

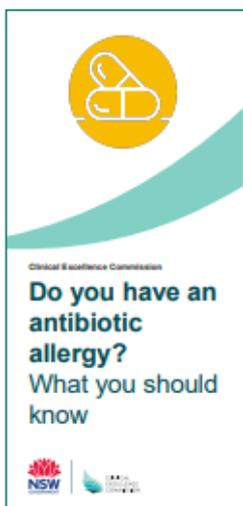
Welcome to the eleventh issue of CEC's Medication Safety and Quality Program newsletter.

In this issue

- Antimicrobial Stewardship
- Continuity of Medication Management
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- VTE Prevention
- Community Pharmacy Palliative Care
- Changes to NSW Medication Charts

Lucy Nair has recently joined the Medication Safety team in the role of Senior Improvement Lead. Lucy most recently held the position of Director of Pharmacy at Bankstown-Lidcombe Hospital. She has extensive experience in, and a passion for, antimicrobial stewardship and medication safety.

Antimicrobial Stewardship



The CEC has convened a multidisciplinary working party to develop a suite of resources to support antibiotic allergy de-labelling. The first outputs of this work are two patient and carer publications on antibiotics and allergies. Both publications are available on the [Antimicrobial Stewardship webpage](#).

Other resources being developed for the toolkit include assessment tools, wallet card and an education and training presentation.

Noticeboard

Antimicrobial Stewardship

- Antibiotic allergy de-labelling resources - Information for patient, family and carers. [Available here](#)

Community Pharmacy Palliative Care Initiative

- Community Pharmacy Palliative Care Initiative resources. [Available here](#)

Continuity of Medication Management

- Guide to Medication Reviews for NSW Health Services. [Available here](#)

High-Risk Medicines

- My Health Learning - Safe use of Opioids. Course Code 267525641. [Available here](#)
- High-Risk Medicines Management policy (PD2019_058) with updated Hydromorphone Standard. [Available here](#)

VTE Prevention

- Prevention of Venous Thromboembolism policy (PD2019_057). [Available here](#)

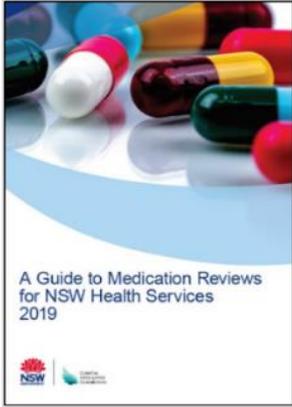
Links

[International Forum on Quality & Safety in Healthcare](#) 30 September to 2 October 2020 in Sydney. Call for posters is now open.

For further information

www.cec.health.nsw.gov.au, or email us at CEC-Medicationsafety@health.nsw.gov.au

Continuity of Medication Management



In partnership with the Medication Review Working Group (a subgroup of the Continuity of Medication Management Expert Advisory Group) the CEC has developed a Guide to Medication Reviews for NSW Health Services as a resource for health services and clinicians. The Guide is intended to form a basis for a common understanding

of medication review and provides guidance on best practice.

The Guide specifically supports action 4.10a of the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards providing advice on best practice when performing medication reviews. The Guide is available on the [Continuity of Medication Management webpage](#).



High-Risk Medicines

The CEC continues to work with the Health Education and Training Institute on a suite of High-Risk Medicines education resources. The Safe Use of Opioids module has been completed and is now available on [My Health Learning](#). The target audience is clinicians handling opioid medicines.

The High-Risk Medicines Management policy ([PD2019_058](#)) with a revised Hydromorphone Standard was published on December 3rd. The revised policy includes additional requirements for the safe management of hydromorphone.

In consultation with stakeholders the CEC has developed a draft Opioid Standard for the High-Risk Medicines Management policy. The standard outlines the minimum actions required to mitigate risks associated with opioid use while in hospital and on discharge and is undergoing a consultation process during December 2019. Contact your Clinical Governance Unit for further information.



VTE Prevention

The Maternal VTE Risk Assessment Tool has been finalised, however due to the number of changes, a short consultation period has been requested by the State Management Forms Committee. Following consultation, it will be released with an updated education resource to assist with clinician training.

The eHealth team has finalised development of the electronic version of the Maternal VTE Risk

Assessment Tool. This will be released as part of the Managing Deterioration V4 release package for eMR. Communication from eHealth will be provided once available.

The Prevention of Venous Thromboembolism policy ([PD2019_057](#)) was published on the 3 December. The revised policy outlines the role of Public Health Organisations in supporting clinicians and ensuring systems are in place that promote safe VTE prevention practices.

The *Qualitative Evaluation of the Electronic VTE Risk Assessment Tool in the eMR at SESLHD* was recently completed. The study involved contextual inquiry and analysis of tool usability, risk assessment and prophylaxis outcomes. To obtain a copy of the reports, please email CEC-StopClots@health.nsw.gov.au



Community Pharmacy Palliative Care Initiative

The Community Pharmacy Palliative Care Initiative ended on 30 June 2019. The key findings from the consultation provided the framework for the development of strategic initiatives. These included:

- Developing a core palliative care medicines list for NSW community pharmacy and factsheet
- Developing a standardised palliative care education package
- Supporting the expansion of specialist palliative care education programs, such as the Program of Experience in the Palliative Approach (PEPA), to include and support community pharmacists.

Visit the [Community Pharmacy Palliative Care Initiative webpage](#) for further information.

Changes to NSW Medication Charts

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care has advised that changes have been made to several versions of the National Standard Medication Chart (NSMC). In order to align with these revised versions of the NSMC, amendments have been made to NSW medication charts.

The main changes are:

- the warfarin education record section has been replaced with an anticoagulation education record section on the adult regular and long stay charts
- an additional dose calculation field has been included in the telephone orders section on the paediatric charts.

All LHD/SHN Chief Executives have been informed of these imminent changes. The charts will be released into circulation once current stock levels are exhausted.