

From: ["Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care" <comms@mail.safetyandquality.gov.au>](mailto:comms@mail.safetyandquality.gov.au)

To: ["ACSQHC Media" <Media@safetyandquality.gov.au>](mailto:Media@safetyandquality.gov.au)

Date: 5/1/2024 5:42:40 PM

Subject: Autumn 2024 eNews

REMINDER: Think before you click! This email originated from outside our organisation. Only click links or open attachments if you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

No images? [Click here](#)

AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION
ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE



Autumn 2024 eNews

2 May 2024

In this issue:

[*Introducing Professor Christine Kilpatrick AO*](#)

[*Access the revised Emergency Triage Education Kit*](#)

[*Action on inappropriate use of psychotropic medicines*](#)

[*Be a champion on World Hand Hygiene Day*](#)

[*Have your say on our newsletter*](#)

[*Input on Aged Care IPC Guide*](#)

[*New Chief Nursing Officer*](#)

[*Quick Bites*](#)

[*2 Minutes with Dr Phoebe Holdenson Kimura, Medical Advisor and GP*](#)



Introducing Professor Christine Kilpatrick AO

The Commission welcomes our new Board Chair Professor Christine Kilpatrick AO, appointed by Minister for Health and Aged Care, the Hon Mark Butler MP, for a five-year term.

Professor Kilpatrick has a distinguished career in healthcare management, most recently as CEO of The Royal Melbourne Hospital, and significant clinical experience as a neurologist. Her strong leadership will help the Commission to continue to drive innovation and reform to improve the safety and quality of health care.

We also welcome three new Board Members - Professor Jeffrey Braithwaite, Dr Alicia Veasey and Ms Leanne Wells - and the reappointment of Dr Helena Williams. [Read our media release.](#)



Access the revised Emergency Triage Education Kit

Learning how to rapidly identify subtle signs of serious illness and glean the essential facts from a patient's history is now easier for emergency department nurses training for the triage role.

The Commission has released the second edition of the [Emergency Triage Education Kit](#) (ETEK), now in interactive format.

Triage nurses determine each patient's need for time-critical care and the order in which patients see the treating clinician. Designed for both independent learning and educator-led sessions, the ETEK includes learning resources that support nationally consistent training for

this role.

Action on inappropriate use of psychotropic medicines

On 9 May, the Commission will launch the first national Psychotropic Medicines in Cognitive Disability or Impairment Clinical Care Standard.

Psychotropic medicines are often prescribed to people with cognitive disability or impairment. While they have an important role in supporting mental health conditions, their use to manage behaviours of concern is associated with known risks and is not supported by evidence. The Standard has been developed by experts in aged care and disability health.

[Register for our webcast](#) to hear experts discuss informed consent, adequate assessment, best use of non-medication strategies and how to optimise safety when psychotropic medicines are considered necessary. Learn more at safetyandquality.gov.au/psychotropics-ccs



Be a champion on World Hand Hygiene Day

On 5 May we celebrate World Hand Hygiene Day 2024, to raise awareness of how hand hygiene can help us to save lives by reducing transmission of microorganisms and reducing healthcare-associated infections.

Knowing when and how to perform hand hygiene is vital for everyone working in health care, including nurses, doctors, allied health, aged care workers and support staff.

Be a champion of hand hygiene in your workplace to reduce infections and improve patient outcomes. Our practical resources - including a presentation, quiz, fact sheets and videos - make it easy for you to help spread the word. Visit safetyandquality.gov.au/WHHD

Have your say on our newsletter

We are planning a review of the Commission's quarterly newsletter to ensure it better meets the needs and interests of our readers, including you.

We're keen to hear your thoughts on how we can improve the content and format, and ensure it is relevant. You may wish to take a look at [previous editions of our newsletter](#).

[Complete this 3-minute survey](#) to tell us what you'd like to read about and how we can improve your newsletter experience.

[Take the survey](#)



Input on Aged Care IPC Guide

Have your say on the draft Aged Care Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Guide, developed by the Commission to support implementation of the strengthened Aged Care Quality Standards. The Aged Care IPC Guide aims to support the prevention and control of infections in all settings where aged care is provided. It will support aged care providers, aged care IPC leads and other staff or carers to implement effective IPC systems and practices to reduce the risk of infection. The draft Aged Care IPC Guide is [open for public consultation](#) until 15 May.

New Chief Nursing Officer

The Commission welcomes Adjunct Professor Anna Thornton to the new role of [Chief Nursing Officer](#), providing expert clinical advice and a voice for nursing experience and professional practice. Professor Thornton was most recently Executive Director of Nursing at St Vincent's Hospital Network and has held Director of Nursing positions at Liverpool, Canberra and Prince of Wales hospitals. She has experience in acute care nursing, patient safety and quality, workforce planning, and nursing-led research, and has chaired several key nursing and acute care committees.

Quick Bites

New set of principles on transitions of care

The Commission has developed a set of principles to guide safe and high-quality transitions of care - when all or part of a person's health care is transferred between care providers. The consistent application of these principles within practice, standards, policy and guidance is a requirement for safe transitions of care. This may involve transfer of responsibility for some or all aspects of a person's health care. . [Find out more](#) about the principles of transitions of care and see our new resources, including a fact sheet and poster.

Revised National Mixed-Case Lettering List

We have revised our Mixed-Case Lettering List - also referred to as 'Tall Man Lettering' - which is used to differentiate look-alike, sound-alike (LASA) medicine names. The Commission's List provides a national standard for those LASA medicine name pairs and groups with the highest risk of confusion. It is one risk-reduction strategy included in our [Principles for safe selection and storage of medicines](#) . [Find out more](#) and see our accompanying resources.

MedicineInsight data reveals rising rates of CKD

[Newly published research](#) , based on a 2020 data access application, highlights the increasing trend in the prevalence of chronic kidney disease (CKD) in primary care settings. CKD will be one of the early topics shared with all participating practices and general practitioners through the MedicineInsight program. [MedicineInsight](#) is Australia's largest longitudinal national primary care data collection of general practice prescribing and care information. If you're interested in joining the program, please contact medicineinsight@safetyandquality.gov.au .

Careers at the Commission

2 Minutes with Dr Phoebe Holdenson Kimura, Medical Advisor and GP



What is your role, in 25 words or less?

As one of the medical advisors, I provide a clinical and primary care perspective and input into the Commission's work.

What are your other roles outside the Commission?

I work as a general practitioner in Hornsby and Brooklyn in Sydney, and also teach medical students at the University of Sydney.

What was your first job?

My first full time job was as a lobby attendant at a hotel in Japan, which taught me what it looks like to put the customer first!

What is it like working at the Commission?

It's very stimulating and fulfilling. I have learnt a lot from my colleagues here - everyone at the Commission is passionate about supporting systems and clinicians to deliver safe and quality healthcare. I love that working at the Commission uses a different part of my brain to think about the healthcare system as a whole and consider strategies to improve how it functions.

What are the top three things on your to-do list?

- 1. Do some multiday hiking in Tasmania.*
- 2. Keep turning up to Parkrun on Saturday mornings.*
- 3. Take time out to enjoy and be grateful for beauty in the small things.*

What are you looking forward to in the coming year?

I'm looking forward to seeing the launches of some of the projects that I've contributed to. I'm also excited about travelling to Japan with my young family, which will be the first time my two boys will see the snow!

[X \(Twitter\)](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Website](#) | [YouTube](#)



mail@safetyandquality.gov.au
www.safetyandquality.gov.au

Please click here to [unsubscribe](#) from our mail list.

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to elders both past and present.

Important: This transmission is intended only for the use of the addressee and may contain confidential or legally privileged information. If you are not the intended recipient, you are notified that any use or dissemination of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you receive this transmission in error please notify the author immediately and delete all copies of this transmission.