

FACT SHEET

Medication Reconciliation Education Package (Nursing & Midwifery)

Purpose of the Education Package

The Medication Reconciliation Education Package for Nursing and Midwifery staff contains workshops and supporting materials for in-house training of nurses and midwives, to increase their knowledge and skills in undertaking medication reconciliation processes. The Package complements the suite of resources already available that support the education of all clinicians in medication reconciliation processes, as part of the CEC mandate to promote and support improved clinical care, safety and quality across the NSW public health system. Local Health Districts (LHDs) and Specialty Health Networks (SHN) can use this Package towards accreditation against the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards.

Development of the Education Package

The Package, developed by the CEC in collaboration with NSW Health clinicians and HETI, responds to requests from rural and remote areas with limited pharmacist availability to lead medication reconciliation processes. The Package was developed in 2016 and piloted across five health facilities in 2017 to ensure it was fit for purpose. The five pilot sites included Cobar Health Service, Western NSW LHD, Forensic Hospital and Long Bay Hospital, Justice Health & Forensic Mental Health Network, MEHI Cluster, Hunter New England LHD and Milton Ulladulla Hospital, Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD.

Using the Education Package

Staff should first ensure that the Package aligns with their organisation's existing procedures and policies around nurse and midwife involvement in medication reconciliation processes. If unsure, staff can discuss with their line manager and/or medication safety representative, or contact your local Drug and Therapeutics Committee.

Availability of the Education Package on My Health Learning (HETI Online)

Workshop facilitators have the ability to set up a 'classroom' for locally organised workshops in My Health Learning. Each workshop has its own course code and can be located by searching for 'Medication Reconciliation Education Workshop (Nursing & Midwifery)'. This will assist in recording participants' attendance at workshops for continuing education and reporting purposes.

Using the Education Package in hospitals with electronic medication management systems

All workshops in the Package accommodate both the paper and electronic medication management process. Although the workshops primarily discuss paper tools such as the National Inpatient Medication Chart (NIMC) and the Medication Management Plan (MMP), the principles of medication reconciliation are relevant to an electronic prescribing environment. Workshop facilitators can adapt the workshop presentations to suit the local context, workflows and learning needs of staff.

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