



On the Radar

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On the Radar

Editor: Dr Niall Johnson

Contributors: Niall Johnson, Jan Gralton

Cleaning and disinfection of ultrasound transducers

Sydney: ACSQHC; 2025

<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/cleaning-and-disinfection-ultrasound-transducers>

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care has produced this fact sheet that outlines the essential steps required to clean and disinfect ultrasound transducers used for percutaneous procedures. This fact sheet does not provide guidance on the management of specific clinical procedures as this guidance should be developed locally and informed by a risk assessment.

Reports

Patient Safety in the Digital NHS: User-centric approaches to technology and transformation

Semmeling S

London: Public Policy Projects; 2025. p. 40.

URL	https://live.publicpolicyprojects.com/PatientSafetyProgramme#/psreports?lang=en
Notes	<p>The report published by the UK thinktank Public Policy Projects, in collaboration with Patient Safety Learning, draws on a series roundtable discussions to discuss patient safety through the lens of technology, digital innovation and data-driven transformation. Participants included health sector and patient safety leaders, industry representatives, as well as patients and clinicians. The report (and its insights and recommendations) is arranged by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System leadership and user needs • Patient safety information • Digitally enabled citizens. <p>This thematic arrangement emphasises the importance of a user-centred approach to innovation, the primacy of patient safety and the potential to empower patients.</p>

Journal articles

BMJ Quality & Safety

Volume 34, Issue 4, April 2025

URL	https://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/34/4
Notes	<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: Choosing ‘Less’ Wisely as a marker of decisional conflict (Karen Okrainec, Melissa Roy) • Editorial: Low-quality evidence on practices to prevent transmission of resistant organisms calls for rigorous trials and a paradigm shift (Barbara Trautner, Marin L Schweizer) • Equity in Choosing Wisely and beyond: the effect of health literacy on healthcare decision-making and methods to support conversations about overuse (Danielle M uscat, Erin Cvejic, Jenna Smith, Rachel Thompson, Edward Chang, Marguerite Tracy, Joshua Zadro, Robyn Linder, K McCaffery) • Global, regional and national time trends in incidence of adverse effects of medical treatment, 1990–2019: an age–period–cohort analysis from the Global Burden of Disease 2019 study (Liangquan Lin) • Factors associated with proximal femoral fractures in older adults during hospital stay: a cross-sectional study (Mutsuko Moriwaki, Asuka Takae, Mikayo Toba, Miki Sasaki, Yasuko Ogata, Satoshi Obayashi, Masayuki Kakehashi, Kiyohide Fushimi) • Prevention in adults of transmission of infection with multidrug-resistant organisms: an updated systematic review from Making Healthcare Safer IV (Sean McCarthy, Aneesa Motala, Paul G Shekelle)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rapid response systems, antibiotic stewardship and medication reconciliation: a scoping review on implementation factors, activities and outcomes (Jonas Torp Ohlsen, Eirik Søfteland, Per Espen Akselsen, Jörg Assmus, Stig Harthug, Regina Küfner Lein, Nick Sevdalis, Hilde Valen Wähle, John Øvretveit, Miriam Hartveit) • The problem with uptake as a quality metric for population-based screening programmes (Natalie Armstrong, Sian Taylor-Phillips) • The problem with the existing reporting standards for adverse event and medical error research (Christopher R Carpenter, Richard T Griffey, Anne W S Rutjes, Maria Unbeck, Lee M Adler, David C Stockwell, David Classen)
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Journal for Healthcare Quality

Volume 47, Number 1, January/March 2025

URL	https://journals.lww.com/jhqonline/toc/2025/03000
Notes	<p>A new issue of <i>The Journal for Healthcare Quality (JHQ)</i> has been published. Articles in this issue of <i>The Journal for Healthcare Quality</i> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State-Level Hospital Quality in the United States: Analyzing Variation and Trends From 2013 to 2021 (Arjun Teotia, Brent D Fulton, Dan R Arnold, Richard M. Scheffler) • A Composite Score Reflecting an Initiative to Reduce Harm, Protect Patients, and Promote Safety (Katelind Smith, Julia McAvoy, J D Six, L Goss) • Personalizing Quality Improvement: Addressing Anticoagulation Gaps in Atrial Fibrillation (Gary D Owen, Christopher J Terry, Erin B Neal, Scott D Nelson, Mohamed Omar, Mariah J Pettapiece-Phillips, Sunil Kripalani) • Preoperative Optimization of Patients Undergoing Orthopedic Foot and Ankle Surgery: A Single Institution Cohort (Julia Kessel, Rebecca J Cleveland, Trapper Lalli, Joshua Tennant, Jennifer Woody) • Pharmacist-Led Population Health Initiative to Address Statin Care Gaps: A Quality Improvement Project (Danielle Raymer, Anna Everhart, D Baker) • Reducing Emergency Department Hold Hours: A Hospital-wide Effort (Jill McCormick, Faith Kinsinger, Ritika J Patel, Grant Wicklund, Deb Roybal) • Electronic Clinical Quality Measures for Prosthetic Joint Infection Diagnosis: Pitfalls and Potential (Andy O Miller, Amy S Chin, Alberto V Carli, George Sayegh, Diana Chee, Daniel B Buchalter, S Simon, C H Maclean) • Continuous Quality Improvement in Social Needs Screening: Evaluation of an Intervention in Bariatric Specialty Care (Claire Chang, Samantha Cooley, Bradley Iott, Jordan Greene, Dilhara Muthukuda, Renuka Tipirneni)

HealthcarePapers

Volume 22, Number 3, March 2025

URL	https://www.longwoods.com/publications/healthcarepapers/27525/1/
Notes	<p>A new issue of <i>HealthcarePapers</i> has been published with a theme of 'Reimagining the Canada Health Act at 40'. Articles in this issue of <i>HealthcarePapers</i> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the Canada Health Act Untouchable? (Sara Allin and Audrey Laporte) • Medicare Makeover: Reimagining the Canada Health Act at 40 (Colleen M Flood and Bryan Thomas) • The Time is Ripe for Canada Health Act 2.0 (Bill Tholl and G Marchildon) • The Canada Health Act Viewed Through an Equity Lens (Amélie Quesnel-Vallée and Emmanuelle Arpin) • Portability and the Canada Health Act (Antonia Maioni)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Canada Health Act and Medicare Services for Indigenous Peoples (Constance MacIntosh) • Reimagining Primary Care: A Pan-Canadian Perspective on the Canada Health Act (Sydney Dianne Pearce, Danyaal Raza, Pierre-Gerlier Forest and Danielle Martin) • The Canada Health Act and Mental Health and Addiction Services (Erika Dyck) • Dealing With Oral Healthcare Within Broader Healthcare Policy: The Need for Conceptual Before Operational Steps (Carlos Quiñonez) • Medicare Makeover and More (Jane Philpott and Duncan Sinclair) • Medicare Makeover: A Response to Peer Commentaries (Colleen M Flood and Bryan Thomas) • Book Review: There is No Medicare Without Tommy Douglas (Arjumand Siddiqi)
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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"> • Editorial: Just how many diagnostic errors and harms are out there, really? It depends on how you count (David E Newman-Toker) • Editorial: Learning from an allied health perspective on quality and safety (Nicole Müller, Refaie Amr El, Margaret McGrath, Joseph McVeigh)


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"> • Evaluation of temporomandibular disorder self-management apps in Australia: A systematic review to inform clinical use (Anita Lim et al) • Dying in hospital – A retrospective medical record analysis on care in the dying phase in intensive care units and general wards (Sophie Meesters et al) • Systematic recording and discussion of intraoperative adverse events using ClassIntra: Results of a qualitative context analysis before implementation (Monika Finsterwald, Zuzanna Kita, Salome Dell-Kuster, Katrin Burri-Winkler, Anne Auderset, Judith Winkens, Christoph S Burkhart, Amanda van Vegten, Lauren Clack)

Infection prevention and control and COVID-19 resources






The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care has developed a number of resources to assist healthcare organisations, facilities and clinicians. These resources include:

- **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

- Perform hand hygiene
- Put on gown
- Put on surgical mask
- Put on protective eyewear
- Wear gloves, in accordance with standard precautions

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

At doorway prior to leaving room/care zone

- Remove and dispose of gloves if worn
- Perform hand hygiene
- Remove and dispose of gown
- Perform hand hygiene
- Remove protective eyewear
- Perform hand hygiene
- Remove and dispose of mask
- Leave the room/care zone
- Perform hand hygiene


*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.

AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION
ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE

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


VISITOR RESTRICTIONS MAY BE IN PLACE


For all staff
Combined airborne & contact precautions
 In addition to standard precautions

Before entering room/care zone


- 1




Perform hand hygiene
- 2




Put on gown
- 3



Put on a particulate respirator (e.g. P2/N95) and perform fit check
- 4




Put on protective eyewear
- 5




Wear gloves in accordance with standard precautions

At doorway prior to leaving room/care zone


- 1




Remove and dispose of gloves if worn
- 2




Perform hand hygiene
- 3




Remove and dispose of gown
- 4




Leave the room/care zone
- 5




Perform hand hygiene (in an anteroom/outside the room/care zone)
- 6




Remove protective eyewear (in an anteroom/outside the room/care zone)
- 7



Perform hand hygiene (in an anteroom/outside the room/care zone)
- 8



Remove and dispose of particulate respirator (in an anteroom/outside the room/care zone)
- 9



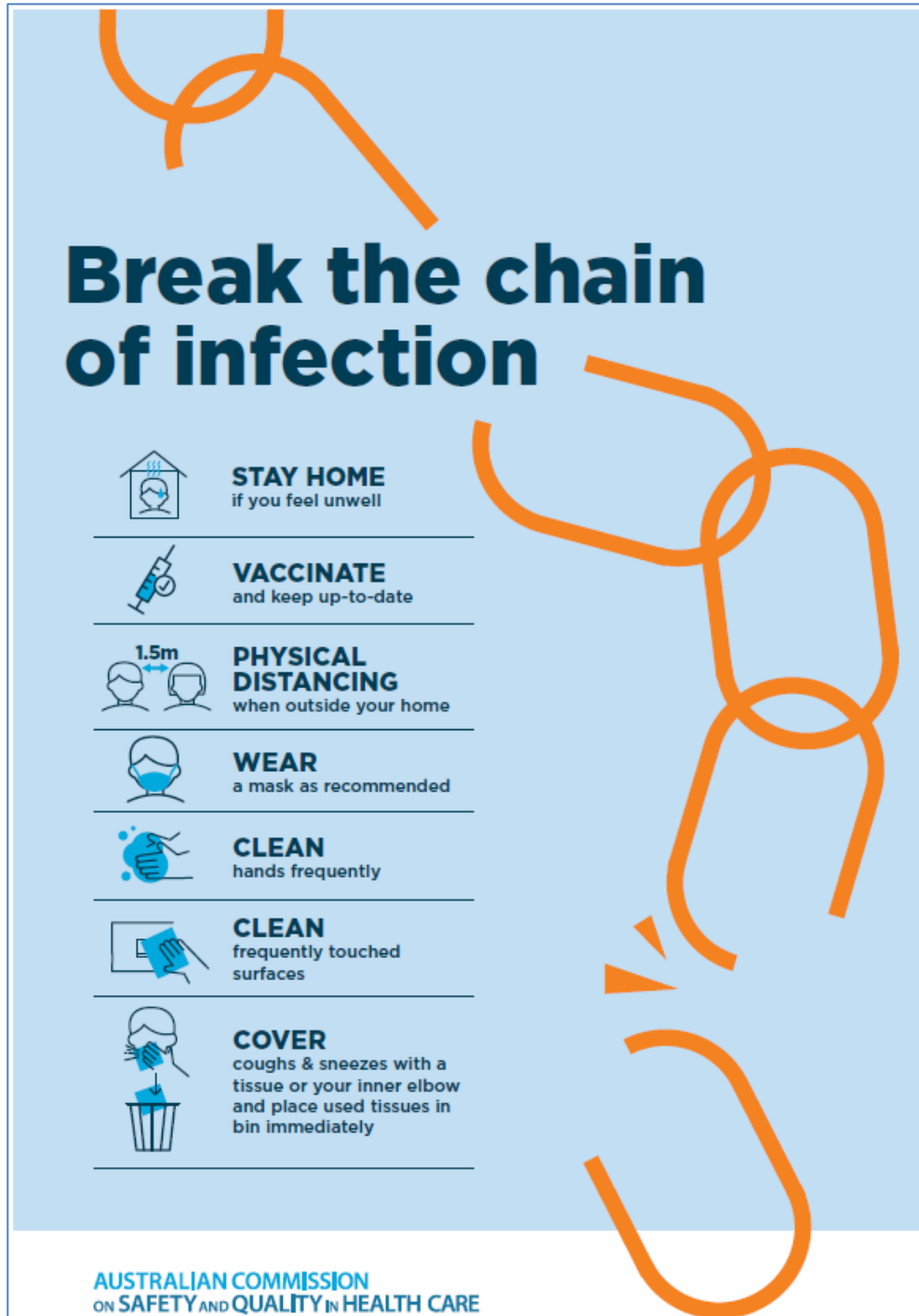
Perform hand hygiene

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

KEEP DOOR CLOSED AT ALL TIMES

- *Environmental Cleaning and Infection Prevention and Control*
www.safetyandquality.gov.au/environmental-cleaning
- *Break the chain of infection* poster
<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/break-chain-infection-poster>



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