
Pilot Project: DETECT: Delirium Evaluation in the Timely delivery of Emergency Care Trial

Acute and Continuing Care Learning Health Networks

Questions and answers

OFFICIAL

Who is Safer Care Victoria?

Established in January 2017, Safer Care Victoria (SCV) is the state's healthcare safety and quality improvement agency. We work with consumers, families and carers, clinicians, and health services to:

- monitor and improve the quality and safety of care delivered across our health system
- run targeted improvement projects and collaboratives, spreading success across the state
- develop best-practice clinical guidance and resources for clinicians
- review and support adverse patient safety event reviews to look for improvement opportunities
- engage purposefully and systematically with consumers, clinicians, health services and subject matter experts to ensure quality and safety improvement is a key agenda across the state.

Relevant resources

Follow the links below to learn more about the work we do:

- [Safer Care Victoria website](#)
- [Partnering in Healthcare Framework](#)

What is the Centre of Clinical Excellence?

The Centre of Clinical Excellence (CoCE) is the primary mechanism for SCV to engage consumers and clinicians to drive and promote quality improvement and innovation, and address variation in clinical practice. Meaningful engagement with clinicians, healthcare leaders, consumers and the wider health sector will enable sustained improvement in the safety and quality of healthcare. The CoCE works collaboratively across SCV drawing on expertise in leadership development, innovation, system improvement, and consumer experience to achieve improvement objectives.

What are the Acute and Continuing Care Learning Health Networks?

Learning Health Networks (LHN) bring together clinicians, people with lived experience, academics, and improvement specialists to improve patient outcomes. The Acute Care LHN and the Continuing Care LHN at SCV were established in 2022 with the purpose of driving and delivering priority work for a sustainable impact across the healthcare system.

The **Acute Care LHN** encompasses critical care, ambulance, emergency, infectious diseases, and paediatrics.

The **Continuing Care LHN** works with people with complex and long-term needs.

The current project has identified overlapping priorities for acute and continuing care with the focus on improving systems for older people at increased risk, within emergency care.

What is the purpose of the pilot project: ‘DETECT 1’ (Delirium Evaluation in the Timely delivery of Emergency Care Trial)

The first exploratory phase of this pilot project aims to better understand the proportion of older people at high risk for delirium in Victorian Emergency Departments (ED) and Urgent Care Centres (UCCs), by improving delirium screening for people over 65 years (over 45 years for First Nations) on presentation to the ED and UCCs. Health Services recruited for the project will test a series of change ideas designed and developed by an expert working group comprising consumers and clinicians (allied health, medical, nursing, quality, and safety).

On completion of this initial pilot project, there will be potential to engage in the project's second phase (DETECT 2). This will involve developing or scaling and spreading suitable interventions to improve patient outcomes, as the next step to an ED delirium pathway.

How many health services will be recruited for the pilot project?

The pilot project is expected to include at least five emergency departments and/or urgent care centres across metropolitan, regional, and rural health services in Victoria. This number may vary depending on applications.

Do I need to have any experience in quality improvement?

No, you do not have to have worked in quality improvement or with SCV in the past to be part of the pilot project.

What is the time commitment for this role?

Healthcare services must commit to the initial 10-month duration of the project, including participation in meetings/interactive learning sessions (tailored to the requirements of the individual health service). Protected time (estimated 2-4 hours per week) for project work inclusive of attendance at learning sessions, training of staff and collection of data before, during and after the project.

Additional time may be required for self-directed learning through SCV quality improvement resources and informal and formal training opportunities.

Can any emergency services or urgent care providers apply?

The scope of this initial pilot project will be focused on ED and UCCs, as these facilities are a main entry point into health services across the state. These services have been agreed upon by an expert working group as equipped to provide first-line delirium risk screening.

Other first responders including Ambulance, Victorian Virtual Emergency Department and Priority Primary Care Centres are currently outside the scope of this pilot project.

Will I be remunerated for my time?

Health services will not receive additional funding from SCV to participate in this pilot project. However, participating project team members will be offered priority and free access to a tailored suite of Quality Improvement programs and Improvement Coaching throughout the life of the project. The capabilities developed through participation and access to these Quality Improvement programs will enable you to drive change initiatives in other areas of your health service.

Can my health service apply if it is situated in a regional or rural area?

Yes, regional, and rural health services are encouraged to apply. Meetings will be held virtually (via Microsoft Teams platform).

Please refer to the above section “*What is the time commitment for this role?*” for details surrounding virtual meetings and expectations.

When do I start?

We are expecting the first meeting for health services to be on **Wednesday 28 February 2024**. Health service project teams must be available to attend this session. The timeframe for this project is 10 months, concluding in December 2024.

Who do I contact if I would like more information?

For further information, please contact acutecarelhn@safercare.vic.gov.au.