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AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION
ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE

Caring for Cognitive Impairment

Newsletter No 5

TUESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

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Message from the Commission's CEO

Recently, I had the opportunity to congratulate the 160 executives whose hospital and health services have joined the Caring for Cognitive Impairment Campaign and ask them to keep sharing their experiences so we can continue to learn from each other.

I also encouraged those hospital executives who had not yet joined the campaign to do so. This will assist their hospital or health service to prepare for the changes in the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards (second edition). The NSQHS Standards have been approved and will be released with accompanying resources in November 2017. Assessment to the NSQHS Standards (2nd ed.) is expected to commence from 1 January 2019.

A further 20 health services have now joined us in the Caring for Cognitive Impairment Campaign.

For those reading this newsletter, I'd also like to congratulate you for choosing to join the more than 1,500 individuals who have committed to the Caring for Cognitive Impairment campaign. Your commitment to supporting people experiencing cognitive impairment and their families and carers, and to doing your part to improve our responses to cognitive impairment, is vital to the success of the campaign.

Many of you may be interested in our [upcoming webinar](#), which provides information on working with people with cognitive impairment, carers and families. It is important to remember that cognitive impairment is not only present in dementia and delirium but also includes other conditions such as intellectual disability. I thank Anne Funke, whose son has an intellectual disability, for her willingness to share at our next webinar her experience of

her son's hospitalisation. Naomi Poole from the Commission's Partnering with Consumers team will also be present for the Q & A session. The Commission features relevant intellectual disability resources in the [resources section of our website](#).

Meanwhile, September is Dementia Awareness Month and we have invited Alzheimer's Australia to feature as our supporting organisation in this edition. The theme of Dementia Awareness Month is 'You Are Not Alone', and I encourage all of us to think about ways in which we can support people with dementia, their families and carers.

Regards

Adjunct Professor Debora Picone AM

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Tasmanian Cognitive Care Meeting



Face-to-face participants at the Tasmanian Cognitive Care Meeting

Clinicians from across Tasmania met in Hobart on 22 June 2017 for a state-wide cognitive care meeting. After hearing about the new cognitive impairment items in the NSQHS Standards (2nd ed.), presenters shared the initiatives already under way in Tasmanian hospitals to improve the recognition and care of older people with cognitive impairment. Participants agreed to share resources and to embark on a state-wide approach to drive further change.

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Next webinar: Register now

Webinar

Topic: Working with people with cognitive impairment, carers and families

Date: Thursday, 14 September 2017

Time: 1 pm to 2 pm (AEDT)

Venue: Broadcast across Australia

Presenters:

- Anne Funke, whose son Mitchell has an intellectual disability, will share their experience of hospital and some important strategies that have made a difference to his hospital stays
- Anne Cumming, Principal Advisor, Cognitive Impairment, Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care will outline how working with patients with cognitive impairment, carers and families is part of the NSQHS Standards (2nd ed.)

Question time:

- Naomi Poole, Program Manager, Partnering with Consumers, Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care will also be available to answer questions about the Partnering with Consumers Standard.

[Download flyer](#)

[More information and to register for this event](#)



CARING FOR COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT

Webinar No. 5

Working with people with cognitive impairment, carers and families

Date: Thursday, 14 September 2017
Time: 1:00pm – 2:00pm AEST
Venue: Webinar will be broadcast across Australia

Our fifth webinar will be of interest to anyone who would like to learn more about partnering with people with cognitive impairment, their carers, support people and families.

Presenter:

- Anne Funke whose son, Mitchell, has an intellectual disability, will share their experience of hospital and some important strategies that have made a difference

Facilitator:

- Anne Cumming, Principal advisor, Cognitive Impairment, Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care will outline how working with people with cognitive impairment, carers and families is part of the second edition of the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards

Question time:

- Naomi Poole, Program Manager, Partnering with Consumers, Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care will also be available to answer questions about the Partnering with Consumers Standard.


Overview of presentation:
This webinar will provide an opportunity to hear the perspective of a mother of a young adult with an intellectual disability and their hospital experiences.

The session will also outline key points and links to the NSQHS Standards (2nd ed.).

Please go to <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6988047689998029059> to register

Any questions, please email cognitive.impairment@safetyandquality.gov.au

cognitivecare.gov.au #BetterWayToCare




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Share your story

The [Caring for Cognitive Impairment website](#) features a number of stories from carers that provide insight into what makes a positive difference to the hospital experience.

Elvira's mother has Alzheimer's disease and lives in a nursing home. After experiencing her mother's two hospital admissions, Elvira feels things could be improved.

[Click here to read Elvira's story](#)

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Supporters

September is Dementia Awareness Month, so we are featuring Alzheimer's Australia as our supporter in this newsletter. Alzheimer's Australia represents and advocates for people living with dementia and their carers and families.

Alzheimer's Australia aims to empower and enable people living with dementia. The organisation manages a wide range of innovative national programs to provide information, support, counselling, training and education for people living with dementia, their families and carers, as well as for healthcare professionals working in the dementia field.

The theme for this year's Dementia Awareness Month is 'You Are Not Alone'. Alzheimer's Australia is working to create more inclusive, nurturing and engaging communities where people with dementia, their families and carers can feel well-supported and less alone. There will be more than 50 events across the country to support the awareness campaign.

[Click here to read more](#)



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Events

Alzheimer's Australia

There are more than 50 events across the country for Dementia Awareness Month. To find out more about what events are happening near you [click here](#).

National Speaking Tour with international guest speaker Steven Sabat, Professor Emeritus of Psychology, Georgetown University, USA.

- [Brisbane](#) - 11 September, 2017
- [Canberra](#) - 12 September, 2017
- [Sydney](#) - 13 September, 2017
- [Melbourne](#) - 14 September, 2017

Australasian Delirium Association

- Delirium Masterclass with international expert Professor Sharon Inouye: 23 October 2017, University of New South Wales, Sydney <http://www.delirium.org.au/>

Australian and New Zealand Society for Geriatric Medicine (ANZSGM)

- [The Annual Scientific Meeting](#) (ASM): from 27-29 June 2018, International Convention Centre, Sydney

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Resources

Cognitive impairment: Intellectual disability

The NSW Agency for Clinical Innovation (ACI) has produced a series of videos to help health professionals understand the care needs of a person with intellectual disability. The following two videos are relevant to hospital admissions:

- [Improving the experience of hospital for people with intellectual disability](#)

This video is a story about Daniel, with his mother Nicole, who is speaking about his experience of hospital

- [Intellectual disability and hospitalisation by Lif O'Connor, Clinical Nurse Consultant](#)

This video outlines the distinction between carers, support workers and case managers in the community setting and how to communicate with a person with intellectual disability and carers in hospital.

Admission to discharge - [A2D](#) website

This website provides information about the Admission2Discharge Together Toolkit to facilitate timely transfer of relevant and current information so that hospital staff can better meet the needs of people with intellectual disability in hospital.

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www.safetyandquality.gov.au