

# HANDS-ON INFECTION CONTROL NEWSLETTER DAY HOSPITALS

October 2019

SPRING NEWSLETTER

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## Important Dates

### Antibiotic Awareness Week

11 – 17 November 2019

### ACIPC Conference 2019

18–20 November 2019, Perth

## Updates/ Quick Links

### Antibiotic Therapeutic Guidelines

The newly updated guidelines are out now and available in digital format.

These guidelines support health service organisations Antimicrobial Stewardship Programs and are an essential resource for clinicians <https://www.tg.org.au/>

New guidelines for surgical prophylaxis include:

- Skin and soft tissue surgery;
- ENT surgery;
- Oral maxillofacial surgery; and
- Infertility diagnostic procedures.

### Statewide Policy Interim Screening for Multi-Resistant Organisms 17 July 2019

### Creutzfeldt Jakob Disease Policy Update

## NSQHS Standards Orientation Course

This course aims to provide an overview of the second edition of the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards for assessors and the workforce from health service organisations. It is self-paced and includes learning material such as case studies, videos and tips for implementing the NSQHS Standards.

The NSQHS Standards Orientation Course is freely available for anyone who would like to learn about the NSQHS Standards. Eleven modules cover:

- An introduction to the NSQHS Standards
- The assessment of safety and quality systems
- The Australian Health Service Safety and Quality Accreditation (AHSSQA) Scheme
- Each of the eight standards.

Our team has found completing Standard 3 particularly helpful.

Please follow this link to [access the enrolment form](#) Use this form to enroll or re-enroll/transfer courses. Enrolment to Course 4 (2019C) is open until 30 October 2019.

## Meeting AS/NZS 4187:2014 Compliance

Many of the regulatory and accreditation criteria for healthcare facilities relate to decontamination, sterilization and maintenance procedures. The standards often require hospital SPD, BMET, OR, Infection Control and other technicians to follow and have easy access to manufacturers' directives regarding preparing and caring for their devices, equipment and systems.

OneSOURCE Document Site maintains the world's largest collection of manufacturers' validated Instructions for Use (IFUs), preventive maintenance manuals and Safety Data Sheets (SDSs). The company's databases, described in the article, give technicians across the entire facility ready access to this information – details that are critical for maintaining patient safety and documenting facility compliance. [Download this new whitepaper](#), which discusses OneSOURCE Document site.

### AS18/07: Reprocessing of reusable medical devices in health service organisations (Update issued August 2019).

There has been a further update to the requirements regarding the issue of water testing which states - To comply with the requirements of Action 3.14 health service organisations are permitted to:

- **Return to or maintain pre AS/NZS 4187:2014** water quality input requirements and water quality monitoring requirements
- Revise or delay implementation plans until the Commission clarifies the minimum requirements to comply with Action 3.14 in November 2019.

## NSQHS Peripheral Venous Access Clinical Care Standard

- A working group has been convened and progress is underway
- The goal of the *Peripheral Venous Access Clinical Care Standard* is to promote the judicious use of PIVCs across their lifespan and to reduce complications by highlighting the importance of maintaining and preserving a patient's vessel health

## The NSQHS Standards microsite has moved

The information on the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards is now available on the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care's website:  
[www.safetyandquality.gov.au](http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au).

The NSQHS Standards landing page contains links to the NSQHS Standards and related pages, such as:

- Implementation of the NSQHS Standard
- Assessment to the NSQHS Standard
- Resources for the NSQHS Standards
- NSQHS Standards Advice Centre

## Surgical NAPS (SNAPS)

SNAPS was developed to collect more detailed information about prescribing practices for surgical antimicrobial prophylaxis to guide quality improvement programs. Join the currently over **60 facilities** that have already started to enter their data.

Official timeframe to enter data **1 May to 14 December 2019**.

## Contact Us

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## VICNISS Infection Control Toolbox

VICNISS have created a new resource, available on their website, to assist any healthcare worker quickly and easily access infection control information. Each topic contains a reference to the NSQHS standards as well as links to various state and federal government sites and much more.

Available from: <https://www.vicniss.org.au/resources/infection-control-toolbox/>

## AURA 2019: Third Australian report on antimicrobial use and resistance in human health

The most common indications for antimicrobial use remained the same from 2013 to 2017. Surgical prophylaxis was the most common reason for a patient to receive an antimicrobial prescription during their hospital stay. This proportion decreased to 13.0% in 2017, after peaking at 15.6% in 2015. The decrease may be due to a reduction in prescriptions related to surgical prophylaxis being audited or a relative increase in the other prescribing indications.

In 2017, 30.5% of surgical prophylaxis prescriptions for hospital patients extended 24 hours or more beyond the time of surgery. This is despite guidelines recommending surgical prophylaxis durations of up to 24 hours. Prescriptions were also assessed as inappropriate if:

- The spectrum of the antimicrobial was too broad or too narrow (more often too broad) for the causative organisms known to cause surgical site infections
- They were inconsistent with guidelines, with no indication of patient characteristics that would require variation
- The wrong dose was prescribed.

Of the 20 most common indications for prescribing antimicrobials in 2017, the condition for which the highest proportions of prescriptions were assessed as inappropriate was surgical prophylaxis (40.3%).

The full report is available from:

<https://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-06/AURA-2019-Report.pdf>

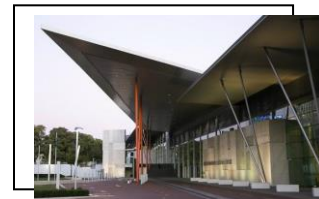
## Professional Development

The **ACIPC Infection Prevention and Control** Conference is being held in Perth this year on 18-20 November 2019 at the Perth Convention Centre.

- **Sunday 17 November has a pre-conference workshop on AS/NZS 4187:2014**
- **Monday 18 November has a special stream focused on Infection Prevention and Control in the dental setting**

Program and registration available at:

<http://www.acipcconference.com.au/>



## GENCA WA Branch Half Day "Hands On" Education meeting – Not Your Everyday Equipment.

IBIS Hotel Saturday 26 October 2019 8.00am – 12.30pm

<https://www.genca.org//education/find-an-event/>

## INFECTION PREVENTION

THE RESPONSIBILITY IS IN EVERYONES HANDS!



HANDS-ON INFECTION CONTROL