

## Communique | Meeting 2 2019

# 'Count me in': measure development and public reporting

The Victorian Clinical Council (the council) partnered with the Victorian Agency for Health Information (VAHI) to hold a forum on Thursday 6 June 2019 to inform the 2019-20 workplan for measures development for the health system and VAHI's public reporting program.

### PURPOSE

Council members came together to provide advice to VAHI on:

- confirmation of high priority domains
- identification of measures that fill gaps in current reporting
- shaping the agenda for future public reporting.

Associate Professor Jill Sewell, Chair of the council provided an update on the progress of advice from previous meetings including diversity and cultural safety and communicating for safety. The council was also updated on the recruitment of 10 new members to fill existing and new positions and ensure a diverse and dynamic membership.

### Overview and context

- **Dr Lance Emerson**, Chief Executive Officer, VAHI

Lance set the context for the meeting with an overview of their consultation process to develop measures, as well as the current reporting environment. Lance spoke about:

- the Australian Health Performance Framework
- current and future reporting and reforms including the development of a quality and safety measures 'spine'.

### Priority domains

- **Paula Wilton, Director, Clinical Analytics and Outcomes Research**

Paula spoke about the VAHI and council prioritisation process to identify clinical and population domains for measure development. A matrix was used to show analysis of the domains according to strategic documents, burden of disease and clinical variation.

#### The final 10 domains were:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander/CALD health outcomes and cultural safety
- Child and youth health
- Mental health
- Palliative care
- Ambulance care
- Hospital Acquired Complications (HACs) includes respiratory
- Critical care
- Maternity and newborn
- Surgery (includes musculoskeletal)
- Infection

Council members were then asked to discuss and to vote on the top four priority domains.

## Measure development

**Kira Leeb**, Executive Director Health and Systems Performance Reporting, VAHI presented the top four priority domains as voted by the council members:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander/CALD health outcomes and cultural safety
- Child and youth health
- Mental health
- Palliative care

Kira then gave an overview of the measure development process including:

- the measure development lifecycle
- key considerations and expected timeframes
- the Australian Health Performance Framework.

### Workshop

Council members broke into groups to discuss how existing and proposed new measures relate to the Australian Health Performance Framework and identify potential measurement gaps.

Each member received a domain information pack which included:

- relevant statistics on key issues and policies/initiatives
- a list of existing and new (proposed) measures mapped to the relevant dimensions in the AHPF

Key questions for feedback were:

- What are your overall views on the areas of alignment and gaps for the domain?
- Should we aim for a balanced scorecard or focus on measures that drive patient safety and consumer choice? What measures would best address this?
- Are there any other issues to consider?

Each group reported their collective recommendations on proposed areas for measure development for that particular domain.

## Public reporting

Kira also shared:

- a summary of the evidence supporting public reporting
- an international and national perspective on public reporting
- an overview of information already publicly reported and VAHI initiatives
- the transition of the Victorian Health Service Performance website to a new platform with improved content and structure.

Consumer representative **Rebekah Kaberry** presented the consumer perspective on public reporting. Rebekah is a consumer representative for the Oral Health PROMs Working Group with International Consortium for Health Outcomes Measurement (ICHOM) ICHOM, the Victorian Surgical Consultative Council and the Board Safety and Quality.

Rebekah spoke of the importance of increased transparency through public reporting of health service performance.

The council also heard from panel members:

- **Dr Lance Emerson**, CEO, VAHI
- **Ms Rebekah Kaberry**, Consumer
- **Professor Rod Hunt**, Director of Neonatal Medicine, Royal Children's Hospital and Chair Maternity and Newborn Clinical Network INSIGHT Committee
- **Mr Matthew Hadfield**, MB ChB (Hons), FRCS (England), FRACS (Vascular) Consultant Vascular Surgeon and Deputy Chair, Victorian Clinical Council
- **Ann Jorgensen**, Consumer



## CONCLUSION

Jill and Lance provided a summary of the key messages from the day and discussed the next steps including implementation of council ideas.

A summary of the key themes from the meeting will be published in the VAHI July newsletter which will be available on the [VAHI website](#). You can sign up to receive the VAHI newsletter [here](#).

Outputs from the meeting will be used to develop formal advice including recommendations for the department, Safer Care Victoria and the VAHI regarding priority areas for measure development and public reporting.

The next council meeting will be held Thursday 7 November 2019 and focus on '*Achieving consistency in healthcare*'.

## RESOURCES

- The National Health Information and Performance Principal Committee (NHPPC). [The Australian Health Performance Framework](#). Brisbane, Queensland; 2017
- Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC). [Public reporting of safety and quality in public and private hospitals: Report on consumer and clinician focus groups and expert interviews](#). Sydney; 2019
- Canaway R, Bismark M, Dunt D, Prang KH, Kelaher M 2018, '[What is meant by public?: Stakeholder views on strengthening impacts of public reporting of hospital performance data](#)'. *Soc Sci Med*. 202:143-15



Associate Professor Jill Sewell  
AM

Chair, Victorian Clinical  
Council

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jill Sewell".