



Topic Talks

Medication safety: Are we there yet?

The National Inpatient Medication chart was first introduced in 2006 and the Medication Safety Standard in 2012. So after after all this time, have their introduction made a difference? Where do we still need to improve?

Some facts:

- 1.2 Million Australians have experienced an adverse drug event in the last 6 months
- More than 90% of patients have at least one medication-related problem after discharge from hospital
- 98% of residential aged care residents have at least one medication related problem

Australia's goal is to reduce medication errors, adverse drug events and medication-related hospital admissions by 50% by 2025

- In Australia it is estimated there are 250,000 hospital admissions annually as a result of medication related problems
- Almost 20% of all medication related adverse events occur in hospitals
- 64% of all hospital medication incidents occurred during the administration of medication.
- 30% of all hospital medication incidents cite communication or documentation as a contributing factor

Let's talk

Suggested questions to ask yourself or your peers this week



How would you rate your level of understanding of this topic?

Watch a webinar, listen to a podcast, look at the websites. Learn something new.

Think about your work environment, what are the things that are likely to contribute to a medication error?

There are many things that may contribute to an error occurring - list some of these.

What can be done to address these issues?

Simple interventions can have a big impact. What can you do to help prevent errors occurring?

What are 2 new pieces of information you have learned about the topic this week?

Think about what you have learned. How can you use this learning going forward?

Loddon Mallee Activities and Resources



What's on the Web?



References:



Tuesdays@2 Webinar Series

Recorded March 9th 2021

Webcast Link: <https://youtu.be/h2yd7NWaI9w>

Topic: Medication Safety: Are we there yet? A research Update

Speaker: Tracy Kidd, Nurse Educator CPD

Webcasts:

Institute for Safe Medication Practices (Aug 2020): [A look behind the scenes: Global progress in patient safety and prevention of harmful medication errors](#) [1:08:20]

Victorian Agency for Health Information (Nov 2020) [Medication Related Incidents: Learnings from Victorian Public and community health services data](#) [1:00:02]

Podcasts:

NPS Medicinewise (Dec 2020): [Quality use of medicines In an exceptional year a 2020 wrap up](#) [12min]

Web Sites:

[NPS Medicinewise](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare: Medicine Safety](#)

- Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare (2020) Quality use of medicines and medicine safety: Discussion paper for public consultation - Phase 1 Aged Care. [online] <https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-and-resources/resource-library/quality-use-medicines-and-medicines-safety-discussion-paper>
- Safer Care Victoria (2020) Medication Incidents the focus in new VHIMS report [online] <https://www.bettersafecare.vic.gov.au/about-us/news/medication-incidents-the-focus-in-new-vhims-report>
- Waller, S. (2020) Reducing medication related harm through Quality use of medicines. Pharmacy Practice and Research 50(5): 374-376 [online] <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/jppr.1692>