Systems-focused framework for Morbidity & Mortality meetings

Pilot Program – Expression of Interest

OFFICIAL

29 May 2023

Safer Care Victoria is seeking up to 10 rural and regional health services, and 5 metropolitan health services to participate in a pilot program to standardise Morbidity & Mortality (M&M) meetings using a systems-focused framework.

Is your organisation:

* a public or private health service in metropolitan, regional or rural Victoria?
* looking to improve the quality and consistency of M&M reviews within your health service?
* looking to improve staff psychological safety in M&M meetings when reviewing cases and patient safety events within your health service?
* wanting to generate stronger, system-focused recommendations across your health service that will lead to broader systems change?

If you are one or more of the above, then we invite you to express your interest in joining our SCV-led pilot program.

## Background

M&M meetings are well established within healthcare and have evolved from a peer-review tool to promote education and learning to an invaluable method for reviewing the quality of care delivered to patients and the identification of improvement opportunities.

Currently, there is no standardised format for M&M meetings in Victoria. Studies demonstrate that a structured, systematic review process is required to direct discussions towards system and process improvement, and away from individual error. They also identify considerable variability in the review process, structure, and integration of review findings into wider hospital governance systems, which can limit organisational learning and accountability and can devalue these meetings for clinical staff as a tick-box exercise.

## Project Aim

This pilot program aims to trial:

* a systems-focused framework and a structured approach to M&M patient safety event reviews
* an accompanying toolkit to assist with implementing the framework in M&M meetings
* guides to improve organisational oversight and governance.

This standardised approach will guide clinicians to examine the complex systems interactions, encourage team psychological safety ([just culture](https://www.safercare.vic.gov.au/support-training/adverse-event-review-and-response/just-culture-training-and-resources#:~:text=The%20factsheets%20are%20in%20line%20with%20training%20content%2C,and%20just%20responses%20to%20adverse%20patient%20safety%20events.)), and may increase the likelihood of future adverse event reporting. It will also help identify and subsequently theme system issues for broader organisational improvement and the delivery of high quality and safe patient care.

## Why Apply?

This pilot program will enable you to:

* be part of the inaugural systems-focused M&M framework with accompanying toolkit to be published for Victorian health services
* standardise your M&M meetings to improve the quality and consistency of reviews and resulting recommendations
* improve the evaluation of systems factors that contribute to patient safety events, thereby enabling more sustainable systems-change and prevention of future harm in your organisation
* contribute to the development of the final framework that will be published for all Victorian health services via post-evaluation feedback.

## What Do I Need to Know?

* Applications close at 11.59 pm on Sunday 18 June 2023.
* Our Patient Safety Review team will review applications.
* Successful applicants will be notified by email.

## How to Apply

Fill out the below Expression of Interest Form and email it to: [safetyreviews@safercare.vic.gov.au](mailto:safetyreviews@safercare.vic.gov.au).

## More Information

For more information on the project, please contact:

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| **Yvonne Higgott**  Sabbatical appointee Patient Safety Review Team, Safety Improvement Branch SCV  T 03 9500 7321 E [yvonne.higgott@safercare.vic.gov.au](mailto:yvonne.higgott@safercare.vic.gov.au) | **Sara Gartside**  SCV Fellow 23/24 Patient Safety Review Team, Safety Improvement Branch SCV  T 03 9500 7454 E [sara.gartside@safercare.vic.gov.au](mailto:sara.gartside@safercare.vic.gov.au?subject=Systems-based%20framework%20for%20M&M%20meetings%20-%20Pilot%20project) |

To learn more about Safer Care Victoria, please visit our website: <https://www.safercare.vic.gov.au/>.

# Expression of Interest Form

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| --- | --- |
| Systems-based framework for M&M meetings - Pilot project | |
| Title: |  |
| First name: |  |
| Second name: |  |
| Email address: |  |
| Preferred contact number: |  |
| What health service do you want to enrol in the project? | |
| Please identify your health service’s demographic:  Metropolitan  Rural  Regional If ticked rural or regional, please specify region:  Barwon South Western  Grampians  Loddon Mallee Hume  Gippsland | |
| Selection criteria 1  Why would you like to participate in the M&M pilot project? | |
| Selection criteria 2  Can you commit to attending an education session on the use of the framework and toolkit, and to responding to brief surveys before, during and after the pilot? | |
| Selection criteria 3  Can you commit to using the framework and toolkit for at least two M&M meetings?  Larger organisations will need to commit to at least two departments participating in the pilot. | |
| Selection criteria 4  How will you ensure the nominated department(s) will follow through with piloting the M&M framework? | |
| Selection criteria 5  Please nominate a contact and executive sponsor to co-ordinate your health service’s participation in the pilot project.   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Main contact:** | **Executive sponsor:** | | Name: | Name: | | Email: | Email: | | Signature: | Signature: | | |
| Successful health services will be contacted and participate in an education session on the project and using the developed M&M framework and associated toolkit.  If you have a preferred time for the above education session, please indicate below:   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | Day | Morning | Afternoon | | Monday |  |  | | Tuesday |  |  | | Wednesday |  |  | | Thursday |  |  | | Friday |  |  |   Comments (Optional): | |
| Please submit your completed application form to: [safetyreviews@safercare.vic.gov.au](mailto:safetyreviews@safercare.vic.gov.au). | |