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NSQHS Standards Resources Consultation
GPO Box 5480
SYDNEY NSW 2001
Email: nsqhsstandards@safetyandquality.gov.au

Review of Draft Accreditation Resources

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Safety and Quality Improvement Guidelines, the draft Accreditation Workbooks and the draft Guide for Dental Practices

The Australian Health & Hospitals Association is the peak body and advocate for the Australian public healthcare and Not-For-Profit sectors.

Our membership includes state health departments, Local Hospital Networks and public hospitals, community health services, Medicare Locals and primary healthcare providers, universities, and individual health professionals and academics. We are uniquely placed to be an independent, national voice for universally accessible, high quality healthcare.

Overall the AHHA is impressed with the quality of the resources developed. The provision of clear and concise information relating to criteria and standards which does not inadvertently limit flexibility in implementation is challenging. The examples of actions, tasks and evidence provided in the Guides and Workbooks appear to achieve this to a high degree. Additionally the examples provided assist in clarifying the differences in the requirements for each criterion which will help to reduce confusion as there is inevitably some overlap between criteria.

Whilst not wishing to increase the apparent size of the documents, it may be appropriate to consider additional page breaks to distinguish more clearly each criterion in the Guides and each Standard in the Workbooks and thus improve readability.

The real test of the Guidelines and Workbooks will occur when they are trialled by health services translating from existing accreditation programs and by those undertaking external evaluation for the first time. The AHHA encourages Commission to undertake subsequent review and evaluation of the materials following a reasonable trial period.

The AHHA would welcome the opportunity to assist with subsequent evaluation processes.

Yours sincerely



Prue Power
Chief Executive