



# **Relationship between the Victorian Quality Council (VQC) Safety and Quality Framework and the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS) Standards**

The VQC Safety and Quality (S&Q) Framework was developed to assist health services to develop a comprehensive and effective approach to safety and quality monitoring and improvement. ACHS Accreditation is an external review of an organisation's safety and quality improvement structure, culture, process and effectiveness.

Implementation of the elements of the VQC Framework, and the associated suggested activities, through leadership and planning, and will contribute to health services meeting a number of the ACHS Accreditation standards and criteria.

This summary provides a guide to linking specific areas of the VQC Framework with ACHS standards and criteria. Use of the Framework checklist also provides an evaluation of the level of implementation of a quality program, although it does not indicate effectiveness of the program.

## Links between ACHS Functions and VQC Safety and Quality (S&Q) Framework

<b>ACHS Function 1 Continuum of Care</b>	<b>Section of VQC S&amp;Q Framework that assists health services to meet the standard</b>
<p>The VQC Framework directly addresses Standards and Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.1 (1.1.1, 1.1.2)</li> <li>• 1.2 (1.2.1)</li> <li>• 1.3 (1.3.1, 1.3.2)</li> </ul>	<p>Consumer involvement is a key element of the S&amp;Q Framework and essential to an effective improvement program through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consumer/Community Role in S&amp;Q (pgs 12, 20,48)</li> <li>• Example of organisational approach to Safety and Quality Improvement (pg 24)</li> <li>• Examples of Consumer/Community involvement in each dimension of quality in the Safety and Quality Matrix (pg 26 onwards)</li> <li>• Information Management and Reporting (pg 22) and in the Safety and Quality Matrix (pg 26 onwards)</li> </ul>
<b>Function 2 Leadership and Management</b>	<b>Section of VQC S&amp;Q Framework that assists health services to meet the standard</b>
<p>The VQC Framework directly addresses Standards and Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2.1 (2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.3)</li> <li>• 2.2 (2.2.1, 2.2.2)</li> <li>• 2.3 (2.3.1)</li> <li>• 2.4 (2.4.1, 2.4.2)</li> </ul>	<p>S&amp;Q Program Leadership is addressed as a key component of the Framework through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The principles underpinning the Framework (pg 8)</li> <li>• Roles and Responsibilities (pg 12, 44, 46)</li> <li>• Organisation – Wide Approach to Safety and Quality Improvement (pg 14-19)</li> <li>• Example of an Organisational Approach (pg 24)</li> <li>• Examples of Leadership and Governance and Consumer Involvement in each dimension of quality in the S&amp;Q Matrix (pg 26 onwards)</li> <li>• Consumer Involvement (pg 20)</li> </ul>

<b>Function 3 Human Resources Management</b>	<b>Section of VQC S&amp;Q Framework that assists health services to meet the standard</b>
<p>The VQC Framework directly addresses Standards and Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.1 (3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.1.4, 3.1.6)</li> </ul>	<p>Human Resources Management in relation to safety and quality is addressed in the Framework through the Governance and Leadership and Competence and Education components through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encouraging Staff Participation and Leadership as part of Governance and Leadership (pg 16, 18)</li> <li>• Staff roles in S&amp;Q (pg 47)</li> <li>• Competence and Education to support healthcare providers (pg 21)</li> <li>• Example of an Organisational Approach (pg 24)</li> <li>• Governance and Leadership and Competence and Education sections of the Safety and Quality Matrix (pg 26 onwards)</li> </ul>
<b>Function 4 Information Management</b>	<b>Section of VQC S&amp;Q Framework that assists health services to meet the standard</b>
<p>The VQC Framework directly addresses Standards and Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4.1 (4.1.1, 4.1.5)</li> <li>• 4.2 (4.2.1, 4.2.3)</li> </ul>	<p>Information Management is addressed as a Key Component of the Framework through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organisation Elements – Information Management and Reporting (pg 10, 22)</li> <li>• Example of an Organisational Approach (pg 24) and Executive Summary (pg 2)</li> <li>• The Information Management and Reporting section for each dimension of quality in the Safety and Quality Matrix (pg 26 onwards)</li> <li>• Governance and Leadership (pg 15)</li> </ul>

<b>Function 5 Safe Practice and Environment</b>	<b>Section of VQC S&amp;Q Framework that assists health services to meet the standard</b>
<p>The VQC Framework directly addresses Standards and Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5.1 (5.1.1, 5.1.3)</li> </ul>	<p>Safe Practice and Environment is a key component of VQC Framework through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dimensions of Quality – Safety (pg 11)</li> <li>• The Safety and Quality Matrix – Safety Dimension of Quality (pg 27-30)</li> </ul>