# Australian COmmission on Safety and Quality in Health Care logo with Radar imageOn the Radar

Issue 429

12 August 2019

*On the Radar* is a summary of some of the recent publications in the areas of safety and quality in health care. Inclusion in this document is not an endorsement or recommendation of any publication or provider. Access to particular documents may depend on whether they are Open Access or not, and/or your individual or institutional access to subscription sites/services. Material that may require subscription is included as it is considered relevant.

*On the Radar* is available online, via email or as a PDF or Word document from <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/newsletters/radar>

If you would like to receive *On the Radar* via email, you can subscribe on our website <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/newsletters>
or by emailing us at HUmail@safetyandquality.gov.auU.
You can also send feedback and comments to HUmail@safetyandquality.gov.auU.

For information about the Commission and its programs and publications, please visit <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au>

You can also follow us on Twitter @ACSQHC.

**On the Radar**

Editor: Dr Niall Johnson niall.johnson@safetyandquality.gov.au

Contributors: Niall Johnson, Debbie Carter, Alice Bhasale, Jo Wooles, Chris Boyd-Skinner

**Australian Charter of Healthcare Rights**

<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/australian-charter-healthcare-rights>

The second edition of the *Australian Charter of Healthcare Rights* was launched by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care on Thursday 8 August 2019.

The second edition of the Charter reflects an increased focus on person-centred care and empowers consumers to take an active role in their healthcare. It aligns with the first edition of the Charter (available from <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/australian-charter-health-care-rights-first-edition>), but is clearer and more specific about important issues such as health literacy, shared decision making and partnership in action.

The Commission commenced the review the Charter in 2018. Over 1600 survey responses were received and eight workshops were held with consumers, health service staff and policy-makers.



The second edition of the Charter is supported by a range of accessible resources to help as many people as possible understand their healthcare rights. Available resources include translations into 19 languages plus Braille, Auslan and Easy English versions. The resources are available from <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/partnering-consumers/australian-charter-healthcare-rights/supportive-resources-second-edition-charter>

The Charter was launched in an online event which is available to watch online. The video is available along with all of the resources on the Commission’s website at <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/national-priorities/charter-of-healthcare-rights/review-of-the-charter-of-healthcare-rights-second-edition>

**Consultation open: Peripheral Venous Access Clinical Care Standard**

<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/clinical-care-standards/current-consultations>



In collaboration with consumers, clinicians, researchers and health organisations, the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (the Commission) has developed a draft *Peripheral Venous Access Clinical Care Standard*.

Clinical care standards can play an important role in guiding the delivery of appropriate care and reducing unwarranted variation, as they identify and define the care people should expect to be offered, regardless of where they are treated in Australia.

The Commission is seeking comments on the draft *Peripheral Venous Access Clinical Care Standard* and associated resources until 11:59pm pm Sunday, **15 September 2019.**

Submissions are requested via online survey, or in writing.

**Journal articles**

*Australia's response to the global threat of antimicrobial resistance: past, present and future*

Davis JS, Jones CA, Cheng AC, Howden BP.

Medical Journal of Australia 2019;211(3):106-8.e1.

*The risk of resistance: what are the major antimicrobial resistance threats facing Australia?*

Williamson DA, Howden BP, Paterson DL.

Medical Journal of Australia 2019;211(3):103-5.e1.

*Reduced VRE and MRSA colonisation and infection following sustained reduction in broad spectrum antibiotic use in a large tertiary hospital*

Ferguson JK, Munnoch SA, Kozierowski K, Chiu S, Oldmeadow C.

Medical Journal of Australia 2019;211(3):126-7.

*The false dichotomy of viral versus bacterial aetiology in upper respiratory tract infections*

Davis JS, Magin PJ, van Driel ML.

Medical Journal of Australia 2019;211(3):108-9.e1.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| DOI | Davis, Jones et al <https://doi.org/10.5694/mja2.50264>Williamson et al <https://doi.org/10.5694/mja2.50249>Ferguson et al <https://doi.org/10.5694/mja2.50218> Davis, Magin et al <https://doi.org/10.5694/mja2.50250> |
| Notes | This issue of the *Medical Journal of Australia* contains a number of articles discussing antimicrobial resistance:* Davis et al describe the outcomes of the second national Australian Antimicrobial Resistance Summit. While noting the considerable progress in action since the first Summit, including in surveillance through the Antibiotic Use and Resistance in Australia (AURA) system, they warn that more needs to be done – “The key overarching recommendation was that Australia should, as a priority, develop a central cross- jurisdictional mechanism to coordinate and manage national AMR control activities,” including animal and agricultural controls.
* Williamson and colleagues “provide a “horizon‐scanning” assessment of major emerging AMR threats facing Australia today, with a focus on highly resistant pathogens that are not yet endemic in Australian health care and community settings, and insights provided by genomic analysis.”
* Ferguson et al describe a natural experiment created by the worldwide shortage of piperacillin/tazobactam, leading to substitution with amoxicillin/clavulanate at the John Hunter Hospital Newcastle. During the shortage VRE cases fell by 47% and MRSA cases by 42% respectively. (191 vs 101 for VRE, 53 vs 31 for MRSA).
* Davis, Magin and Driel suggest that reframing the treatment of upper respiratory tract infections (URTIs) is needed to reduce inappropriate antibiotic use. Rather than framing the clinical question as “ “is this viral or bacterial?” the authors note that “The bottom line is that most URTIs (even those traditionally considered bacterial) resolve whether or not antibiotics are used.”
 |

For information on the Commission’s work on antimicrobial stewardship, see <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/antimicrobial-stewardship>

*Potentially suboptimal prescribing of medicines for older Aboriginal Australians in remote settlements*

Page A, Hyde Z, Smith K, et al.

Medical Journal of Australia 2019; 211: 119–125.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| DOI | <https://doi.org/10.5694/mja2.50226> |
| Notes | This paper reports on a study that identified suboptimal prescribing for 61% (N=166) of older Aboriginal Australians in remote Western Australia, with polypharmacy the most common issue (53%). Inappropriate prescribing was identified for 20% of the sample, suggesting a high risk of medicine-related harm for older Indigenous Australians in remote areas.  |

*Toward comprehensive patient-centric care by integrating digital health technology with direct clinical contact in Australia*

Schofield P, Shaw T, Pascoe M

Journal of Medical Internet Research. 2019;21(6):e12382.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| DOI | <https://doi.org/10.2196/12382> |
| Notes | This piece appearing in the *Journal of Medical Internet Research* describes the current landscape of digital health in Australia with respect to electronic medical records (EMRs) and patent-controlled electronic health records (namely, the My Health Record) and proposes the idea of a “bespoke healthcare system” (BHS) that places consumers in control of their health information. An analysis was undertaken of the provision of health care to produce better health outcomes at no extra cost through digital health utilisation. In addition, the authors have highlighted the benefits of developing an integrated, personalised and consumer-driven system in the context of eHealth.The study found that whilst there are a number of digital health platforms currently at work in the Australian health system, further linkage and integration is essential to support a BHS. This includes a move away from static repositories of health information to a more personalised, dynamic model that is responsive to the consumer’s needs. Furthermore, multilateral support is required across government, education, commercial and healthcare sectors to support the delivery of best-practice digital health interventions, which is likely reduce the burden on the health care system in Australia. |

*Australian Health Review*

Volume 43 Number 4 2019

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <https://www.publish.csiro.au/ah/issue/9367> |
| Notes | A new issue of *Australian Health Review* has been published. Articles in this issue of *Australian Health Review* include:* Time for **structural reform in mental health**: who is up for the challenge? (Ian Hickie)
* **Emergency department models of care** in Queensland: a multisite cross-sectional study (Anthony Bell, Ghasem-Sam Toloo, Julia Crilly, John Burke, Ged Williams, Bridie McCann and Gerry FitzGerald)
* **Preventable hospitalisations** in regional Queensland: potential for primary health? (Linton R Harriss, Fintan Thompson, Kenny Lawson, Mary O'Loughlin and Robyn McDermott)
* Sharing the pain: lessons from missed opportunities for healthcare **improvement from patient complaints and litigation** in the Australian health system (Benjamin M Nowotny, E Loh, K Lorenz and E M. Wallace)
* **Clinical engagement**: a new concept or common sense all round? (Stephen Bolsin, Jenny Carter, Aileen Kitson, Donna Walter and Stephen Roberts)
* **Infection prevention quality indicators in aged care**: ready for a national approach (N J Bennett, J M Bradford, A L Bull and L J Worth)
* Comparison of **health literacy** in privately insured and public hospital orthopaedic patients (Filip Cosic, Tabitha Porter, Cameron Norsworthy, Rohan Price and Harvinder Bedi)
* **Health literacy education** for rural health professionals: shifting perspectives (Sarah Finlay, Elizabeth Meggetto, Anske Robinson and Claire Davis)
* **Health status of people who have provided informal care or support** to an adult with chronic disease in the last 5 years: results from a population-based cross-sectional survey in South Australia (Tim Luckett, Meera Agar, Michelle DiGiacomo, Caleb Ferguson, Lawrence Lam and Jane Phillips)
* **Diagnosis of dementia** in Australia: a narrative review of services and models of care (Natalie Su Quin Ng and Stephanie Alison Ward)
* Assessing **concordance between patient preferences in advance care plans and in-hospital care** (Nay Myo Oo, Ian A Scott, Raquel Maggacis and Nalaka Rajakaruna)
* **Resuscitation status in psychogeriatric and general medical inpatients** aged 65 years and older: a retrospective comparison study (Jo Hill, Adam Gerace, Candice Oster and Shahid Ullah)
* Analysing aggregate clinical data to support **evaluation of the Tackling Indigenous Smoking program**, 2014–16 (Alyson Wright, Helen Cameron, Yvette Roe and Ray Lovett)
* Review of methods and study designs of **evaluations related to clinical pathways** (Xing Ju Lee, Robin Blythe, Adnan Ali Khan Choudhury, Toni Simmons, Nicholas Graves and Sanjeewa Kularatna)
* Scoping review of claimants’ experiences within Australian **workers’ compensation systems** (Anne-Marie Dean, Mandy Matthewson, Melissa Buultjens and Gregory Murphy)
* Realist **evaluation of allied health management** in Queensland: what works, in which contexts and why (Sharon Mickan, Jessica Dawber and J Hulcombe)
* How do **health consumer organisations** in Australia manage **pharmaceutical industry sponsorship**? A cross-sectional study (Edith Lau, Alice Fabbri and Barbara Mintzes)
* Improving health information to address **low health literacy for patients with multimorbidity** (Rebecca L. Jessup, Polina Putrik and A Beauchamp)
 |

*Health Affairs*

Volume 38, No. 8

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <https://www.healthaffairs.org/toc/hlthaff/38/8>  |
| Notes | A new issue of *Health Affairs* has been published with the theme of “Military Health Systems”. Articles in this issue of *Health Affairs* include:* Back At Home, A **New Purpose For Battlefield Skills** (T R Goldman)
* **Finding Shelter And Support** Along The Road To Better Health (B Rinker)
* The US **Military Health System**: Promoting **Readiness And Providing Health Care** (Terri Tanielian and Carrie Farmer)
* A **Military Health System For** The **Twenty-First Century** (Terry Adirim)
* **Readiness Of Medical Providers In The Military Health System**: Overview Of Operational And Policy Considerations (Paul J Hutter, Joachim Roski, Jonathan Woodson, Allen Middleton, Robert Kneeland, Averston Worthy, Derik Zitelman, Thomas Trinh, Shaun Dela Cruz, and E Cooper)
* Veterans Health Administration **Investments In Primary Care And Mental Health Integration** Improved Care Access (Lucinda B Leung, Lisa V Rubenstein, Jean Yoon, Edward P Post, E Jaske, K B Wells, and R B Trivedi)
* The **Opioid Epidemic In Veterans** Who Were Homeless Or Unstably Housed (Amanda M Midboe, Thomas Byrne, David Smelson, Guneet Jasuja, Keith McInnes, and Lara K Troszak)
* **Post-Deployment Screening** In The Military Health System: An Opportunity To Intervene For Possible **Alcohol Use Disorder** (Rachel Sayko Adams, Erich J Dietrich, J C Gray, C S Milliken, N Moresco, and M J Larson)
* **No Racial Disparities In Surgical Care Quality** Observed After Coronary Artery Bypass Grafting In TRICARE Patients (Muhammad Ali Chaudhary, Elzerie de Jager, Nizar Bhulani, Nicollette K. Kwon, Adil H Haider, Eric Goralnick, Tracey Pérez Koehlmoos, and Andrew J Schoenfeld)
* A Collaborative To Evaluate And Improve The **Quality Of Surgical Care** Delivered By The Military Health System (Peter A Learn, Mollie J Mullen, P F Saldinger, P Kreishman, P R Cordts, C Y Ko, M M Knudson, and E A Elster)
* Prevalence Of **Unplanned Readmissions** Among Patients Of Military Treatment Facilities (Craig Holden, Kimberley Marshall-Aiyelawo, Chantell Frazier, Joseph Dorris, Tara Fowler, M Mismash, J Meno, and K Nishimura)
* **Utilization Variation** In Military Versus Civilian Care: Evidence From TRICARE (Amelia M Bond and Stephen D Schwab)
* Contribution Of Care Source To **Cancer Treatment Cost Variation** In The US Military Health System (Yvonne L Eaglehouse, Mayada Aljehani, Matthew W Georg, Olga Castellanos, J S H Lee, S A Seabury, C D Shriver, and K Zhu)
* **Provider Acceptance And Beneficiary Access** Under TRICARE’s PPO Health Plan (Yonatan Ben-Shalom, Eric Schone, and Richard Bannick)
* Assessing **Low-Value Health Care Services** In The Military Health System (Tracey Pérez Koehlmoos, Cathaleen King Madsen, Amanda Banaag, Adil H Haider, Andrew J Schoenfeld, and Joel S Weissman)
* The Impact Of **Military Parents’ Injuries On The Health And Well-Being Of Their Children** (Elizabeth Hisle-Gorman, Apryl Susi, and G H Gorman)
* **TRICARE For Children**: Between Medicaid And Marketplace Plans For Comprehensiveness And Cost Sharing (Joseph S Zickafoose, Amanda Lechner, and Thomas Williams)
* **Families With TRICARE** Report **Lower Health Care Quality And Access** Compared To Other Insured And Uninsured Families (Roopa Seshadri, Douglas Strane, Meredith Matone, Karen Ruedisueli, and David M Rubin)
* **Military Telehealth**: A Model For Delivering Expertise To The Point Of Need In Austere And Operational Environments (J C Pamplin, K L Davis, J Mbuthia, S Cain, S J Hipp, D J Yourk, C J Colombo, and R Poropatich)
* Navy Medicine Introduces **Value-Based Health Care** (Alee Hernandez, Robert S Kaplan, Mary L Witkowski, C Forrest Faison III, and M E Porter)
* **Healing Veterans** Requires **Caring For The Whole Person** (Wayne Jonas)
 |

*BMJ Quality and Safety* online first articles

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| URL | <https://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/early/recent> |
| Notes | *BMJ Quality and Safety* has published a number of ‘online first’ articles, including:* **Community pharmacy medication review, death and re-admission after hospital discharge**: a propensity score-matched cohort study (Lauren Lapointe-Shaw, Chaim Bell, Peter Austin, Lusine Abrahamyan, Noah M Ivers, Ping Li, Petros Pechlivanoglou, Donald A Redelmeier, Lisa Dolovich
* Effectiveness of double checking to reduce **medication administration errors**: a systematic review (Alain K Koyama, Claire-Sophie Sheridan Maddox, Ling Li, Tracey Bucknall, Johanna I Westbrook)
* Automated detection of **wrong-drug prescribing errors** (Bruce L Lambert, William Galanter, King Lup Liu, Suzanne Falck, Gordon Schiff, Christine Rash-Foanio, Kelly Schmidt, Neeha Shrestha, Allen J Vaida, Michael J Gaunt)
* Association of registered nurse and nursing support staffing with **inpatient hospital mortality** (Jack Needleman, Jianfang Liu, Jinjing Shang, Elaine L Larson, Patricia W Stone)
* Randomised controlled trial of a theory-based intervention to prompt **front-line staff to take up the seasonal influenza vaccine (**Kelly Ann Schmidtke, Peter G Nightingale, Katharine Reeves, Suzy Gallier, Ivo Vlaev, Samuel I Watson, Richard J Lilford)
 |

**Online resources**

*[UK] NICE Guidelines and Quality Standards*

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance>

The UK’s National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has published new (or updated) guidelines and quality standards. The latest reviews or updates are:

* NICE Guideline NG25 ***Preterm labour and birth*** <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng25>
* Quality Standard QS135 ***Preterm labour and birth*** <https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/qs135>

**Disclaimer**

On the Radar is an information resource of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care. The Commission is not responsible for the content of, nor does it endorse, any articles or sites listed. The Commission accepts no liability for the information or advice provided by these external links. Links are provided on the basis that users make their own decisions about the accuracy, currency and reliability of the information contained therein. Any opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care.