

THE FUTURE OF CLINICAL GOVERNANCE IN THE LODDON MALLEE REGION

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Clinical Governance – what is it & why is it important

ACHS define Clinical Governance as

“The system by which the governing body, managers, clinicians and staff share responsibility for the quality of care, continuously improving, minimizing risks and fostering an environment of excellence in consumer care”

Stephen Duckett Review

Targeting Zero - supporting the Victorian hospital system to eliminate avoidable harm & strengthen quality of care.

1. Safety & quality improvement must be a core goal of the department and health system
2. All boards must be highly skilled, independent & effective
3. All hospitals should be held to account for improving safety & quality of care, regardless of their size or sector.

4. The flow of information in the health system must ensure deficiencies in care are identified & focus attention on opportunities for improvement
5. All hospitals should have access to independent clinical expertise to help identify deficiencies in care and focus attention on opportunities for improvement.
6. Risk should be managed across the system so that hospitals only offer care that is within their capabilities, with high-risk care concentrated in the centres where it is safest

7. There must be robust assessment of clinical governance & hospitals safety & quality performance in the department
8. Mental Health services must be adequately funded to allow delivery of timely, safe & high – quality care
9. Clinical leaders must be engaged to strengthen, direct & lead efforts to improve safety & quality care
- 10 .The system must have a stronger focus on improving patients’ experience of care

How Bendigo Health collaborates with the region

- Long history of both formal and informal support to our regional partners
- 2014 – NSQHS Regional Forum – leading to the development of the NSQHS Regional Support Officer
- Regional Director of Medical Services (est 2016)
- Loddon Mallee Regional Clinical Council & Executive Officer role (est 2016)

Loddon Mallee NSQHS Regional Support Project

- DHHS and Bendigo Health collaborative
- Guidance provided by Loddon Mallee Quality and Safety Advisory Group
- 12 month pilot project – first in Victoria
- Opportunity to build on networks throughout the region
- Increase knowledge of NSQHS and patient safety and develop regional approaches to key issues

Loddon Mallee NSQHS Regional Support Project

Outcomes:

- 5 regional forums held with presentations from statewide and regional leaders covering each of the NSQHS standards
- Regional benchmarking project that enabled data comparison from audits in 14 areas of patient safety
- SharePoint site to enable and support resource sharing and collaborative work
- Strengthened networks between regional health services and DHHS

Regional Director of Medical Services

The Regional DMS is a rural initiative to support the sustainability of DMS services overseen by BH

The RDMS will align the medical workforce with the values, strategic direction and clinical governance framework of the joint services

Role of Regional Director of Medical Services

Responsible for:

- Managing the delivery of quality care
- Providing advice to respective CEO/Boards of Management on medical workforce, credentialing and defining scope of practice and policies and procedures

Current Regional Director of Medical Services

The Joint Services currently include:

Swan Hill

Kerang

Cohuna

Other Loddon Mallee regional Health services are currently in negotiations

Outcomes of the Regional DMS role

- Improved referral pathway to BH
- Video conferencing of educational activities
- Sharing of polices and alignment to individual hospital needs

Establishment of the Loddon Mallee Regional Clinical Council

June 2016 – Loddon Mallee region hosted a Clinical Governance Futures Workshop

The purpose of this workshop was to develop a new & collaborative model of clinical governance for the region

Over 50 attendees including – CEO's, Directors, DMS's, Board Members, consumers and DHHS representatives

Loddon Mallee Regional Clinical Council - purpose

- Support regions Health Service boards & clinicians to assure the quality of their own governance processes
- Receive reports from Peer Review Sub committee on identified issues
- Review systemic data at a high level that may have regional implication
- Provide independent expert advice to health services on clinical capability & scope of practice matters

Loddon Mallee Regional Clinical Council - purpose

- Provide a platform with representative from Loddon Mallee's key healthcare service providers & specialist expertise co-opted as needed, to foster partnerships & multi – organisation collaboration
- Provide leadership & advice on clinical reviews and policy changes to ensure consistency and a coordinated response / implementation, catered for regional & local service needs



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