

Implementation of the Clinical Initiatives Nurse Role in Emergency Departments Guideline

1. Purpose

This Guideline provides recommendations for the introduction of the Clinical Initiatives Nurse (CIN) role in Emergency Departments (ED) within Hospital and Health Services (HHSs).

2. Scope

This Guideline provides guidance to all HHS employees and all Department of Health employees working in or for HHSs. This Guideline also applies to all organisations and individuals acting as an agent for HHSs including Visiting Medical Officers and other partners, contractors, consultants and volunteers.

3. Related documents

Authorising Policy and Standard/s:

- *Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011*

Procedures, Guidelines and Protocols:

- Emergency Department Access Guideline
- Emergency Triage Education Kit
- Capacity Escalation Response Guideline
- Patient Off Stretcher Time (POST) Guideline
- Inter Hospital Transfer Guideline
- Australasian Triage Scale

Forms and templates:

- Nil

4. Guideline for the implementation of the CIN role in EDs

4.1 Staffing requirements

4.1.1. HHS Chief Executive should:

- Ensure a CIN trained staff member is available for deployment into the ED at all times seven days a week.
- Ensure the CIN is present during times of peak activity in the ED.

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4.2 Purpose of the CIN role

4.2.1 The CIN is separate and distinct from the triage nurse role.

4.2.2 The primary purpose of the CIN role is to:

- Improve patient flow through EDs
- Improve Patient Off Stretcher Times (POST) and handover processes within the ED.
- Provide care to patients in the ED waiting room when required.

4.1 Experience and knowledge required

4.3.1 The CIN should:

- Have completed the Emergency Triage Education Kit (ETEK), and shall have at least one year's triage experience and two years total ED nursing experience.
- Have completed Communication and Patient Safety training or equivalent.
- Have completed training in Aggressive Behaviour Management.

5. Review

This Guideline is due for review on: October 2016

Date of Last Review: October 2013

Supersedes: Guideline for the Implementation of the Clinical Initiatives Nurse Role in Emergency Departments (QH-HSDGDL-025-1:2012)

6. Business Area Contact

Queensland Emergency Department Strategic Advisory Panel.

7. Definitions of terms used in the policy and supporting documents

Term	Definition / Explanation / Details	Source
Clinical Initiatives Nurses (CIN)	Clinical Initiative Nurse role is to provide care to patients in the emergency department waiting room. The CIN role is separate and distinct from the triage nurse role.	Metropolitan Emergency Department Access Initiative Report, Queensland Health, 2012.
Emergency Triage Education Kit (ETEK)	The Emergency Triage Education Kit (ETEK) provides a nationally consistent approach to the educational preparation of emergency clinicians for the triage role, and promotes the consistent application of the Australasian Triage Scale (ATS).	The Department of Health website health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/casemix-ED-Triage+Review+Fact+Sheet+Documents
Hospital and Health Services (HHSs)	From July 1 2012, Hospital and Health Services will be statutory bodies with Hospital and Health Boards, accountable to the local community and	Health Reform Queensland website qhps.health.qld.gov.au/health-reform/html/what-is-reform.htm

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	the Queensland Parliament.	
Patient Off Stretcher Time (POST)	Off-stretcher time is defined as the time interval between the ambulance arriving at the ED and the patient transferred off the QAS stretcher.	Metropolitan Emergency Department Access Initiative health.qld.gov.au/publications/medai-report/final_medai_report.pdf
Triage	A triage system is the basic structure in which all incoming patients are categorised into groups using a standard urgency rating scale or structure.	Emergency Triage Education Kit, Australian Government, Department of Health and Ageing.
Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS)	A service relating to the work of rendering emergency treatment and patient care to, and the transport of, sick and injured persons.	<i>Ambulance Service Act 1991</i>

8 . Approval and Implementation

Policy Custodian:

Chair, Queensland Emergency Department Strategic Advisory Panel.

Responsible Departmental Management Team Member:

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Version Control

Version	Date	Prepared by	Comments
1.0	October 2014	CARU	Guideline developed