Clinical governance and clinician engagement: Queensland Clinical Senate perspective

Dr Bill Glasson AO, Chair, Queensland Clinical Senate (QCS)
Who are we?

- Dynamic group of clinicians from medical, nursing, allied health, academia, and from metropolitan, regional and rural areas.

- Membership includes:
  - Chairs Statewide Clinical Networks
  - Chair Health Consumers Queensland
  - A&TSI Public Health Physician
  - clinicians appointed through Expression of Interest – *not* representative of any group
What do we do?

- Meet 3 times a year to discuss strategic clinical issues and draw on our clinical expertise to brainstorm innovative solutions.
- Provide advice to the Director-General, Queensland Health, in the form of recommendations on strategic issues of clinical significance.
What have we achieved so far?

- We have delivered 69 recommendations to Queensland Health on these issues:
  - Clinical Education and Training
  - Right Care Right Place
  - Improving Patient Flow
  - National Health Reform: LHN

- 67 of these recommendations were endorsed or endorsed in principle by Queensland Health.
National Health Reform: QCS role

- We met in June and Sept 2010 and developed recommendations to inform the final agreement between the state and the Commonwealth on the implementation of Local Hospital Networks (LHNs).

- The QCS is represented on the following committees:
  - National Health Reform Executive Committee (NHREC), Integrated Policy & Planning Executive Committee (IPPEC), IPPEC Strategic Planning Committee and EMT Strategic Planning Committee
  - Clinician engagement sub stream of NHREC
Key Elements to Rebuilding the Health System

1. Identify what is working - quarantine
2. Build from bottom up - not top down
3. Quality and Safety framework
4. Clinical and Administrative KPIs
5. Clinician engagement and input
6. Cost effective services across whole state
7. Timely access across whole state
8. SLAs
9. Integration both horizontally and vertically
10. Streamlined beaurocracy
Local Hospital Networks

- What’s in
- What’s out
- NHHR Process
- Identify what’s not working
- Identify what is working
ISSUES

1. Governance of Local Hospital Networks

2. Boundary alignment

3. Equity of access

4. Flow of clinical information
Clinical Governance: QCS recommendations

At the June 2010 meeting we made these recommendations on clinical governance:

**Recommendation 1**
Senior clinicians must be well represented on the Governing Council of each LHN.

**Recommendation 2**
There must be a lead clinician group within the LHN and this group must have a clear and defined relationship with the Governing Council. The lead clinician group must comprise medical, nursing and allied health staff.
Clinical Governance: QCS Recommendations cont.

Recommendation 3
The Queensland Clinical Senate must have representation on the Queensland Health committees implementing the national reform (including the National Health Reform Executive Committee and sub-committees).

Recommendation 4
Each Governing Council must have a clear definition of core business with good patient care its foremost priority.
Quality and Safety

To be built on Framework

Medical Expert

- Scholar
- Professional
- Communicator
- Collaborator
- Health Advocate
- Manager
Clinicin engagement: QCS recommendation

- At the September meeting we recommended that the following mechanisms for clinician engagement be retained under the new system:
  - Statewide Clinical Networks
  - Statewide Service Networks
  - Queensland Clinical Senate
What are the risks if we don’t?

- Minimisation of clinician engagement has the potential for the core business of LHNs to focus on accounting and fiscal measures at the expense of safe and quality patient care.
In summary......

- Clinicians need to be engaged in the decision-making processes of Governing Councils of LHNs.

- Clinician engagement mechanisms such as Statewide Clinical Networks and the Queensland Clinical Senate must be retained to ensure optimal health outcomes.
Recommendations July 2010

- Partnerships
- Membership
- Quality and Safety
- Role of State
- Boundaries and Scope
- Shared Records
Recommendations October 2010

- Statewide services
- Funding
- Integration
- Other issues