

Consultation Overview

NSQHS Standards (third edition) consultation

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (the Commission) is developing the third edition of the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards. This overview explains how you can participate in the consultation on the initial draft of the Standards.

The [initial draft of the NSQHS Standards \(third edition\)](#) recognises the realities of modern practice, increasing complexity and morbidity, new models of care and digital technology.

The third edition of the NSQHS Standards streamlines the previous eight standards into a set of three standards to better support an integrated whole-of-system approach to health care across Australia.

The Standards are designed to operate as a single, integrated system for safety and quality.

When implemented well, the NSQHS Standards support multidisciplinary care teams to identify risk, use data for improvement, and partner with patients, families and carers at every step.

What does the Commission want to know?

Your input is essential to inform the development of the NSQHS Standards (third edition).

The Commission has developed [The Rationale for Change](#) outlining the structure and emphasis of the NSQHS Standards.

The Commission is seeking feedback to help shape the next draft of the Standards.

We welcome your views on these key areas:

- **Safety and quality priorities** – How well do the Standards reflect key safety and quality priorities? What is missing?
- **Strengthening outcomes** – What changes would strengthen the Standards to support the delivery of high-quality care and better health outcomes?
- **Impact and integration** – How well do the Standards support care delivery and coordination across services, settings and providers? How could this be improved?

- **Learning and improvement** – How well do the Standards help health services learn, reflect and improve over time? What could strengthen this?
- **Clarity and duplication** – Are the Standards easy to understand and free from duplication? Where could they be clearer or simpler?

How can I get involved?

Provide your feedback via survey, written response, or by participating in a forum. The consultation closes at midnight on **25 September 2026**.

Have your say

Complete a survey

You can provide your feedback through online survey using the links below:

- [Survey for consumers](#)
- [Survey for health professionals](#)

Prepare a submission

You can provide a written response to the [consumer](#) or [health](#) sector submission questions or any issues related to the Standards via email:
NSQHSSThirdEdition@safetyandquality.gov.au

Mail

National Standards Program
Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care
GPO Box 5480, Sydney NSW 2001

Participate in a forum

You can discuss your feedback at a forum for:

- consumers and patients
- people working in the health system

Please visit the [NSQHS Standards \(third edition\) Consultation](#) webpage to register.

Speak with the Safety and Quality Advice Centre

Consumers are invited to provide a verbal response to the [consumer submission questions](#) or any issues related to the Standards.

Phone: 1800 304 056.

Email to make an appointment: advicecentre@safetyandquality.gov.au

Can I collect Continuing Professional Development (CPD) hours or points?

A Certificate of Attendance for 1.5 hours will be provided to eligible health professionals on request for attendance at the forums. If you wish to claim CPD hours or points, please confirm eligibility with your relevant board, college or association.

Participation in this activity will enhance understanding of patient safety, quality improvement and cultural safety principles. Participants will also contribute to the continuous improvement of Australia's health system through engagement in the development of the NSQHS Standards (third edition).

More information

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

If you have questions about this consultation, please email the Safety and Quality Advice Centre

✉ Email: AdviceCentre@safetyandquality.gov.au

☎ Call: **1800 304 056**

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