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AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION
ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTH CARE

Caring for Cognitive Impairment

Newsletter No 7

MONDAY 12 MARCH

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Message from the Commission's CEO

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care has now been running the Caring for Cognitive Impairment campaign for two years. In that time, nearly 2000 individuals have committed to the campaign and over 200 hospital executives from across Australia and over 30 organisations have committed to caring for cognitive impairment.

We have another year to go, so to make it as successful as possible, I encourage you to complete [the short survey](#) included in this newsletter. Your feedback will help the Commission to support hospitals in meeting the cognitive impairment actions in the [National Safety and Quality Health Service \(NSQHS\) Standards](#) (second edition) and ensure the third year of the campaign is as successful as the previous two.

It is World Delirium Awareness Day on 14 March 2018. Read on to see what the Australasian Delirium Association is doing to mark the event. If you are organising an event for World Delirium Awareness Day please let us know. You can send pictures to cognitive_impairment@safetyandquality.gov.au or tweet using the hashtags #betterwaytocare and #WDAD2018.

In this issue we also feature a story from one of our hospital champions. Anne Cumming recently had the pleasure of interviewing Ellie Newman from the Royal Perth Bentley Group about her role as Coordinator for Cognitive Impairment. Make sure you watch the interview as I think you'll find it inspiring.

[Our next webinar is on 26 April](#) and will feature Richard Fleming from Dementia Training Australia. He will be discussing how you can help to improve your hospital's environment for patients with cognitive impairment and

their carers. Last month's webinar called Safer use of medicines for cognitive impairment is now available on the [Caring for Cognitive Impairment campaign website](#).

Regards

Adjunct Professor Debora Picone AM

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Feedback survey - tell us what you think!

The Caring for Cognitive Impairment campaign has been running for two years and will continue until January 2019. We would like to hear your thoughts on how we can make the next 10 months of the campaign the most effective it can be in supporting the implementation of the cognitive impairment items in the NSQHS Standards (second edition).

Please take the time to complete [the 5 minute survey](#) or email cognitive.impairment@safetyandquality.gov.au by **29th March 2018**.

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Safer use of medicines for cognitive impairment webinar

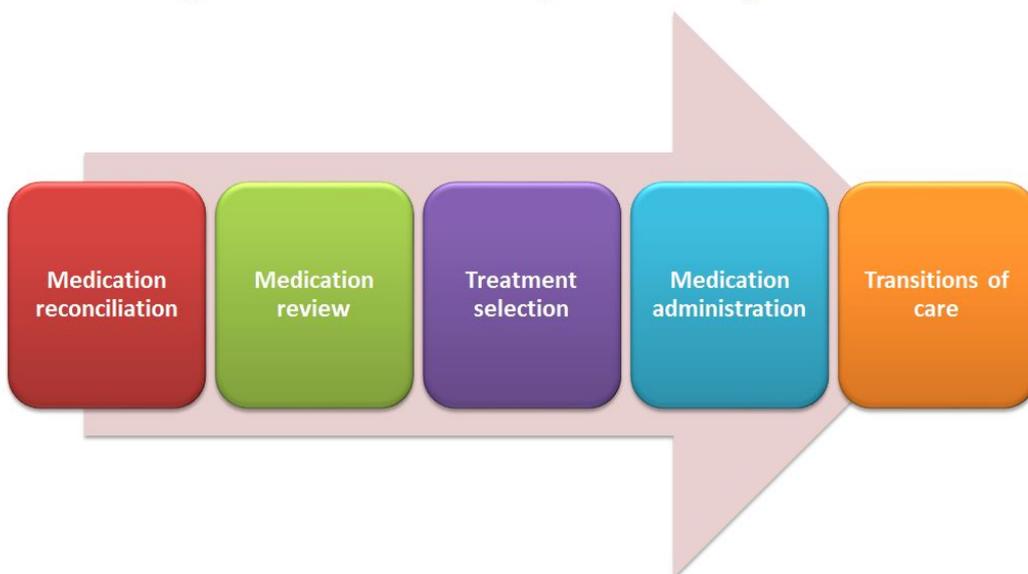
Webinar 7 is now available to watch again on the [Caring for Cognitive Impairment campaign website](#). Over 300 people joined for a panel discussion on safer use of medicines for cognitive impairment featuring:

- Ms Mary ETTY-Leal, Deputy Director of Pharmacy (Royal Park Campus), Royal Melbourne Hospital
- Dr Ann Rudden, Associate Professor, Staff Specialist in General Medicine and Geriatrics, Gold Coast University Hospital
- Ms Anne Moehead, Nurse Practitioner Psychogeriatrics / Dementia, Nursing & Midwifery Directorate, Northern NSW Local Health District.

Watch the webinar again [here](#).



Key elements of medication safety in caring for patients with cognitive impairment



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Webinar - Improving the hospital environment for people with cognitive impairment

Register for our next webinar [here](#). It is for those working in hospitals who would like tips and advice on how to improve the hospital environment for people with cognitive impairment.

Richard Fleming, the Executive Director of Dementia Training Australia will be discussing:

- Environment design principles
- What DTA can offer hospitals – resources, design education service, tailored packages
- Examples of success at different levels, including whole hospital builds, modifications, renovations and simple changes to a person's room.

Topic: Improving the hospital environment for people with cognitive impairment

Date: 26 April 2018

Time: 2pm - 3pm (AEST)

Venue: Broadcast across Australia

[Register here](#)

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Chat with the champions

The Caring for Cognitive Impairment campaign is hosting the second discussion with nominated lead hospital champions to help establish a cognitive champion network across Australia.

To receive an invitation to the videoconference, [follow this link](#).

Topic: Chat with the champions

Date: 22 March 2018

Time: 2pm - 3pm (AEDT)

Venue: Broadcast across Australia

Tell us what you would like to discuss by emailing cognitive.impairment@safetyandquality.gov.au

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Share your story - hospital summary

The Caring for Cognitive Impairment website features summaries from hospitals on how they are working to improve the care of those with cognitive impairment.

Ellie Newman from Royal Perth Bentley Group was interviewed by Anne Cumming in January about her role as Coordinator for Cognitive Impairment. [Watch the video here](#) to learn about the excellent work Ellie and her colleagues are doing.



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State initiatives - Western Australia

This feature of the newsletter highlights initiatives that are happening at a state or territory level. Western Australia is the second state to feature. Andrea Lomman, Senior Policy Officer, Department of Health, WA is a member of the Cognitive Impairment Advisory Group and has provided the following summary.

The Department of Health is committed to developing and improving policy and healthcare delivery in cognitive impairment, including through the Western Australian Delirium Model of Care (2008) and the WA Dementia Model of Care (2011). An estimated 33,400 people live with dementia in WA.

These initiatives have provided the foundation for cognitive impairment projects currently underway in key hospital sites across the State including the Royal Perth Bentley Group, the Sir Charles Gairdner and Osborne Park Hospital Health Care Group, the Fiona Stanley Fremantle Hospitals Group and the WA Country Health Service.

These health service-based projects aim to improve the quality of care and outcomes for people with cognitive impairment. Changes to the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards to include cognitive impairment will also be a significant driver for quality improvements.

The Dementia Partnership Project, a collaborative project with Alzheimer's WA, aims to enhance the lives of people living with dementia by building capacity within the home and community care sector. A valuable component of the project includes the training, support and education of Dementia Champions.

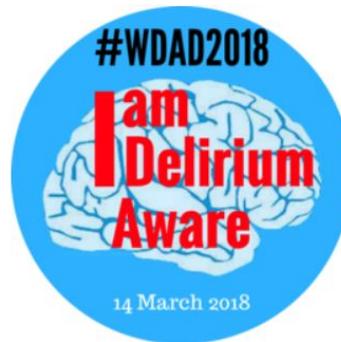
Engagement in Caring for Cognitive Impairment Campaign, an interactive platform, is growing with 23 hospitals in the State now engaged. This project reaches a broad range of staff across the health system.

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Supporters

[Australasian Delirium Association](#) is promoting World Delirium Awareness Day (WDAD) and encourages you to get involved:

Wednesday 14 March 2018 is the second World Delirium Awareness Day (WDAD) and sits in the middle of Brain Awareness Week.



Delirium can be a medical emergency that remains frequently undiagnosed. Increasing awareness will lead to better outcomes for our patients through earlier diagnosis and appropriate treatment.

Last year, many different events were held to commemorate WDAD including: delirium information stalls; seminars about delirium; delirium dress-ups (dress as your favourite delirium super-hero!); delirium tweet-a-thons; taking the delirium quiz; and delirium button days.

Please help spread the word about delirium by organising delirium awareness raising events at your workplace. Let your delirium imagination run - organise something innovative and memorable.

Take the delirium quiz at www.idelirium.org the WDAD Headquarters where you can also download the WDAD logo to use in promotional material and find out how to become a Delirium Superhero!

Remember also to take photos of your WDAD event and send it to the Australasian Delirium Association, admin@delirium.org.au, so it can get posted on the website: www.delirium.org.au and tweet your events using the hashtag #WDAD2018 so everyone knows! Also tweet the Caring for Cognitive Impairment campaign using the hashtag #betterwaytocare.

Have a great World Delirium Awareness Day!

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Events

Australasian Delirium Association

[World Delirium Awareness Day: 14 March 2018](#)

How will you and your colleagues celebrate #WDAD2018?

The Australasian Delirium Association's 2018 Declared Conference: 6 – 8 September 2018
Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

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Resources

For World Delirium Awareness Day, the following resources may be useful:

- [Delirium Clinical Care Standard](#)
- [A better way to care resources](#)

Raise awareness by printing the [delirium infographic](#) and [delirium poster](#).

There are also engaging videos to help you understand delirium. Videos from the Commission include:

- [An interview with leading Delirium expert, Professor Sharon Inouye](#)
- [Sue Kurrle, chair of the Cognitive Impairment Advisory Group, explains delirium](#)
- [Be alert to delirium: webinar](#)
- Plus more on the [Educational Videos](#) page on the campaign website.

External resources:

- [Patient Delirium Experience](#)
- [Delirium awareness video](#)

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