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AN EVALUATION OF THE NEW SOUTH WALES HEALTH SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Funding Source: Clinical Excellence Commission, NSW and NSW Department of Health

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Duration: 2004-2005

Description: As part of the CEC Research Program and the NSW Department of Health Knowledge Management Project, the CCGR undertook an evaluation of the NSW Health Safety Improvement Program (SIP) was conducted late in 2004, and early 2005. The evaluation was conducted using a triangulated, multi-method and multiple study approach.

SIP has various components of which four are the cornerstones of the program: training a cohort of more than 2,500 clinicians in safety improvement techniques and approaches; generating and managing information about incidents; conducting root cause analyses of serious events; and making recommendations and actioning these as appropriate. We found that SIP has made considerable gains in addressing safety. A range of recommendations to further strengthen safety in NSW were made under four headings: monitoring and support for SIP; anchoring and extending the gains made by SIP; further education and training in SIP-related areas; and research, evidence and communication of SIP results.

Monographs and Presentations

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Mallock NA, Westbrook MT, Braithwaite J (2005). *Evaluation of the Safety Improvement Program in New South Wales: Study number 4 - report on the applicability of the SIP training course to participants*. Centre for Clinical Governance Research, UNSW: Sydney, pp.23, ISBN 0 7334 2254 3.

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