

MSQ CONNECT

ISSUE 5
December 2016

Welcome to the fifth issue of our Medication Safety and Quality Program Newsletter, 'MSQ Connect'. In this issue, we report on the Combined Medication Safety Workshop that was held on 6th September.

Following internal changes at the CEC, the Quality Use of Antimicrobials in Healthcare Program is now part of the Medication Safety and Quality Unit. We are pleased to welcome Lolita Tu (pictured below) who is joining the team as the Antimicrobial Stewardship Project Officer. Lolita was previously the Antimicrobial Stewardship Pharmacist at The Children's Hospital at Westmead.

Antimicrobial Stewardship

Antibiotic Awareness Week was held from 14 – 20 November this year. It is a global event endorsed by the World Health Organization to raise awareness about this serious, growing public health issue of antibiotic resistance.

Across NSW, many health services took part in promoting Antibiotic Awareness Week, encouraging staff, patients and carers to use antibiotics responsibly, to raise awareness of the problem of antibiotic resistance and ways to address this issue.

Educational and fun activities that took place in NSW hospitals included competitions and games for hospital staff, presentations at Grand Rounds and educational sessions, patient and carer engagement activities, and results of the facilities' National Antimicrobial Prescribing Survey were fed back to staff.

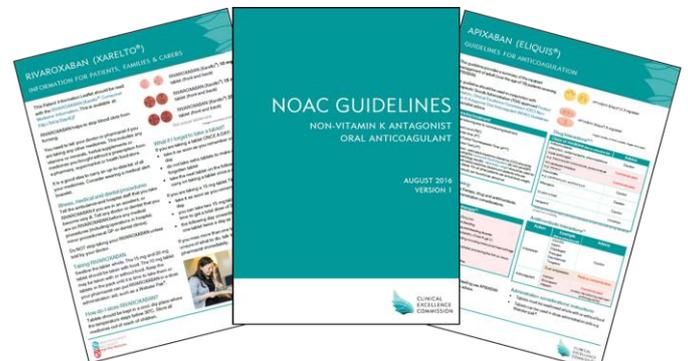
The Clinical Excellence Commission's resources for [Antibiotic Awareness Week](#) can be accessed all year round and include slides for nursing inservices and a patient and carer information leaflet.



Sarah Fuller and Lolita Tu holding an antibiotic suspension taste testing activity for prescribers at The Children's Hospital at Westmead during Antibiotic Awareness Week

High-Risk Medicines Program

The NOAC Guidelines, supporting point-of-care summaries and patient and carer information documents were released on the High-Risk Medicines webpage during August. The Anticoagulant Medicines Working Party has identified the management of anticoagulants in the perioperative period as the next priority for this group.



Noticeboard

Links

Medication Safety Self Assessment

- Medication Safety Self Assessment® for Australian Hospitals (2015)
Visit: www.cec.health.nsw.gov.au/patient-safety-programs/medication-safety/mssa

MSQ Resources

High-Risk Medicines webpage

- NOAC Guidelines
- NOAC Summary
- NOAC Patient Information

Visit: <http://cec.health.nsw.gov.au/patient-safety-programs/medication-safety/high-risk-medicines>

Paediatric Quality Program

Paediatric Watch – Lessons from the frontline

- [What is the point of medication safety?](#)
- [Anaphylaxis. How would you react?](#)
- [Kids Medication Safety Involves U 2](#)
- [Kids Medication Safety – How independent are you?](#)

Visit: www.cec.health.nsw.gov.au/patient-safety-programs/paediatric-patient-safety/paediatric-watch

If you would like more information or to provide any feedback on this newsletter, please email the CEC Medication Safety and Quality team: cec-medicationsafety@health.nsw.gov.au

For further information on the Medication Safety and Quality Program visit: www.cec.health.nsw.gov.au/patient-safety-programs/medication-safety/medication-safety-and-quality

2015 Medication Safety Self- Assessment (MSSA)

Registration for the new 2015 Medication Safety Self Assessment ® for Australian Hospitals survey released in December 2015 is continuing with a further 59 hospitals enrolled during July-November bringing the total to 259 (130 from NSW). 145 (75 from NSW) hospitals have completed the new survey and 27 (10 from NSW) are currently in progress.

Combined Medication Safety Workshop

A Combined Medication Safety Workshop for the Continuity of Medication Management and VTE Prevention programs was held on 6th September and attended by 80 clinical champions and program leads from across NSW. The workshop focused on providing attendees with the necessary improvement methodology training to drive change and enhance the implementation of VTE prevention and medication reconciliation processes. A series of breakout sessions were held to assist with the practical application of training in designated program groups. In addition, an update on the CEC Medication Safety team's activity was provided.



Photos: Combined Medication Safety Workshop

VTE Prevention Program

The VTE Prevention Program team are continuing to work with LHDs/SHNs. The Expert Advisory Group meeting was held in December, where members discussed a number of issues, particularly on the need to explore a standardised way to measure VTE outcomes for NSW. Program Leads attended the Combined Workshop in September; many making pledges which will be followed up in 3 months.

The Maternity VTE Risk Assessment Tool was amended

following feedback from state-wide consultation and has been sent to the State Forms Management Committee. Further pilot sites have been engaged to trial the dedicated ED VTE Risk Assessment Tool including Hornsby Hospital, Auburn Hospital and Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD. A post-implementation audit will be conducted at Westmead following a 6-week pilot. Work has also commenced to review the Adult Inpatient VTE Risk Assessment Tool.

A report of the evaluation of the electronic VTE risk assessment tool in Blacktown Hospital's eMR was provided to the VTE Expert Advisory Group during the December meeting. The recommendations in the report were supported by the group and will be progressed in upcoming months.



Continuity of Medication Management Program

Med Rec Program Leads and Clinical Champions attended the Combined Medication Safety Workshop. Two Leads Teleconference meetings to follow up the learnings and progress from the workshop were held on 8th and 10th November. The Working party overseeing the Medication Reconciliation Education package had been meeting monthly to develop the resources and materials required to support nursing and midwifery staff in rural and regional areas. Piloting of the face-to-face education package at 6 NSW facilities will aim to begin over the next 3-4 months. From November onwards, the CEC Program Lead will continue to provide support to the SESLHD Collaborative who have selected Medication Reconciliation as their Medication Safety initiative. Recent site visits have included Prince of Wales Hospital, Blacktown Hospital, Southern NSW and Western NSW.

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