued for the National Clinical Evidence Taskforce and the COVID-19 guidelines as of 30 June 2023.

These guidelines are no longer continually updated but will remain online until the guidance becomes inaccurate and/or no longer reflects the evidence or recommended practice.

COVID-19 Critical Intelligence Unit

<https://www.aci.health.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/critical-intelligence-unit>

The Agency for Clinical Innovation (ACI) in New South Wales has developed this page summarising rapid, evidence-based advice during the COVID-19 pandemic. Its operations focus on systems intelligence, clinical intelligence and evidence integration. The content includes a daily evidence digest, a COVID status monitor, a risk monitoring dashboard and evidence checks on a discrete topic or question relating to the current COVID-19 pandemic. There is also a ‘Living evidence’ section summarising key studies and emerging evidence on **COVID-19 vaccines** and **SARS-CoV-2 variants**. The most recent updates include:

- ***SARS-CoV-2 variants - retired living evidence*** – What is the evidence on SARS-CoV-2 variants that are under monitoring by the World Health Organization?
- ***COVID-19 vaccines - retired living evidence*** – What is the evidence on COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness and safety?
- ***Current and emerging patient safety issues during COVID-19*** – What is the evidence on the current and emerging patient safety issues arising from the COVID-19 pandemic?
- ***Bivalent COVID-19 vaccines*** – What is the available regulatory and research evidence for bivalent COVID-19 vaccines?
- ***Surgery post COVID-19*** – What is the evidence for the timing of surgery, and outcomes following surgery, for people who have recovered from COVID-19?
- ***Paxlovid*** – What is the evidence for Paxlovid for treatment of COVID-19?
- ***Molnupiravir*** – What is the evidence for and regulatory context of molnupiravir for treatment of COVID-19?
- ***Eating disorders and COVID-19*** – What is the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the prevalence of eating disorders?
- ***Long COVID*** – What is the evidence on the prevalence, presentation and management of long-COVID?
- ***Oseltamivir (Tamiflu) use in healthcare settings*** – What is the evidence that use of oseltamivir in healthcare workers with a symptomatic influenza diagnosis result in an earlier return to work and reduced absenteeism? What is the evidence that use of oseltamivir in adults and children with symptomatic influenza reduces influenza transmission in health care settings?
- ***Alternative models of care for acute medical conditions*** – What is the evidence on alternative models of care for managing patients with acute medical conditions outside of emergency or inpatient hospital settings?
- ***Exercise and long COVID*** – Is exercise helpful in individuals with long COVID? Is post-exertional symptom exacerbation a risk in long COVID?
- ***Influenza and seasonal prophylaxis with oseltamivir*** – What is the place or evidence for seasonal influenza prophylaxis (such as taking oseltamivir for 10 to 12 weeks continuously) in healthcare and aged care settings?

- ***Rapid access models of care for respiratory illnesses*** – What is the evidence for rapid access models of care for respiratory illnesses, especially during winter seasons, in emergency departments?
- ***Post-acute sequelae of COVID-19*** – What is the evidence on the post-acute sequelae of COVID-19?
- ***Emerging variants*** – What is the available evidence for emerging variants?
- ***Chest pain or dyspnoea following COVID-19 vaccination*** – What is evidence for chest pain or dyspnoea following COVID-19 vaccination?
- ***Cardiac investigations and elective surgery post-COVID-19*** – What is evidence for cardiac investigations and elective surgery post-COVID-19?
- ***Breathlessness post COVID-19*** – How to determine those patients who present with ongoing breathlessness in need of urgent review or intervention due to suspected pulmonary embolus?
- ***COVID-19 pandemic and influenza*** – What is the evidence for COVID-19 pandemic and influenza?
- ***Budesonide and aspirin for pregnant women with COVID-19*** – What is the evidence for the use of Budesonide for pregnant women with COVID-19? What is the evidence for aspirin prophylaxis for pre-eclampsia in pregnant women with a COVID-19 infection?
- ***COVID-19 vaccines in Australia*** – What is the evidence on COVID-19 vaccines in Australia?
- ***COVID-19 pandemic and wellbeing of critical care and other healthcare workers*** – Evidence in brief on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the wellbeing of critical care and other healthcare workers.
- ***Disease modifying treatments for COVID-19 in children*** – What is the evidence for disease modifying treatments for COVID-19 in children?
- ***Mask type for COVID-19 positive wearer*** – What is the evidence for different mask types for COVID-19 positive wearers?
- ***Post acute and subacute COVID-19 care*** – What published advice and models of care are available regarding post-acute and subacute care for COVID-19 patients?
- ***Hospital visitor policies*** – What is the evidence for hospital visitor policies during and outside of the COVID-19 pandemic?
- ***Surgical masks, eye protection and PPE guidance*** – What is the evidence for surgical masks in the endemic phase in hospitals and for eyewear to protect against COVID-19?

Disclaimer

On the Radar is an information resource of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care. The Commission is not responsible for the content of, nor does it endorse, any articles or sites listed. The Commission accepts no liability for the information or advice provided by these external links. Links are provided on the basis that users make their own decisions about the accuracy, currency and reliability of the information contained therein. Any opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care.