

AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE

WEDNESDAY 17 DECEMBER

- [Acute Coronary Syndromes Clinical Care Standard](#)
- [Antimicrobial Stewardship Clinical Care Standard](#)
- [A better way to care for patients with cognitive impairment in hospital](#)
- [National Quality Use of Medicines Indicators for Australian Hospitals](#)
- [Expressions of Interest: The National Patient Blood Management Collaborative](#)
- [Guide for health service organisations boards implementing the NSQHS Standards](#)
- [National Antimicrobial Prescribing Survey - still open](#)
- [Christmas and New Year operating hours](#)

Acute Coronary Syndromes Clinical Care Standard

Thousands of Australians are affected by acute coronary syndromes (heart attacks and suspected heart attacks) every year. Despite well-developed management guidelines, there are regional variations in treatment interventions across Australia.

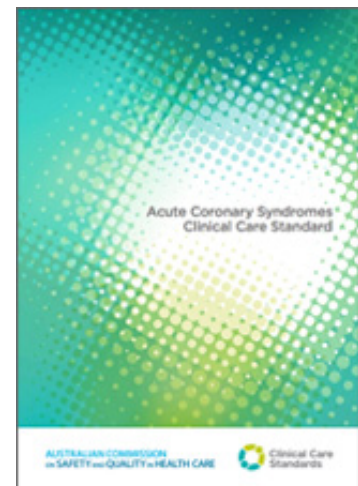
The Commission has launched the *Acute Coronary Syndromes Clinical Care Standard* in order to improve early, accurate diagnosis and management of acute coronary syndromes.

The Clinical Care Standard is accompanied by a set of resources to support implementation by health services, including indicators and fact sheets for clinicians, patients and carers.

[Download the *Acute Coronary Syndromes Clinical Care Standard* here.](#)

Additional information and supporting resources:

- [Indicator Specifications](#)
- [Clinician fact sheet](#)
- [Consumer fact sheet](#)
- [Infographic](#)
- [Video presentations from the launch](#)



[Back to top](#)

Antimicrobial Stewardship Clinical Care Standard

Australia has one of the highest rates of antibiotic use in the developed world, with around 22 million prescriptions written every year in primary care alone. In hospitals, 30 per cent of antibiotics prescribed are used inappropriately*.

Last month, the Commission launched the *Antimicrobial Stewardship Clinical Care Standard* to help drive appropriate use of antibiotics, improve patient outcomes and help to reduce antimicrobial resistance.

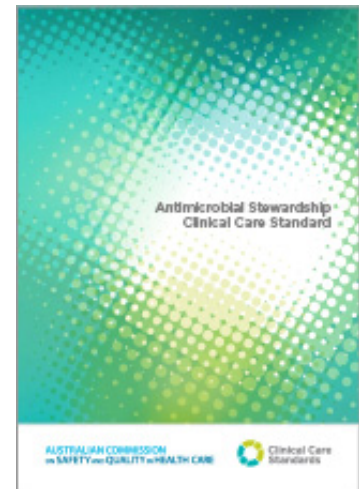
The Clinical Care Standard has been developed for use in a variety of settings, including hospital, general practice and residential aged care.

[Download the *Antimicrobial Stewardship Clinical Care Standard* here.](#)

Additional information and supporting resources:

- [Indicator Specifications](#)
- [Clinician fact sheet](#)
- [Consumer fact sheet](#)
- [Infographic](#)
- [Video presentations from the launch](#)

* NAPS 2013, 151 hospitals.



[Back to top](#)

A better way to care for patients with cognitive impairment in hospital

Cognitive impairment is common among older people admitted to hospital. Around 30 per cent of patients in Australian hospitals aged over 70 have some form of cognitive impairment.

In November, the Commission launched new resources to improve safety and quality of care for patients with dementia and delirium in hospital.

The resources include guides for clinicians and health service managers as well as a guide for patients and carers outlining the care patients with cognitive impairment should receive when they are in hospital.

The resources are available as interactive e-publications:

- [Actions for health service managers](#)
- [Actions for clinicians](#)
- [Actions for consumers](#)

Additional resources include:

- [Dementia infographic](#)
- [Delirium infographic](#)
- [Video presentations from the launch](#)

[Back to top](#)

National Quality Use of Medicines Indicators for Australian Hospitals

The *National Quality Use of Medicines Indicators for Australian Hospitals 2014* (National QUM Indicators) and support materials are now available from the Commission's web site.

The revised indicators replace the *Indicators for Quality Use of Medicines in Australian Hospitals 2007* (2007 QUM indicator set) and include:

- 30 revised indicators from the 2007 QUM indicator set (five have been significantly modified)
- Two new indicators to measure the accuracy of medicines information communicated at discharge from hospital
- Five new indicators for acute mental health services.

These indicators have been designed for local use and are intended to support local monitoring of compliance with processes of care related to medication management. They support measurement of safety and quality of medicines use for quality improvement purposes, and help health services to drive changes in healthcare practice.

The indicator set is accompanied by data collection tools for local use and all the indicators have been mapped to the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards.

[Download the National QUM Indicators and supporting materials.](#)

[Back to top](#)

Expressions of Interest: The National Patient Blood Management Collaborative

The Commission has been engaged by the Australian Government Department of Health to undertake a National Patient Blood Management Collaborative (the Collaborative). This Collaborative has been developed in consultation with the National Blood Authority (NBA) and the states and territories.

The Collaborative will focus on Anaemia Management for Patients Having Elective Surgery and concentrate on three categories of surgery: abdominal, gynaecological and orthopaedic procedures. The Collaborative aims to facilitate the uptake of patient blood management and support compliance with *NSQHS Standard 7: Blood and Blood Products* and the NBA's *Patient Blood Management Guidelines*.

Expressions of Interest (EOIs) are being sought from public and private hospitals to participate in the Collaborative. Partnerships between hospitals and general practices in the management of anaemia are encouraged. Health services are invited to respond by **Friday, 30 January 2015**.

[More information and details for submitting an EOI.](#)

[Back to top](#)

Guide for health service organisations boards implementing the NSQHS Standards

Boards of health service organisations have roles and responsibilities for clinical governance, safety and quality. The NSQHS Standards outline responsibilities for health service organisations, however it was identified that a specific resource for boards would be beneficial, especially for boards of smaller or rural health service organisations.

The Commission has developed a draft guide for health service organisation boards implementing the NSQHS Standards to address this need.

The Commission is currently seeking comment on the draft guide from stakeholders. Submissions are welcome until mid-January 2015.

[More information on the consultation process, including access to the draft Guide.](#)

[Back to top](#)

National Antimicrobial Prescribing Survey - still open

The Commission is working with the Melbourne Health National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Centre for Antimicrobial Stewardship to collect and analyse data on the appropriate use of antimicrobials in hospitals.

The National Antimicrobial Prescribing Survey (NAPS) is a voluntary annual audit of health services, which provides a snapshot of medication charts and patient records assessed for appropriateness of antimicrobial prescribing, and compliance with guidelines.

[Details for participating in 2014 NAPS.](#)

[Download the 2013 NAPS Report.](#)

[Back to top](#)

Christmas and New Year operating hours

The Commission will be closed from 12.00pm Wednesday, 24 December, reopening on Friday, 2 January 2015.

The NSQHS Standards Advice Centre will be closed from 12.00pm Wednesday, 24 December and will reopen on Monday, 5 January 2015.

From all of us at the Commission, we wish you a happy and safe Christmas and New Year break.

[Back to top](#)

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