

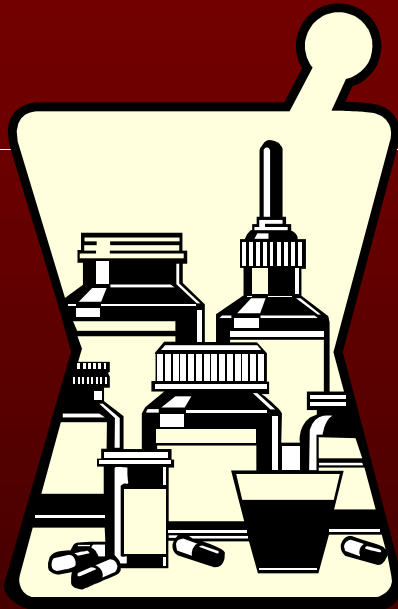


SAFE MEDICATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME

Issue 1 – June 2008

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WELCOME

Kia ora and welcome to the first issue of the **Safe Medication Management Programme** newsletter. This newsletter is designed to provide all stakeholders with up to date information on the progress and development of the programme. The newsletter will be issued every two months and the team welcomes your feedback.

OVERVIEW

The Ministerial appointed Quality Improvement Committee (QIC) has identified five key priority initiatives to improve the quality and care provided to consumers. One of these initiatives is the Safe Medication Management Programme to be implemented over four years.

The programme is a collaborative across all District Health Boards with an initial focus in the hospital setting. However the vision for the programme is for safe medication management across the community. Therefore a number of the foundation blocks for the programme will be developed from a total sector perspective.

A Safe Medication Management Steering Group has been established that includes clinicians, quality, consumers and operational groups.

The communication plan is an important element for the success of this programme and is designed to make all key stakeholders feel involved.

OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of the Safe Medication Management Programme is to improve patient safety by reducing the number of medication errors.

SUB PROJECTS

There are 8 sub projects within the Safe Medication Management Programme. These are:

- 1 Standardised medication chart
- 2 Medicine reconciliation
- 3 Standardised hospital medicine management systems
- 4 Introduction of an e-medication record, e-prescribing or a clinician point of entry system
- 5 Linking all medicine management information systems
- 6 Unit dose pharmaceutical packaging
- 7 Introduction of bedside verification
- 8 Training and support for DHB staff

PROGRAMME LAUNCH

A combined launch of the Safe Medication Management Programme and Optimising the Patient's Journey Project is to be held in Wellington on 1 July 2008 and opened by the Hon David Cunliffe. Annette Bartley, Health Foundation/IHI Fellow and Head of Modernisation at the Conwy & Denbighshire NHS Trust Wales will be the guest speaker. Annette is an international authority on quality improvement. Representatives from stakeholders have been invited to attend the launch.