

## Information Sheet 1

# Clinical data strategy

An essential part of improving the safety and quality of the care provided to patients / consumers is the gathering, analysis and use of information regarding clinical performance.

Health services should have access to a clearly defined set of safety and quality information that is gathered and consolidated into meaningful indicators that are readily used by clinicians, managers, consumers and the executive.

### Goal of the strategy

To enhance clinical reporting through the development of a clinical data reporting system, to

- > facilitate monitoring of the effectiveness, appropriateness and efficiency of the care provided, and
- > measure the success of Transforming Health across the domains of quality.

### What is a Clinical Data Reporting System?

It is an information system that pulls together a broad set of service delivery, safety and quality and productivity key performance indicators from a range of administrative, financial and clinical systems across SA Health, and enables users to access and define reports and other analytics.

### Key elements of the clinical data strategy

- > Establish governance for clinical reporting:
- > Implement an integrated, consolidated clinical data reporting system that will enable
  1. Evaluating and monitoring the success of Transforming Health
  2. Developing and using a standard set of management and clinical measures
  3. Developing and using specific set of clinical indicators for clinical specialties
  4. Building skills and knowledge for data-informed quality improvement, among clinicians and managers

### Four streams of work

1. **Evaluating and monitoring the success of Transforming Health** at the portfolio level and for the various sub-components of the program. This will involve the identification of a range of indicators, with baseline data, that in a broad sense will show movements in productivity, evaluate the impact of service changes on patient flows and access, monitor the safety and quality of services and assess the appropriateness of clinical service delivery and outcomes for patients. Over time these will become a core set of 'business as usual' indicators for SA Health.
2. **Developing a standard set of management and clinical measures** that clinical unit heads throughout the portfolio need to enable them to routinely assess the performance of their services. The standard set of key management and clinical indicators will be designed to satisfy the primary needs of clinical unit heads and their staff across the portfolio in the day-to-day running of their units. They need to cover all elements of service provision (e.g. clinical, safety and quality, patient access, patient flows, finance, workforce, patient costing, etc.) and be easy to interpret, in an appropriate format and accessible from the one location on a desktop.
3. **Developing a specific set of clinical indicators for clinical specialties**, mostly unique to individual specialties, which facilitate very detailed analysis of the clinical aspects of service delivery and patient outcomes. The specific indicators, where possible, will monitor performance against evidenced based practices and will be developed by the Transforming Health clinical work groups.

Recommendations from the TH or other clinical working groups will be submitted to Clinical Data Steering Committee to review and prioritise for build.

- 4. Building skills and knowledge for data-informed quality improvement, among clinicians and managers** to support the implementation of the selected clinical data reporting system. Development of an education and training framework would guide the selection, development and delivery of learning programs and communication strategies relating to the clinical data reporting system, by describing core learning requirements for the development of skills and knowledge, whilst also allowing flexibility in the implementation of local programs with standardised outcomes.

## Governance

The SA Health Clinical Data Steering Committee met for the first time on 29 May 2015.

### Roles:

- Acts as the peak committee for all clinical data / reporting by providing expert clinical and technical advice and providing recommendations on patient care, patient safety and new initiative requirements analysis based on clinical priorities
- Provides advice in relation to the priority set for the specification and development of clinical indicators and datasets
- Focuses on the specification of indicators and datasets that address the quality of health care
- Makes recommendations to Transforming Health Board and SA Health Strategic Safety and Quality Committee on learning and development requirements to support analysis and use of information in clinical practice.

### Deliverables:

- A strategic action plan which is aligned to the national and state agenda including:
  - Establishing indicators and developing datasets
  - Analysing and interpreting information
  - Publishing and reporting
  - Education and training requirements
- Communication plan
- Development of a detailed clinical data / reporting management plan, including project schedule
- Development of a standard set of management and clinical measures that clinical unit heads need to enable them to routinely assess the performance of their service
- Development of specific sets of clinical indicators for clinical specialities

### Early steps include:

- stakeholder engagement to establish requirements for all streams of work
- confirm the reporting platform and team required to undertake the development and maintenance activities
- determine if any commercial products meet some or all of the clinical requirements.
- allocate resources and timeframes for completing the deliverables
- understand the learning and development needs of users.

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## For more information

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