Clinician Engagement & the Queensland Clinical Senate

Dr Bill Glasson
Chair, Queensland Clinical Senate
Health Reform in Queensland

Goals

• Decision-making and accountability that is more responsive to local health priorities

• Increasing the use of primary health care

• Stronger clinician, consumer and community participation

• A more ‘seamless’ patient experience across sectors of the health system
How we will need to work:

- Innovation
- Evidence based practice
- Embracing new opportunities
- Better care, better value, lower cost
- Being innovative & embracing new opportunities
Clinician Engagement: why do we need it?

• Clinicians
• are essential for the delivery of high quality care
• are integral to achieving successful and lasting change
• a wealth of knowledge about the strengths and weakness of the health care system
• decisions impact directly on resources
• are the public face of health care

• In Queensland, the *Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011* (section 40) requires Hospital and Health Services to develop and publish a clinician engagement strategy
Clinician Engagement

• Essential for high quality care
• Goal of health reform
• *Queensland health and Hospitals Network Act 2011* demands that Hospital and Health Services develops and publishes “a strategy (a clinician engagement strategy) to promote consultation with health professionals working in the network” (HHNA 2011 p37)
Clinician Engagement

- Local clinician engagement groups will have a key role in improving the coordination of patient care across acute, primary and community sectors.
Queensland Clinician Engagement Framework

Key clinician engagement structures and linkages

- National
  - National Lead Clinicians' Group (National LCG)
  - Federal Health Minister

- State
  - Queensland Clinical Senate
  - Queensland Minister for Health
  - Director-General
  - Queensland Clinical Ministerial Advisory Committee (CMAC)
  - Other statewide clinician groups

- Cross HHS
  - Regional clinical service networks around HHS clusters
  - Funder/provider agreement

- HHS
  - Cross-sectoral local clinician engagement structures (previously Local LCG)
  - Internal HHS clinician engagement structures
  - Hospital & Health Service (HHS) Chair/CEO

- External
  - Private sector clinicians
  - Medicare Local Chair

*Figure 1. Key clinician engagement structures and linkages*
Queensland Clinical Senate

- Peak clinical advisory group in Queensland Health
- An independent and trusted source of high quality clinical service and leadership on system-wide clinical issues affecting patient care
- Play a key role in safeguarding high standards of patient care and ensure continuous clinical practice improvement across Queensland
  - High quality evidence based advice
  - Conduit for communication with clinicians and consumers
  - Strategic Leadership and influence
  - Essential partnership between senior executive management and senior clinicians
- Amended Terms of Reference currently being considered by the DG
Challenges for the QCS

• Restructure => new and stronger relationships
  » => changed workforce
• Demonstrate it value => strategic leadership and influence
• Look at how we work => innovation
  => evidence based practice
• (proactive / reactive)
  => early involvement
Where does the QCS fit in?

Population of Queensland

System Manager

Medicare Locals

Queensland Clinical Senate and other Clinician Engagement mechanisms

Hospital and Health Services

Population of Queensland
Queensland Clinical Senate

Statewide Clinical Networks

Professional Networks

Clinical work processes improvement

Patient safety

Health statistics (data)

Medical Profession

Nursing Profession

Allied Health Profession

Dental Profession

Clinical workforce improvement

System policy development and performance

National Lead Clinicians Group

National & state professional issues
The Queensland Clinical Senate

- Work collaboratively with Hospital and Health Boards, Hospital and Health Services, Medicare Locals and the System Manager in relation to strategic clinical service planning and delivery
  - Enhancing coordination and integration of publicly funded health care across and within health care sectors
  - Minimise unacceptable variation in the quality, safety and access to publicly funded health care
  - Set clinical service delivery priorities and resource allocation
  - Provide an advocacy arm for cross-system issues arising other clinician engagement groups
  - Promote a joint understanding of issues, including the sharing of successful innovations in health care delivery
Questions are guaranteed in life; Answers aren't.