

Patient Safety and Quality Board Communiqué November 2006

The Patient Safety and Quality Board met on Tuesday 14 November 2006. Key discussions and outcomes included:

Coding Quality

The Board noted the initiatives being taken by the Health Information Centre (HIC) to facilitate the quality of clinical coding.

The quality of coding has a significant relationship with the quality of the information produced using variable life adjusted displays (VLAD).

HIC is looking at a range of initiatives to build capacity in the coding workforce, for example implementation of a traineeship program for coders, developing a state-wide coder competency program, providing tools to assist coding standardisation, providing coder education.

Over the last two years, a clinical classification management project has completed twenty four coding audits in public hospitals throughout Queensland. Results have been sent directly to the hospitals.

The Board acknowledged that a policy in regard to the frequency of coding audits was being development.

The Board requested HIC provide details on the progress towards meeting the recommendations made in the 2002 KPMG Audit report.

(Further information Sandra Martyn 3234 0123)

Performance indicators (VLAD)

The Board noted the planned development of performances indicators and agreed to prioritise the existing indicators, followed by

falls, pressure ulcers, failure to rescue and mental health suicides.

The development of performance indicators suitable for smaller hospitals has also been identified as a priority.

The Quality Measurement Strategy Unit has been designated the responsibility of producing a timeline showing the planned rollout of the variable life adjusted displays (VLAD).

The Board noted the analyses comparing tertiary and all other facilities relating to the VLAD.

Analysis of tertiary hospitals alone using the VLAD process showed that the same hospitals were flagged but flagging was delayed.

(Further information Sean Conway 3636 9898)

Annual Hospital Performance Report 2006

The Board noted the proposed content and layout of the Public Report to be released in 2007 and requested a draft be disseminated to members before to the December Board meeting.

Board Meetings for 2007

Commencing February 2007 the Board will meet on the third Monday of the month.

(Further information Margaret King 3636 9878)
Next meeting scheduled Tuesday

12 December 2006.

For further information, please contact:
Sean Conway, A/Director, Quality
Measurement & Strategy Unit 3636 9898,
Sean_Conway@health.qld.gov.au