

Victorian Cleaning Standards Program

Department of Human Services; Statewide Quality Branch

Newsletter June 2009

This newsletter accompanies the *Victorian Public Hospital and Health Services External Cleaning Standards Audit Scores - 2009 Annual Report* and aims to highlight important recent changes and developments in the Victorian Cleaning Standards Program.

The Victorian cleaning standards (*The Cleaning Standards*) underwent an extensive review process and the updated *2009 Cleaning Standards* were published in February this year. A PDF copy of both the *Victorian Public Hospital and Health Services External Cleaning Standards Audit Scores - 2009 Annual Report* and *The Cleaning Standards* can be downloaded from the cleaning webpage at <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/ideas/infcon/cleaning>

Victorian Public Hospital and Health Services External Cleaning Standards Audit Scores - 2009 Annual Report

Scores from external cleaning standards audits undertaken in public hospitals and health services between 08 April 2008 and 08 April 2009 were submitted to the Department of Human Services (the department) during April 2009. All but one achieved the Acceptable Quality Levels (AQLs) or above for each of

Summary of changes coming into effect in 2010:

- **Internal audit scores no longer need to be reported to DHS**
- **Scores from three (3) external audits per year will be required**
- **External audits must be undertaken by a QVCSA**
- **Internal auditing program will be audited by QVCSA as part of an external audit**

the functional area risk categories and the overall hospital score.

A full list of public hospitals and health services who submitted data appears at the back of the report. This list also appears as a drop-down box on the electronic data submission form (the eForm).

Please review your organisation's listing(s) and forward any changes or incorrect details to Lorraine Wilson by email at lorraine.wilson@dhs.vic.gov.au by COB 30th July 2009.

Reporting Requirements for 2009 and 2010

The next submission of cleaning standards audit scores is due in November 2009. These scores will be for internal audits and will use the same ICC2 eForm as for previous years. This will be the last time that scores for

internal cleaning standards audits need to be submitted to the department.

From 2010 reporting requirements will change.

From 2010 public hospitals and health services will be required to submit their scores from three (3) external cleaning standards audits per year.

From 2010 external cleaning standards audits must be undertaken by a qualified Victorian cleaning standards auditor (QVCSA).

The ICC3 online data submission eForm that has been used for submitting external cleaning standards audit scores in April 2009 and in previous years is now under review. Any notifications of changes or corrections to the list of hospitals and health services received by the department by COB 30 July 2009 will be considered. Updated eForms will be made available before 2010.

From 2010 QVCSAs will include an assessment of a hospital's or health services' internal cleaning standards auditing program. Internal auditing programs should comprise schedules that comply with auditing frequencies and action timeframes that are prescribed for internal cleaning standards auditing in the *2009 Cleaning Standards*.

Many hospitals and health services already have a comprehensive internal cleaning standards auditing program that includes a well developed map of all rooms within each functional area and risk category as well as auditing schedules and processes for internal reporting; from reporting to Nurse Unit Managers through to variance reports to be tabled at an appropriate quality and safety committee.

To support the forth coming changes the department developed a *Course in Cleaning Standards Auditing* (The course) and will be offering a limited number of reimbursements of course fees.

In addition the department is currently developing a new cleaning standards website that will provide a comprehensive one-stop shop for data submission, publications; for example the *2009 Cleaning Standards* and annual reports; information about the course including contact details of Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) offering the course, details about reimbursement of course fees and a list of QVCSAs as they become available.

Course in Cleaning Standards Auditing

The course has been accredited by the Victorian Registrations and Qualifications Authority and will be offered in the second semester of 2009 by RTOs in metropolitan and regional areas across the state. Details of dates will be made

Benefits for hospitals and health services that support staff to undertake this training and qualification include:

* * *

Off-setting costs incurred in engaging a QVCSA three times per year by being able to offer an external auditing service to outside hospitals and health organisations

* * *

Improving the quality of internal cleaning standards auditing through better program development, reporting and program evaluation

* * *

Improving the quality of supervision, training and feedback to those who perform cleaning

available once these have been finalised by RTOs.

Course Enrolment Information

Please contact the RTO in your region for further information about the commencement of the course and dates for enrolment. **[DETAILS UPDATED 24 AUGUST 2009]**

Mayfield Education Centre:

Chiquita Walsh (03) 9811 9015
cwalsh@mayfield.edu.au

Goulburn Oven TAFE:

Helen Ryan (03) 5833 2920
hryan@gotafe.vic.edu.au

University of Ballarat:

Jill Coote (03) 5327 8098
j.coote@ballarat.edu.au

Gordon TAFE:

Cameron Quinten (03) 5225 0650
cquinten@gordontafe.edu.au

Gippsland TAFE:

Kath Medew (03) 5120 4549
kathm@gippstafe.vic.edu.au

Bendigo Regional TAFE:

Kaye Lont (03) 5434 1627
klont@britafe.vic.edu.au

The department will reimburse course fees for a limited number of staff from public hospitals and health services across Victoria.

Reimbursements will be made to public hospitals and health services that fund their staff to attend the course where it can be shown that staff have successfully completed the course.

Reimbursements will only be made to health organisations (not to individual staff members). Please contact Lorraine Wilson for further information.

Student Assessment Placements

Those who successfully complete the course will be qualified to undertake an external cleaning standards audit of any hospital or health service in Victoria. It is therefore important that students are assessed on their ability to perform an external cleaning standards audit on a large complex hospital or health service where a range of situations are presented.

Trainers or Program Managers from RTOs that are offering the course may approach large

Students need to be assessed whilst performing an external cleaning standards audit –

Please support requests from RTOs to use your health facility.

hospitals and health services to request placement for student assessments. Please support such requests.

For further information contact Dr Lorraine Wilson on (03) 9096 7912 or via email at lorraine.wilson@dhs.vic.gov.au