

The AOD Quality Framework Project – Summary for AOD treatment service providers

The development of a quality framework for Australian Government funded drug and alcohol treatment services

Introduction

The Australian Government, Department of Health and Ageing recently engaged Turning Point Alcohol and Drug Centre to develop a *Quality Framework for Australian Government funded drug and alcohol treatment services*. The quality framework aims to complement work completed or currently underway within the drug and alcohol treatment services sector to improve service quality and inform future planning needs.

The quality framework will be developed in collaboration with Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) treatment services, state and territory governments and AOD peak bodies, and will lead the drive towards quality improvements in AOD treatment service delivery and improved client outcomes, by delivering best practice, evidence-based treatment models to clients and family members. This will guide Australian Government funding of AOD treatment services in delivering quality, sustainable drug and alcohol services that respond to the needs of individuals, families and communities.

The project is based on an ethos of collaboration and transparency. Consultation and engagement with the AOD peak bodies and treatment services is central to the success of this project and will ensure the framework developed is informed and complementary to the AOD treatment services sector. We recognise the work AOD treatment services peaks have done in this area and hope to work with you in supporting an implementable quality framework.

Project aims

Develop a quality framework for AOD treatment services that;

- complements other models/frameworks that services must currently comply with;
- is adaptable, flexible and suitable for a range of service types and settings, including Indigenous-specific services;
- clearly describes the expected quality standards for each service type;
- has clear guidelines, policies and procedures to support the achievement and maintenance of these quality standards;
- considers related aspects such as accreditation and minimum qualifications.

Project design and activities

This will be completed in two phases

1. Phase 1: Quality standard mapping and consultation:

- *Stage 1:* Mapping quality processes and activities - consultation and data gathering.
- *Stage 2:* Developing the draft model

2. Phase 2: Development of standards and indicators:

- *Stage 1:* Developing standards and indicators – consultation and feedback
- *Stage 2:* Model testing and sector consultation - assessing delivery mechanisms

We are currently liaising with the peak bodies to assist in facilitating your involvement in the project.

For further information contact the project lead, Associate Professor David Best

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