

Guiding Principles to Achieve Continuity in Medication Management

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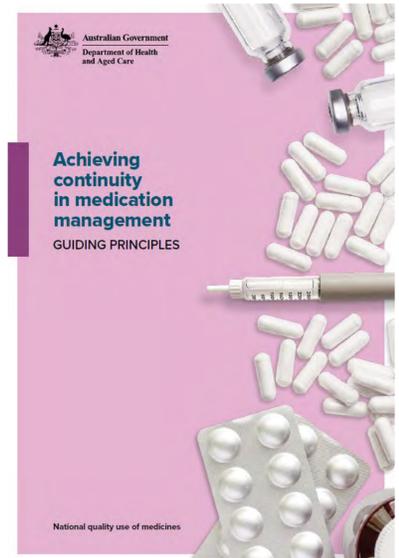
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Background

- › Transitions of care (TOC) are associated with poor communication and information sharing between clinicians and organisations
- › Since the release of the **Guiding Principles to Achieve Continuity in Medication Management** (the Guiding Principles) in 2005, the Quality Use of Medicines (QUM) and medication safety landscape has evolved
- › The Guiding Principles provide guidance on best practice, and are intended to be applicable to all healthcare settings, as well as individuals receiving care, during all TOC
- › The Guiding Principles are part of a suite of publications (Guiding Principles in Community and in Residential Aged Care Facilities). The 2022 editions of the three Guiding Principles publications individually build on their previous editions and are underpinned by Australia's National Medicines Policy.

Objective

- › To update the **Guiding Principles to Achieve Continuity in Medication Management** to reflect contemporary QUM practices and medicines safety literature and improve continuity in medication management at transitions of care.



Method



Result

The new Guiding Principles

- 1 • Clinical governance and leadership
- 2 • Responsibility for medication management
- 3 • Accountability for medication management
- 4 • Safety and quality systems
- 5 • Medication Reconciliation
- 6 • Review of current medicines
- 7 • Medication management plan
- 8 • Sharing decision making and information about medicines with the individual receiving care
- 9 • Collaborating and communicating medicines-related information with other healthcare professionals
- 10 • Ongoing access to medicines

Key emerging themes throughout

-  Person centred partnership and health literacy
-  All communities are supported to access safe, effective, high-quality, and affordable medicines
-  Collaboration and coordination amongst multidisciplinary teams
-  The key role and responsibility of pharmacists during TOC
-  Processes for individuals transitioning from adolescent to adult care
-  Incorporating integrated digital health during TOC

- › Guiding Principles 1–4 set the overarching system requirements for the effective implementation of the remaining six principles.
 - › Guiding Principles 5–10 outline the specific activities needed.
- Each of the 10 Guiding Principles has:**
- › A statement of each Guiding Principle and an explanatory note
 - › Key terms – with background, context and additional information
 - › Action items for the providers of healthcare services, the healthcare professional(s) and the individual, their carer and/or family
 - › A list of suggested resources and case studies throughout

Discussion

- › The updated Guiding Principles will play a key role in shaping future practices related to the medication management journey at TOC. They will provide healthcare services with a benchmark for developing operational standards of practice and a framework for providing comprehensive continuity of medication management.

