Smoking Cessation Framework for NSW Health Services

Strategy: Establish accountability mechanisms



Suggested actions

- Implement a system for identifying patients and clients who smoke and documenting smoking status in every clinic and hospital.
- Ensure clinical data systems include relevant prompts, reminders, tools and templates, decision support systems and facilitate referral and follow-up.
- Ensure electronic health records and systems facilitate the recording of necessary information to monitor performance and provide for auditing and reporting. This includes being able to access information on the documentation of smoking status, levels of nicotine dependence, provision of counselling, prescription of NRT and appropriate follow-up.
- In the absence of data systems, implement processes that collect the necessary information to monitor performance and provide for auditing and reporting, including: information on a patient or client's smoking status; assessment of their levels of nicotine dependence; notes on what counselling has occurred; and what NRT and follow-up has been provided.

Recommend inclusion of smoking cessation key performance indicators within service agreements between the Ministry of Health and LHDs.

Initiate internal service level agreements (or similar) with individual LHD units or hospitals that include smoking cessation key performance indicators and targets, where appropriate.

Notes

More information and strategic resources: cancerinstitute.org.au/smoking-cessation