AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE



On the Radar

Issue 630 27 November 2023

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On the Radar

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

Contributors: Niall Johnson

Reports

A National Policy Roadmap for Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare Australian Alliance for Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare

North Ryde: Australian Alliance for Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare, ; 2021. p. 24.

	101 11) del 1100trania 11110110 101 1110110 111 1110118 erree in 1100110 110, 1, 2, 21, p. 2, 1	
URL	https://aihealthalliance.org/2023/11/16/ai-can-revolutionise-healthcare-but-only-	
	with-a-national-plan/	
Notes	The Australian Alliance for Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare has developed this updated 'roadmap' to provide 'a policy agenda for AI in Healthcare' that is 'designed to assist all levels of government, industry and civil society' in developing the policy and regulatory environment to 'help industry exploit AI, and support healthcare services to be effective adopters of AI.' The report's 16 recommendations fall into five areas: • AI safety, quality, ethics and security – ensuring the safe use of AI in	
	healthcare.	
	Workforce – enabling essential training and development of the healthcare	
	and AI workforce.	

•	Consumers – ensuring health AI literacy.
•	Industry – supporting industry to thrive and be competitive.
•	Research – guiding the research that will protect Australia's national interest.

The health of people in Australia's prisons 2022 Australian Institute for Health and Welfare Canberra: AIHW; 2023.

100114.1111111, 2023.	
URL	https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/prisoners/the-health-of-people-in-australias-
	prisons-2022/contents/about
	The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) has released this report on the
	health of people in prisons in Australia. As the report notes, 'People in prison are
	among the most vulnerable groups in society. They are more likely to have been
	homeless and unemployed than people in the general community and often come
	from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds' They tend to have, as the web
Notes	page state, they also tend to 'poorer physical and mental health outcomes than the
	general population. They are less likely to have accessed health-care services, and more
	likely to have a history of risk behaviours that can affect health and wellbeing. Most
	people in prison are there for short periods, and many enter and exit the system
	multiple times. The health of people in prison is public health. The safety and quality
	issues of delivering care in these settings may differ from other settings.

Medicine safety: mental health care Pharmaceutical Society of Australia Canberra: PSA; 2023. p. 48.

instruction	inociia. 1 511, 2023. p. 40.	
URL	https://www.psa.org.au/advocacy/working-for-our-profession/medicine-	
	safety/mental health/	
	The Pharmaceutical Society of Australia has released this report highlighting	
	opportunities for pharmacists to better support Australians using medicines to treat	
	mental health conditions, including improving access to care and investing in quality	
	use of medicines services at critical points of care. Written by academics at the Quality	
	Use of Medicines and Pharmacy Research Centre, University of South Australia the	
	report includes sections on the extent of mental health issues, medicine use for mental	
	health and the role of pharmacists. The authors write: "The evidence from the	
	literature shows a myriad of difficulties that people with mental health conditions may	
	face in using medicines, including:	
	• inappropriate therapeutic selection	
	 lack of recognition of side effects of the medicines 	
Notes	• lack of understanding and appreciation of the impact of side effects on daily	
11000	life	
	frequent changes in therapy	
	lack of documentation of past therapeutic failures and outcomes	
	lack of information to use medicines safely	
	difficulty in complying with medicine regimens	
	 lack of access to mental health services and pharmacists' expertise. 	
	Pharmacists, as active members of the multidisciplinary healthcare team, have an	
	important role to support patients and health professionals to understand and resolve	
	many of these medicine-related challenges.'	
	The report also includes a number of recommendations from the Pharmaceutical	
	Society of Australia.	

For information on the Commission's work on medication safety, see https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/medication-safety

The Cost of Not Getting Care: Income Disparities in the Affordability of Health Services Across High-Income Countries. Findings from the Commonwealth Fund 2023 International Health Policy Survey Gunja MZ, Gumas ED, Williams RDI, Doty MM, Shah A, Fields K New York: Commonwealth Fund; 2023.

DOI	https://doi.org/10.26099/jbe9-c870
	The Commonwealth Fund in the USA conducts regular surveys of the health systems in a group of high-income nations, including Australia. This Issue Brief provides the 'the first findings from the Commonwealth Fund 2023 International Health Policy Survey, which engaged adults age 18 and older in 10 countries to explore how financial barriers affect their health care decisions.' Australia tends to compare quite well in these surveys, particularly on outcomes. However, one area where Australia tends to do less well is that of cost barriers. Most of the nations in the comparison have universal healthcare, excluding the USA, but 'the out-of-pocket expenses patients pay for health services can greatly vary based on health needs, geographic location, and income.'
	Adults in the U.S. with lower or average incomes are most likely to skip or delay getting needed health care because of the cost.
	Percentage of adults who had a cost-related access problem^ in the past 12 months
Notes	● Lower or average income ● Higher income
	28% 25% 25% 25% 16% 16% 16% 16% 16% 12% AUS NZ* US*
	[+] Download data
	^Cost-related access problem includes responding "yes" to at least one of the following because of the cost: had a medical problem but did not visit a doctor; skipped a medical test, treatment, or follow-up that was recommended by a doctor; did not fill a prescription for medicine; or skipped doses of medicine. "Indicates the difference between lower or average income group and higher income group within country is statistically significant at p<.05 level; in Australia, that difference is statistically significant at p<.01 level. Data: Commonwealth Fund International Health Policy Survey (2023). Source: Munira Z. Gunja et al., The Cost of Not Getting Care: Income Disparities in the Affordability of Health Services Across High-Income Countries — Findings from the Commonwealth Fund's 2023 International Health Policy Survey (Commonwealth Fund, Nov. 2023). https://doi.org/10.26099/jbe9-c870

Therapeutic patient education: an introductory guide

World Health Organization

Copenhagen: WHO Regional Office for Europe; 2023. p. 92.

	https://www.who.int/europe/news/item/14-11-2023-improving-patient-education
URL	<u>a-new-guide-for-policy-makers-and-health-professionals-to-support-self-management-</u>
	of-chronic-conditions
	The World health Organization's Regional Office for Europe has produced guide for
	policy-makers, health professionals, and education and training bodies on therapeutic
Notes	patient education (TPE). Therapeutic patient education is 'a structured person-centred
	learning process that supports individuals living with chronic conditions to self-
	manage their own health by drawing on their own resources, supported by their carers
	and families'. The guide covers 'commissioning, designing and delivering TPE
	services and training programmes for health professionals. It also looks at the evidence
	and theory underpinning patient education, outlines key components for delivering a
	high-quality service and identifies implementation opportunities and barriers.'

Journal articles

Managing unwarranted variation in hospital care – findings from a regional audit in Norway Eide HP, Barach P, Søreide E, Thoresen C, Tjomsland O Research in Health Services & Regions 2023 2023/11/15;2(1):16.

search in Freath Services & Regions 2023 2023/11/13,2(1).10.	
DOI	https://doi.org/10.1007/s43999-023-00033-7
Notes	Recent years has seen interest in the issue of unwarranted variation in care and various efforts to address it. This paper reports on a study that examined the response to a regional strategy aimed at reducing unwarranted variation in outcomes and utilization rates. The study involved 75 hospital leaders from eight hospital trusts in South-Eastern Norway Regional Trust (HSO). The authors report that their 'audit revealed that the aim of reducing unwanted variation was not clearly communicated by senior HSO management. There was varying use of data from the national quality registers and health atlases for quality improvement. One third of the clinical leaders reported a lack of scrutiny of their work and were insufficiently aware of the HSO's topmanagement and the hospital's Boards strategic expectations about the importance of reducing unwarranted variation in their hospital utilization.' The authors observe 'that the strategic aim of reducing unwanted clinical variation was not clearly communicated by senior HSO management to hospital boards and senior management' and that 'hospitals could benefit from a better understanding of causes of variation by strengthening their efforts to reduce unwarranted variation in utilization rates as a key element in improving health care quality and patient safety.'

For information on the Commission's work on healthcare variation, including the *Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation* series, see https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/healthcare-variation

Overnight Stay in the Emergency Department and Mortality in Older Patients Roussel M, Teissandier D, Yordanov Y, Balen F, Noizet M, Tazarourte K, et al JAMA Internal Medicine 2023.

DOI	https://doi.org/10.1001/jamainternmed.2023.5961
	French study that sought to examine the impact of staying overnight in the emergency
	department (ED) had an impact on older patients. This prospective cohort study
	included 1598 older patients (≥75 years) 'who visited the ED and were admitted to the
	hospital on December 12 to 14, 2022, at 97 EDs across France'. The study compared:
	'those who stayed in the ED from midnight until 8:00 am (ED group) and those who
Notes	were admitted to a ward before midnight (ward group)'. Those who spent the night in
	the ED 'had a higher in-hospital mortality rate of 15.7% vs 11.1% (adjusted risk ratio
	[aRR], 1.39; 95% CI, 1.07-1.81). They also had a higher risk of adverse events
	compared with the ward group (aRR, 1.24; 95% CI, 1.04-1.49) and increased median
	length of stay (9 vs 8 days; rate ratio, 1.20; 95% CI, 1.11-1.31).' The authors suggest
	that 'Older adults should be prioritized for admission to a ward.'

BMJ Quality & Safety

Volume 32, Issue 12, December 2023

	sue 12, December 2023
URL	
	https://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/32/12 A new issue of BMJ Quality & Safety has been published. Many of the papers in this issue have been referred to in previous editions of On the Radar (when they were released online). Articles in this issue of BMJ Quality & Safety include: • Editorial: The Ethical Complexity of Restricting Visitors during the COVID-19 Pandemic (Louise Campbell, Georgina Morley) • Editorial: Meeting external demands to improve quality and safety of care: learning systematically from the literature (Jack Needleman) • Editorial: Targets: unintended and unanticipated effects (Nigel Edwards, Steve Black) • Editorial: It's time for the field of geriatrics to invest in implementation science (Beth Prusaczyk, Robert E Burke) • Patient safety and hospital visiting at the end of life during COVID-19 restrictions in Aotearoa New Zealand: a qualitative study (Aileen Collier, Deborah Balmer, Eileen Gilder, Rachael Parke) • Unintended consequences of the 18-week referral to treatment standard in NHS England: a threshold analysis (Laura Quinn, Paul Bird, Sandra Remsing, Katharine Reeves, Richard Lilford) • Did the Acute Frailty Network improve outcomes for older people living with frailty? A staggered difference-in-difference panel event study (Andrew Street, Laia Maynou, Simon Conroy) • Safety implications of remote assessments for suspected COVID-19: qualitative study in UK primary care (Sietse Wieringa, Ana Luisa Neves, Alexander Rushforth, Emma Ladds, Laiba Husain, Teresa Finlay, Catherine
	 Pope, Trisha Greenhalgh) Handling missing values in the analysis of between-hospital differences in ordinal and dichotomous outcomes: a simulation study (Reinier C A van
	Linschoten, Marzyeh Amini, Nikki van Leeuwen, Frank Eijkenaar, Sanne J den Hartog, Paul J Nederkoorn, Jeannette Hofmeijer, Bart J Emmer, Alida A Postma, Wim van Zwam, Bob Roozenbeek, Diederik Dippel, Hester F Lingsma)
	Langonia

• Factors that influence the **implementation of (inter)nationally endorsed health and social care standards**: a systematic review and meta-summary (Yvonne Kelly, Niamh O'Rourke, Rachel Flynn, Laura O'Connor, J Hegarty)

Journal of Patient Safety

Volume 19, Issue 8, December 2023

URL	https://journals.lww.com/journalpatientsafety/toc/2023/12000
	A new issue of Journal of Patient Safety has been published. Articles in this issue of
	Journal of Patient Safety include:
	A Clinical Data Warehouse Analysis of Risk Factors for Inpatient Falls in a
	Tertiary Hospital: A Case-Control Study (E Kwon, S J Chang, M Kwon)
	 Validation of a Reduced Set of High-Performance Triggers for Identifying Patient Safety Incidents with Harm in Primary Care: TriggerPrim Project (Gerardo Garzón González, Tamara Alonso Safont, Dolores Conejos Míquel, Marta Castelo Jurado, Oscar Aguado Arroyo, Juan José Jurado Balbuena, Cristina Villanueva Sanz, Ester Zamarrón Fraile, Arancha Luaces Gayán, Asunción Cañada Dorado, Dolores Martínez Patiño, Purificación Magán Tapia, Aurora Barberá Martín, María José Toribio Vicente, Mercedes Drake Canela, Inmaculada Mediavilla Herrera)
	 What Do We Know About Patient Safety Culture in Saudi Arabia? A Descriptive Study (Yasser A Alaska, Rabab B Alkutbe)
	Impact of a Decision Support System on Fall-Prevention Nursing Practices
	(Hyesil Jung, Hyeoun-Ae Park, Ho-Young Lee)
	 Diagnostic Yield, Radiation Exposure, and the Role of Clinical Decision Rules to Limit Computed Tomographic Pulmonary Angiography—Associated Complications (Apostolos Perelas, Jason Kirincich, Ruchi Yadav, Sravanti Ennala, Xiaofeng Wang, Divyajot Sadana, Abhijit Duggal, Sudhir Krishnan)
Notes	 Cost Savings Associated With Implementing 4 Total Joint Replacement Electronic Clinical Quality Measures Nationally: 2020–2040 (Patricia C Dykes, Mica Curtin-Bowen, Calvin Franz, Ania Syrowatka, Stuart Lipsitz, Michael Sainlaire, Alexandra Businger, Tien Thai, Antonia F Chen, Andrew J Schoenfeld, Jay R Lieberman, Richard Iorio, Todd O'Brien, Bonnie Blanchfield, Jeffrey N Katz, William A Jiranek, C Melnic, D W Bates)
	• Experiences and Perceptions of Healthcare Stakeholders in Disclosing Errors
	and Adverse Events to Historically Marginalized Patients (Kristan Olazo,
	Thomas H Gallagher, Urmimala Sarkar)
	 Exploring the "Black Box" of Recommendation Generation in Local Health Care Incident Investigations: A Scoping Review (William Lea, Rebecca Lawton, Charles Vincent, Jane O'Hara)
	 Development of a Psychological Scale for Measuring Disruptive Clinician Behavior (Manabu Fujimoto, Mika Shimamura, Hiroaki Miyazaki, Kazuto Inaba)
	The Nature, Causes, and Clinical Impact of Errors in the Clinical Laboratory Testing Process Leading to Diagnostic Error: A Voluntary
	Incident Report Analysis (Christel van Moll, Toine Egberts, Cordula Wagner, Laura Zwaan, Maarten ten Berg)
	Uncovering the Risks of Anticancer Therapy Through Incident Report Analysis Using a Newly Developed Medical Oncology Incident Taxonomy (Joseph O Jacobson, Jessica A Zerillo, James Doolin, Sherri O Stuver, Anna Revette, Therese Mulvey)

BMJ Quality & Safety online first articles

URL	https://qualitysafety.bmj.com/content/early/recent
	BMJ Quality & Safety has published a number of 'online first' articles, including:
Notes	• Grand rounds in methodology: key considerations for implementing machine
Notes	learning solutions in quality improvement initiatives (Amol A Verma,
	Patricia Trbovich, Muhammad Mamdani, Kaveh G Shojania)

International Journal for Quality in Health Care online first articles

URL	https://academic.oup.com/intqhc/advance-articles
	International Journal for Quality in Health Care has published a number of 'online first'
	articles, including:
Notes	Monitoring for adverse drug events of high-risk medications with a
TNOICS	computerized clinical decision support system: A prospective cohort study
	(Mari Nezu, Mio Sakuma, Tsukasa Nakamura, Tomohiro Sonoyama, Chisa
	Matsumoto, Jiro Takeuchi, Yoshinori Ohta, Shinji Kosaka, Takeshi Morimoto)

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 include:

 Clinical Guideline CG109 Transient loss of consciousness ('blackouts') in over 16s https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/cg109

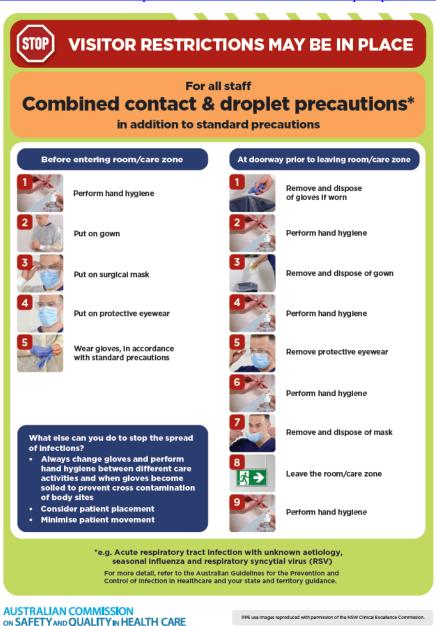
COVID-19 resources

https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/covid-19

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care has developed a number of resources to assist healthcare organisations, facilities and clinicians. These and other material on COVID-19 are available at https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/covid-19

These resources include:

- OVID-19 infection prevention and control risk management This primer provides an overview of three widely used tools for investigating and responding to patient safety events and near misses. Tools covered in this primer include incident reporting systems, Root Cause Analysis (RCA), and Failure Modes and Effects Analysis (FMEA).
 https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/covid-19-infection-prevention-and-control-risk-management-guidance
- Poster Combined contact and droplet precautions
 https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/infection-prevention-and-control-poster-combined-contact-and-droplet-precautions



Poster – Combined airborne and contact precautions
 https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/poster-combined-airborne-and-contact-precautions



VISITOR RESTRICTIONS IN PLACE

For all staff

Combined airborne & contact precautions

in addition to standard precautions

Before entering room/care zone



Perform hand hygiene



Put on gown



Put on a particulate respirator (e.g. P2/N95) and perform fit check



Put on protective eyewear



Perform hand hygiene



Put on gloves

At doorway prior to leaving room/care zone



Remove and dispose of gloves



Perform hand hygiene



Remove and dispose of gown



Leave the room/care zone



Perform hand hygiene (in an anteroom/outside the room/care zone)



Remove protective eyewear (in an anteroom/outside the room/care zone)



Perform hand hygiene (in an anteroom/outside the room/care zone)



Remove and dispose of particulate respirator (in an anteroom/outside the room/care zone)



Perform hand hygiene

KEEP DOOR CLOSED AT ALL TIMES

AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION
ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE

The content of this poster was informed by resources developed by the NSW Clinical Excellence Commission and the Australian Government Infection Control Expert Group. Photos reproduced with permission of the NSW Clinical Box elence Commission.

- Environmental Cleaning and Infection Prevention and Control www.safetyandquality.gov.au/environmental-cleaning
- COVID-19 infection prevention and control risk management Guidance
 https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/covid-19-infection-prevention-and-control-risk-management-guidance
- Safe care for people with cognitive impairment during COVID-19
 https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/cognitive-impairment/cognitive-impairment-and-covid-19
- Stop COVID-19: Break the chain of infection poster https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/break-chain-infection-poster-a3



COVID-19 and face masks – Information for consumers

https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/covid-19-and-face-masks-information-consumers

AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE

INFORMATION for consumers

COVID-19 and face masks

Should I use a face mask?

Wearing face masks may protect you from droplets (small drops) when a person with COVID-19 coughs, speaks or sneezes, and you are less than 1.5 metres away from them. Wearing a mask will also help protect others if you are infected with the virus, but do not have symptoms of infection.

Wearing a face mask in Australia is recommended by health experts in areas where community transmission of COVID-19 is high, whenever physical distancing is not possible. Deciding whether to wear a face mask is your personal choice. Some people may feel more comfortable wearing a face mask in the community.

When thinking about whether wearing a face mask is right for you, consider the following:

- Face masks may protect you when it is not possible to maintain the 1.5 metre physical distance from other people e.g. on a crowded bus or train
- Are you older or do you have other medical conditions like heart disease, diabetes or respiratory illness? People in these groups may get more severe illness if they are infected with COVID-19
- Wearing a face mask will reduce the spread of droplets from your coughs and sneezes to others (however, if you have any cold or flu-like symptoms you should stay home)
- A face mask will not provide you with complete protection from COVID-19. You should also do all of the other things listed below to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

What can you do to prevent the spread of COVID-19?

Stopping the spread of COVID-19 is everyone's responsibility. The most important things that you can do to protect yourself and others are to:

- Stay at home when you are unwell, with even mild respiratory symptoms
- Regularly wash your hands with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand rub
- Do not touch your face
- Do not touch surfaces that may be contaminated with the virus
- Stay at least 1.5 metres away from other people (physical distancing)
- Cover your mouth when you cough by coughing into your elbow, or into a tissue. Throw the tissue away immediately.



National Clinical Evidence Taskforce

https://clinicalevidence.net.au/

The National Clinical Evidence Taskforce is a multi-disciplinary collaboration of 35 member organisations – Australia's medical colleges and peak health organisations – who share a commitment to provide national evidence-based treatment guidelines for urgent and emerging diseases.

This alliance established the world's first 'living guidelines' for the care of people with COVID-19 and MPX.

Funding has now been discontinued for the National Clinical Evidence Taskforce and the COVID-19 guidelines as of 30 June 2023.

These guidelines are no longer continually updated but will remain online until the guidance becomes inaccurate and/or no longer reflects the evidence or recommended practice.

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