Medication Safety

Clinical leaders and senior managers of a health service organisation implement systems to reduce the occurrence of medication incidents, and improve the safety and quality of medicine use.

Clinicians and other members of the workforce use the systems to safely manage medicines.

Contents

Governance and systems for medication safety 2
Documentation of patient information 7
Medication management processes 9
Continuity of medication management 12
Communicating with patients and carers 13
Useful links 14

The SA Health Accreditation Resource is designed to be used in addition to the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care's resources when implementing the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards. It contains a combination of resources (policies, guidelines and tools) developed by SA Health and assists health services in identifying examples of evidence to demonstrate how to meet individual actions.

These resources are working documents that can be used by health services in their planning for assessment against the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards. Regular review and update will occur as required.

Further information is available in the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care Safety and Quality Improvement Guide.
### Criteria for the Medication Safety Standard

#### Governance and systems for medication safety

Health service organisations have mechanisms for the safe prescribing, dispensing, supplying, administering, storing, manufacturing, compounding and monitoring of the effects of medicines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actions required</th>
<th>Examples of evidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **4.1** Developing and implementing governance arrangements and organisational policies, procedures and/or protocols for medication safety, which are consistent with national and jurisdictional legislative requirements, policies and guidelines. | Examples of governance models include the establishment of Drug and Therapeutics Committees and Medication Safety Advisory Committees.  
SA Health Medicines Committees  
Content related to the Drugs of Dependence Unit, legal control of medicines, authorities to prescribe drugs of dependence, the online privileged circular and serious breaches of opioid pharmacotherapy programs can be found at: www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/drugsofdependence  
General information on South Australian legislation at www.legislation.sa.gov.au  
SA Health has information on Hazardous drugs including the Handling of Hazardous Drugs (including Cytotoxic Drugs) and Related Waste in South Australian Health Services policy and The Safe Handling of Cytotoxic Drugs and Related Wastes: Guidelines for South Australian Health Services 2012  
Policies, guidelines and information resources produced or endorsed by SA Health to promote the safe and quality use of medicines and enhance patient care. |
### Actions required: Examples of evidence

**4.2 Undertaking a regular, comprehensive assessment of medication use systems to identify risks to patient safety and implementing system changes to address the identified risks.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>4.2.1 The medication management system is regularly assessed.</th>
<th>Tools for medication systems assessment include:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>4.2.1 The medication management system is regularly assessed.</td>
<td><em>The Medication Safety Self-Assessment for Australian Hospitals (MSSA) tool</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>The Medication Safety Self-Assessment for Antithrombotic Therapy (MSSA AT) for Australian hospitals tool</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>The NSQHS Standards Monitoring Tool for Hospitals</em> - an Excel spreadsheet which allows you to track your organisation’s progress in implementing each Standard, including Medication Safety.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>The Indicators for Quality Use of Medicines in Australian Hospitals</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>National Inpatient Medication Chart Audit (NIMC) auditing</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>The Children’s Hospitals Australasia Dashboard Indicators</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Safety Learning System / Coroners reports / Alerts - review of incident, sentinel event and other data</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>APAC Key Performance Indicators</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review of prescription waiting times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4.2.2 Action is taken to reduce the risks identified in the medication management system.</td>
<td>Action plans initiated and implemented incorporating the results of reviews/audits including feedback and educational sessions to staff based on identified risks in the system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Adoption of procedures and strategies outlined in the <em>Continuity in Medication Management: A Handbook for South Australian Hospitals</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>eg medication reconciliation and Adverse Drug Reaction policies/programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Implementation of the standardised medication charts e.g. NIMC, paediatric NIMC, 4 page A4 electronic version of the NIMC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Implementation of standardised use of abbreviations and medicines terminology via ‘Spell it Out’.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Implementation of National Medicines Labelling Standards via Labelling for Safety on the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare (the Commission) website.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Medication Safety section of the SA Health website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Review of look-alike, sound-alike names and products on NSW TAG website.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Actions required:  
**4.3 Authorising the relevant clinical workforce to prescribe, dispense and administer medications.**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **4.3.1** A system is in place to verify that the clinical workforce have medication authorities appropriate to their scope of practice. | Relevant South Australian legislation is the **Controlled Substances Act 1984**:
> The **Controlled Substances (Poisons) Regulations 2011**
> Section 18 of the Act details authorisations in relation to administration, supply and prescribing of schedule 4 prescription drugs
> Section 18a of the Act details authorisation in relation to prescribing drugs of dependence (Schedule 8 prescription drugs)
> Section 31 of the Act details the permissions for registered health practitioners to manufacture, supply and administer drugs of dependence
> Regulation 18 of the Controlled substances (Poisons) Regulations 2011 detail authorisations for specified registered health practitioners to administer Schedule 4 prescription drugs
> Regulation 19 details who may prescribe prescription drugs

The **Registration of Health Practitioners – Recording and Monitoring Policy Directive** establishes standards for the recording and monitoring of professional registrations for all Health Practitioners employed by SA Health who are required to have registration with a National Board supported and managed by the Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency (AHPRA).

**Nurse Practitioner PBS prescribing as per the National Health Act 1953**

Intrathecal chemotherapy policies and procedures (awaiting final approval for state-wide use).

SA Health Credentialling and Scope of Clinical Practice Directives:
- **Authenticating Allied and Scientific Health Professionals’ Credentials Policy.**
- **Authenticating Nurse Practitioner Credentials.**
- **Credentialling and Defining the Scope of Clinical Practice for Medical and Dental Practitioners Policy.** |

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **4.3.2** The use of the medication authorisation system is regularly monitored. | Non-medical prescribing, eg formulary, processes for approval of formulary/ scope of practice.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.3.3</strong> Action is taken to increase the effectiveness of the medication authority system.</td>
<td>Local action plans and improvement activities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **C** 4.4.1 Medication incidents are regularly monitored, reported and investigated. | Incidents and near misses reported (including management sign off, review and feedback) to the Safety Learning System.  
> Health Care Act SA 2008 Section 7 & 8  
> Incident Management Policy Directive  
> Incident Management Guideline Incorporating Open Disclosure Response  
> Annual Patient Safety Reports  
Review of Coroner's reports, medico-legal claims and medication alerts.  
Data reported to Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) where appropriate.  
Medication safety alerts, notices and information disseminated by the Safety Alert Broadcast System (SABS).  
Committees with incident data review on their agendas, eg Drug and Therapeutic Committees, Medication Safety Committees and Clinical Governance Committees and unit/service level committees. |
|---|---|
| **C** 4.4.2 Action is taken to reduce the risk of an adverse medication incident. | Resources available at the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Medication Safety website.  
Resources available at the Medication Safety section of the SA Health website.  
Standardisation of best evidence-based practice includes:  
> The National Inpatient Medication Chart (NIMC)  
> ‘Spell it Out’ – Standardised Terminology, Abbreviations and Symbols for Medicines Communication (includes SA Health Policy Directive, Power Point presentation, posters and note books)  
> ‘Labelling for Safety’ – National Recommendations for User-Applied Labelling of Medicines, Fluids and Lines (includes e-learning tool, implementation pack)  
> SA Health Labelling for Safety Online Learning Package  
> Dabigatran alerts and notices  
> High Risk Medicines Toolkit Series (includes Introduction to high risk medicines, Insulin and Heparin and other anticoagulants) (not yet completed)  
South Australian Safety Alert Broadcast System  
Use of the Electronic Discharge Prescription function with the Careconnect.sa Clinical Information System (OACIS) Separation summary  
Participation in the Inter-professional communication education and training (ICET) project  
Action taken in response to circulation of state and local medication safety bulletins and newsletters, eg SA Health Medication Safety Newsletter, Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care Medication Safety newsletter, ISMP newsletter  
Use of the NPS Medication Safety Online learning program available on the NPS website.  
Incorporation of TALLman lettering in electronic systems. Information on TALLman is available at ACSQHC website. |
### Actions required: 4.5 Undertaking quality improvement activities to enhance the safety of medicines use.

| C | 4.5.1 The performance of the medication management system is regularly assessed. |
| A range of tools and resources for medications systems assessment that can be utilised each year and allow for comparison and benchmarking against like hospitals are listed under Section 4.2.1: The medication management system is regularly assessed.

| C | 4.5.2 Quality improvement activities are undertaken to reduce the risk of patient harm and increase the quality and effectiveness of medicines use. |
| A range of tools and resources are available on the Medication Safety section of the SA Health website as listed under Section 4.4.2: Action is taken to reduce the risk of an adverse medicines incident. Further resources and tools are available on the Safety and Quality section of the SA Health website. |

- Consumer Engagement
- Patient identification
- Open disclosure

**NPS Educational activities**
- NIMC online training course
- Quality Use of Medicines online training course
- The Medicinewise Practitioner
- Medication Safety
- Outreach Pharmacists for Remote Aboriginal Health (OPRAH)
**Documentation of patient information**

The clinical workforce accurately records a patient's medication history and this history is available throughout the episode of care.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actions required</th>
<th>Examples of evidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **4.6** The clinical workforce taking an accurate medication history when a patient presents to a health service organisation, or as early as possible in the episode of care, which is then available at the point of care. | **4.6.1** A best possible medication history is documented for each patient. Utilisation of the *National Inpatient Medication Chart* and the *National Medication Management Plan Form* (or a form similar to the MMP form such as the MedMAP) which incorporates sections for medication history taking and are intended to be retained at the point of care. *Continuity in Medication Management: A Handbook for South Australian Hospitals*  
Resources can be found at the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, *Medication Reconciliation*.  
*Get it right! Taking a Best Possible Medication History* is a video training tool provided by the Commission that guides clinicians on how to obtain an accurate and complete best possible medication history. |
| **4.6.2** The medication history and current clinical information is available at the point of care. | Completed medication history forms are in the patient record. |
| **4.7** The clinical workforce documenting patient’s previous adverse drug reactions on initial presentation and updating this if an adverse reaction to a medicine occurs during the episode of care. | **4.7.1** Known medication allergies and adverse drug reactions are documented in the patient clinical record. Utilisation of the *National Inpatient Medication Chart* which contains a dedicated section for the completion of information pertaining to allergies and adverse drug reactions. Utilisation of a *Medication Management Plan Form* (such as the Medication Management Plan Form)  
Alert forms  
EPAS and iPharmacy documentation  
*Preventing Adverse Drug Events – SA Health Policy Directive and Policy Guideline* |
| **4.7.2** Action is taken to reduce the risk of adverse reactions. | The SA Health *Preventing Adverse Drug Events: documenting, monitoring and communicating adverse drug reactions and allergies Policy Directive*.  
Completion of the South Australian APAC key performance indicators.  
Utilisation of computerised prescriber order entry (CPOE) systems.  
Local review of ADRs and reports/audits and EPAS. |
| **4.7.3** Adverse drug reactions are reported within the organisation and to the Therapeutic Goods Administration. | The *Therapeutic Goods Administration* provide advice on adverse drug reactions reporting at [http://www.tga.gov.au/safety/problem-medicine.htm](http://www.tga.gov.au/safety/problem-medicine.htm)  
Incident reporting through Safety Learning System.  
Local Policies on reporting of adverse drug reactions within organisations. |
**Actions required:**  

| 4.8 | The clinical workforce reviewing the patient's current medication orders against their medication history and prescriber's medication plan, and reconciling any discrepancies. |

| D 4.8.1 | Current medicines are documented and reconciled at admission and transfer of care between healthcare settings. |

|   | Utilisation of the National Inpatient Mediation Chart (NIMC). |
|   | Utilisation of the Medication Management Plan Form or similar form. |
|   | Utilisation of an Interim Residential Medication Administration Chart (or similar form) available on the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care website. |
|   | Clinical Handover guidelines |
|   | Use of the Electronic Discharge Prescription function with the Careconnect.sa Clinical Information System (OACIS) Separation summary. |
Medication management processes
The clinical workforce is supported for the prescribing, dispensing, administrating, storing, manufacturing, compounding and monitoring of medicines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actions required</th>
<th>Examples of evidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.9</strong> Ensuring that current and accurate medicines information and decision support tools are readily available to the clinical workforce when making clinical decisions related to medicines use.</td>
<td><strong>4.9.1</strong> Information and decision support tools for medicines are available to the clinical workforce at the point of care.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| C  | Access to medicines information at the point of care for example
|  | > *The Australian Medicines Handbook*.  
|  | > Electronic decision support initiatives, e.g., GFR module.  
|  | > MIMS and PBS online resources.  
|  | > *Standards for Chemotherapy Services in SA*.  
|  | > *VTE Prevention Resource Centre and Clinical Practice Guideline for the Prevention of Venous Thromboembolism* in Patients Admitted to Australian Hospitals.  
|  | > SHPA’s ‘Don’t Rush to Crush’ Handbook.  
|  | > IV guidelines (*Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook*) at SHPA website.  
|  | > Local guidelines/protocols.  
|  | > *Local guidelines on chemotherapy*. |

| C  | **4.9.2** The use of the information and decision support tools is regularly reviewed. |
|  | Local audits and reporting. |

| C  | **4.9.3** Action is taken to improve the effectiveness of information and decision support tools. |
|  | Action plans derived from audits conducted.  
|  | Updates/reviews of decision support tools. |

| **4.10** Ensuring that medicines are distributed and stored securely, safely and in accordance with the manufacturer’s directions, legislation, jurisdictional orders and operational directives. | **4.10.1** Risks associated with secure storage and safe distribution of medicines are regularly reviewed. |
| C  | The *Society of Hospital Pharmacists Australia* provides standards for the safe storage and distribution of medicines.  
|  | *Code of Practice for the Storage and Transport of drugs of dependence*.  
|  | *Alerts of intravenous Potassium Chloride and Vincristine*.  
|  | *Safe Handling of Cytotoxic Drugs and Related Wastes: Guidelines for SA Health Services 2012*. |

| C  | **4.10.2** Action is taken to reduce the risks associated with storage and distribution of medicines. |
|  | Local audits/reports and action plans  
|  | *Samples (Product Starter Packs) – SA Health Policy Directive*. |

| C  | **4.10.3** The storage of temperature-sensitive medicines is monitored. |
|  | Local guidelines.  
|  | *National Vaccine Storage Guidelines*. |
### Standard 4: Medication Safety - SA Health Accreditation Resource to support Health Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actions required</th>
<th>Examples of evidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>C 4.10.4</strong> A system that is consistent with legislative and jurisdictional requirements for the disposal of unused, unwanted or expired medications is in place.</td>
<td>The Policy Directive for disposal of transdermal drugs of dependence drug delivery systems.&lt;br&gt;Regulation 45 of the Controlled Substances (Poisons) Regulations 2011 details the requirements for destruction of drugs of dependence.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C 4.10.5</strong> The system for disposal of unused, unwanted or expired medications is regularly monitored.</td>
<td>Local audits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C 4.10.6</strong> Action is taken to increase compliance with the system for storage, distribution and disposal of medications.</td>
<td>Action plans developed from audit results.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.11</strong> Identifying high-risk medicines in the organisation and ensuring they are stored, prescribed, dispensed and administered safely.</td>
<td>Safe Handling of Cytotoxic Drugs and Related Wastes: Guidelines for SA Health Services 2012&lt;br&gt;&gt; Completion of the risk assessment form.&lt;br&gt;&gt; Completion of the risk analysis to determine if the guideline requirements are being met.&lt;br&gt;Local drug guidelines and usage Policies.&lt;br&gt;Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC) High Risk Medicines program&lt;br&gt;SHPA’s ‘Don’t Rush to Crush’ Handbook&lt;br&gt;Local policies on use of oral dispensers for the administration of oral medicines (ie for nasogastric) at the RAH, WCH and FMC.&lt;br&gt;Patient Identification.&lt;br&gt;Chemotherapy protocols.&lt;br&gt;Clinical Handover guidelines.&lt;br&gt;IV guidelines (Australian Injectable Drugs Handbook) at SHPA website.&lt;br&gt;Alerts systems, such as the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, SA Health SABS alerts.&lt;br&gt;ISMP list of high-alert medicines.&lt;br&gt;Warfarin booklets, initiation and reversal of over-anticoagulation guidelines, such as The Age-Adjusted Warfarin Initiation Protocol and the Warfarin reversal: consensus guidelines, on behalf of the Australian Society of Thrombosis and Haemostasis.&lt;br&gt;Medication Safety SELF ASSESSMENT for Antithrombotic Therapy in Australian Hospitals (MSSA AT) Tool.&lt;br&gt;National Inpatient Medication Chart Audit System.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actions required:</td>
<td>Examples of evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C 4.11.2</strong> Action is taken to reduce the risks of storing, prescribing, dispensing and administering high-risk medicines.</td>
<td>Safe Handling of Cytotoxic Drugs and Related Wastes: Guidelines for SA Health Services 2012.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>KPIs for warfarin (APAC guidelines).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Evaluate heparin therapy and storage using the Unfractionated Heparin Audit Tool.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>‘Spell it out’ documents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State-wide pharmaceutical contracts using standardised solutions, eg potassium chloride, heparins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Participation in the National NIMC VTE phase 2 pilot to evaluate the efficacy and safety of a VTE risk assessment and prophylaxis prescribing section in the NIMC in adult patients.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Community Pharmacy Public Sector Clozapine Program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clozapine information for patients and clinicians.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Use of the Opioids for Acute Pain resource kit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NPS online learning modules (as above).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NSW Health Safety Notice. Newer oral anticoagulants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Local paediatric guidelines and formularies eg WCH guidelines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Local sites Therapeutic Drug Monitoring protocols such as Gentamicin and Vancomycin.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Continuity of medication management

The clinician provides a complete list of a patient’s medicines to the receiving clinician and patient when handing over care or changing medicines.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actions required</th>
<th>Examples of evidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.12</strong> Ensuring a current comprehensive list of medicines, and the reason(s) for any change, is provided to the receiving clinician and the patient during clinical handovers.</td>
<td>Utilisation of the National Inpatient Medication Chart. Utilisation of the Medication Management Plan Form or similar form. Use of the Electronic Discharge Prescription function with the Careconnect.sa Clinical Information System (OACIS) Separation summary. Medprof (Medication Profile) or similar form. Medilist (Medication List) or similar form. Utilisation of the National Interim Residential Medication Administration Chart available on the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C 4.12.1</strong> A system is in use that generates and distributes a current and comprehensive list of medicines and explanation of changes in medicines.</td>
<td>Medication Profile (Medprof).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C 4.12.2</strong> A current and comprehensive list of medicines is provided to the patient and/or carer when concluding an episode of care.</td>
<td>Utilisation of an Interim Residential Medication Administration Chart (or similar form) available on the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care. Use of the Electronic Discharge Prescription function with the Careconnect.sa Clinical Information System (OACIS) Separation summary. EPAS.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>C 4.12.3</strong> A current comprehensive list of medicines is provided to the receiving clinician during clinical handover.</td>
<td>APAC KPIs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Communicating with patients and carers

The clinical workforce informs patients about the options, risks and their responsibilities for an agreed medicines management plan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actions required:</th>
<th>Examples of evidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.13</strong> The clinical workforce informs patients about their options, risks and responsibilities for an agreed medication management plan.</td>
<td>The provision of local consumer medicines information leaflets, especially when supplying new medicines. Further information is provided by the <a href="https://www.nps.gov.au/">National Prescribing Service Better Choices, Better Health initiative</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.13.1</strong> The clinical workforce provides patients with patient specific medicine information, including medication treatment options, benefits and associated risks.</td>
<td>Warfarin booklets (RAH, RGH, FMC). Consumer Medicines Information (CMI) booklets. Opioid information guidelines (RAH and WCH). Local information sheets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.14</strong> Developing a medication management plan in partnership with patients and carers.</td>
<td>Utilisation of the Medication Management Plan form or similar form.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.14.1</strong> An agreed medication management plan is documented and available in the patient’s clinical record.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.15</strong> Providing current medicines information to patients in a format that meets their needs whenever new medicines are prescribed or dispensed.</td>
<td>Resources relating to <a href="https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/healthtopics/aboriginal-health">Improving the Health of Aboriginal People</a>. CMIs. Hospital generated patient information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.15.1</strong> Information on medicines is provided to patients and carers in a format that is understood and meaningful.</td>
<td>Communication material developed for workforce and patients and carers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.15.2</strong> Action is taken in response to patient feedback to improve medicines information distributed by the health service organisation to patients.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Useful links

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care Safety and Quality Improvement Guide


SA Health Safety and Quality resources  http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/safetyandquality

SA Health medicines committees governance structures
http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/SA+Health+Internet/Clinical+resources/SA+Health+medicines+committees/South+Australian+medicines+committees?contentDr=1f4833804ddef8e1b8a3fe6d722e15628useDefaultText=1&useDefaultDesc=1

Drugs of Dependence Unit (DDU) content including legal control of medicines and the online privileged circular

SA Legislation www.legislation.sa.gov.au

Information on Hazardous drugs
http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/Public+Content/SA+Health+Internet/Clinical+resources/Clinical+topics/Medicines+and+drugs/Hazardous+drugs

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) Legislation

SA Health information to promote the safe and quality use of medicines and enhance patient care

The Medication Safety Self-Assessment for Australian Hospitals (MSSA) tool

The Medication Safety Self-Assessment for Antithrombotic Therapy (MSSA AT) for Australian hospitals tool

NSQHS Standards Monitoring Tool for Hospitals

The 2012 ISMP International Medication Safety Self-Assessment for Oncology tool
https://mssa.ismp-canada.org/data/oncology/mssa_oncology.pdf

The Indicators for Quality Use of Medicines in Australian Hospitals

National Inpatient Medication Chart Audit (NIMC)

The Children’s Hospitals Australasia Dashboard Indicators  http://children.wcha.asn.au/benchmarking

Safety Learning System
SA Health APAC documents
http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/Public+Content/SA+Health+Internet/Clinical+resources/Clinical+topics/Medicines+and+drugs/Continuity+in+medication+management/Continuity+in+medication+management

Spell it out

National Medicines Labelling Standards via Labelling for Safety on the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care's (the Commission) website.

High risk medicines safety alerts on the Commission's website

Look-alike, sound-alike names and products on NSWTAG website

South Australian legislation is the Controlled Substances Act 1984

The Controlled Substances (Poisons) Regulations 2011

Registration of Health Practitioners – Recording and Monitoring Policy Directive

Nurse Practitioner PBS prescribing as per the National Health Act 1953

Authenticating Allied and Scientific Health Professionals’ Credentials Policy

Authenticating Nurse Practitioner Credentials

Credentialling and Defining the Scope of Clinical Practice for Medical and Dental Practitioners Policy

Health Care Act SA 2008 Section 7 & 8

Incident Management Policy Directive

Incident Management Guideline Incorporating Open Disclosure Response

Annual Patient Safety Reports
Medication Safety


Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia provides standards for the safe storage and distribution of medicines

Code of Practice for the Storage and Transport of drugs of dependence

Policy for disposal of transdermal drugs of dependence drug delivery systems

Regulation 45 of the Controlled Substances (Poisons) Regulations 2011 details the requirements for destruction of drugs of dependence at:

Safe Handling of Cytotoxic Drugs and Related Wastes: Guidelines for SA Health Services 2012

Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC) High Risk Medicines program

ISMP list of high-alert medicines http://www.ismp.org/Tools/highalertmedications.pdf


Evaluate heparin therapy and storage using the Unfractionated Heparin Audit Tool

Community Pharmacy Public Sector Clozapine Program at:
http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/Public+content/SA+Health+Internet/Clinical+resources/Clinical+programs/programs+for+the+prescribing+and+supply+of+medicines/highly+specialised+drug+programs/Community+pharmacy+Public+sector+Clozapine+program?contentID=1af176804e01c050b396f7ab4434e79e&useDefaultText=1&useDefaultDesc=1

Clozapine information for patients and clinicians at:
http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/Public+content/SA+Health+Internet/Clinical+resources/Clinical+topics/Medicines+and+drugs/Clozapine/Clozapine?contentID=27cc1d1804c570b96ac17ace408a887a&useDefaultText=1&useDefaultDesc=1

NSW Health Safety Notice, Newer oral anticoagulants:

Local paediatric guidelines and formularies e.g. WCH guidelines at:
