

Forum information sheet

First consultation on NSQHS Standards (third edition)

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care is the national agency responsible for leading safety and quality improvement in health care. One of the Commission's key functions is to develop national standards in collaboration with the healthcare system and community representatives.

Background on the NSQHS Standards

It has been eight years since the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards (second edition) were released, and development of the third edition is now underway. The next edition of the standards are due to be released in 2028.

The Commission will design standards to respond to the health system's needs.

This initial consultation in 2025 aims to identify:

- focus areas for the NSQHS Standards (3rd ed.)
- emerging and existing safety and quality issues
- key learnings from the NSQHS Standards (second edition)
- opportunities to improve the NSQHS Standards structure, support improved engagement and implementation.

We want to hear from you

In the upcoming forum, we are seeking your views on these questions:

1. What existing and emerging safety and quality risks should the Commission be considering for the third edition?
2. How can the third edition have a greater impact on driving high performance?
3. How can the third edition support integration of services, within and across services?
4. How can the third edition support a continuous learning approach and minimise a compliance mindset?
5. What needs to change in the current format and structure of the standards for the third edition to be easier to understand and act on?
6. Are there areas of duplication or redundancies that could be removed from the standards?

I can't make the forum

If you want to let us know what you think and can't get to the forum, visit the [Commission's NSQHS Standards \(third edition\) Engagement Hub](#) to provide feedback.

For more information

Please visit: safetyandquality.gov.au/nsqhss-thirdedition

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