



Australasian College
for Emergency Medicine



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Support for the Emergency Triage Education Kit in triage nurse training

The College of Emergency Nursing Australia, the Australian College of Emergency Nursing, and the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine are pleased to support the release of the second edition of the Emergency Triage Education Kit (ETEK).

The ETEK has been extensively revised and updated by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, with input from over 1,000 emergency clinicians in the needs analysis and over 100 experts providing reviews of content. These reviewers included practicing emergency clinicians to ensure the ETEK's currency; topic experts and academics to reference best practice and the evidence base; and consumers to incorporate their needs and experiences at triage.

In response to the feedback received from extensive consultation, the ETEK includes new and revised content on many topics, including decision-making, the effect of bias at triage, communication with patients and support people, care for older people, responding to psychological distress and recognising early signs of sepsis in adults and – in particular – children. Many new case studies have also been added to facilitate educator-led discussions about decision-making in high-risk and high-volume presentations.

The ETEK covers knowledge and skills for triage nurses that are key to improving consumers' health outcomes and experiences in emergency departments. It should be used as the foundational element of education for nurses preparing for the triage role, together with supported clinical practice.

We recommend the development of a national approach to support the use of ETEK in a standardised curriculum to ensure a high standard of training and transferability of skills between emergency departments.

A/Prof Wayne Varndell
National President
College of Emergency
Nursing Australasia

Mrs Liz Cloughessy AM
Executive Director
Australian College of
Emergency Nursing

Dr Stephen Gourley
President
Australasian College for
Emergency Medicine