

Introduction to the National Safety and Quality Medical Imaging Standards

About medical imaging

Medical imaging involves different technologies that take images of the body's internal structures and functions to help diagnose and treat patients. Technologies include computed tomography (CT), fluoroscopy, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), mammography, radiography (x-ray), positron emission tomography (PET) and ultrasound.

About the NSQMI Standards

The National Safety and Quality Medical Imaging (NSQMI) Standards aim to protect the public from harm and improve the safety and quality of medical imaging. They describe the minimum standard of care patients should expect when receiving medical imaging.

There are four NSQMI Standards, each with a consumer outcome.

1. Clinical Governance

Patients are confident the imaging practice is organised, efficient and effective and that they will receive safe, appropriate, high-quality health care.

2. Partnering with Consumers

Patients are partners in their health care, and imaging providers deliver person-centred care and value patient and consumer opinions when delivering imaging services.

3. Clinical Safety

Patients receive safe, high-quality care from their imaging providers.

4. Technical Safety

The patient's imaging service is performed using safe and well-maintained imaging equipment that provides diagnostic quality images.

Assessing against the NSQMI Standards

Accreditation demonstrates an imaging practice provides safe, high-quality services, minimises risks, while improving processes and efficiency. Patients can be confident that accredited imaging practices are committed to delivering and improving safety and quality.

Development of the NSQMI Standards

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (the Commission) developed the NSQMI Standards in collaboration with the Australian, state and territory governments, consumers, private and public imaging practices, professional and industry bodies and clinical experts.

For more information

For more information about your healthcare rights go to the [Australian Charter of Healthcare rights](#).

For more information about the NSQMI standards contact the Commission's [Advice Centre](#).

