

The International Society for Quality in Health Care



ISQua works to provide services to guide health professionals, health providers, researchers, agencies, policy makers and consumers to achieve excellence in health care delivery to all people and to continuously improve the quality and safety of care.

Quality of care matters. It requires 24 hours-a-day commitment and achievement towards excellence. With safe, high quality care, people can function better and enjoy a better life by surviving survival well. At stake can be life itself, quality of life and well-being.

ISQua offers a unique opportunity for individuals and institutions with a common interest to share expertise via an international multidisciplinary forum. ISQua is a non-aligned voluntary organisation, which is supported by its members, including leading quality health care providers and agencies in over 70 countries, together with additional funds from the Australian and Victorian Governments.

ISQua's value

- Quality health care for all
- Promoting access for people throughout the world to safe, quality health care
- Responsiveness
- Understanding and meeting the needs of members and other clients and continually improving services for them
- Innovation
- Constantly exploring, studying and researching new concepts and opportunities
- Achieving together
- Collaborating for improvement through ongoing consultation, partnerships and teamwork
- Integrity
- Serving with an attitude of unselfish concern and acting ethically
- Stewardship
- Managing resources entrusted to ISQua in a responsible manner and strengthening ISQua's viability

ISQua's Vision

Through providing access to objective, evidence-based and timely information to support informed decisions about health care, ISQua will continue to grow in credibility and position as the world leader in quality and safety in health care.

Improving Healthcare Worldwide

ISQua's focus is on the methodologies needed to facilitate the delivery of safe, quality health care. The Society's links throughout the world are maintained through an active Executive Board of recognized leaders, members, regional and other networks, also other interest groups. Membership of steering groups comprises ISQua members who are acknowledged leaders in quality and safety of care.

ISQua's international Accreditation Program brings the world of healthcare accreditation and external evaluation together by providing:

- an international assessment and accreditation process for healthcare standards
- an international survey and accreditation process for the performance of accreditation and other external evaluation organisations, and
- an international assessment and accreditation program for surveyor/assessor training.

An advisory service is available and ISQua also hosts an annual International Accreditation Symposium in association with its annual conference.

With an annual International Summit on Indicators/Measures, ISQua also provides a broadbased global meeting point which brings together interested groups and individuals who are active in the development and use of indicators and/or performance measures.

A world-class journal

The *International Journal for Quality in Health Care*, a bi-monthly peer-reviewed journal, is published jointly by ISQua and Oxford University Press. The Journal publishes papers in all disciplines engaged in healthcare quality improvement and research; its Editorial Board members represent countries in all regions of the world. Through the pages of the Journal and also via online electronic access, ISQua's worldwide membership and non-member Journal subscribers receive up-to-date information on current quality and safety in health care activities and research and access to the electronic version of the Journal online.

International conference program

ISQua's annual international meeting with its pre-conference events is increasingly recognized as a not-to-be-missed forum for exchange of information and updates on quality improvement. Recent international conferences have been held in Venice, Melbourne, Dublin, Buenos Aires, Paris, Dallas, Amsterdam, Vancouver, London and Boston. ISQua's 25th International Conference will be in Copenhagen in 2008.

ISQua Executive Board 2007–2009

President Bruce Barraclough, Australia

Past President John Helfrick, USA

President Elect Philip Hassen, Canada

Treasurer Philip Hassen, Canada

Members HIQA: Tracey Cooper, Ireland; HAS: Charles Bruneau, France; CHKS-HAQU: Helen Crisp, UK; David Bates, USA; Sheila Leatherman, USA; John Oldham, UK.

Chief Executive Officer Roisin Boland

Editor of *The International Journal for Quality in Health Care*, Thomas Perneger, Switzerland, attends Board meetings by invitation.

Foundation Institutional Members

Canadian Council on Health Services Accreditation, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Center for Human Services, Bethesda, Maryland, USA

Department of Human Services, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

New South Wales Health Department, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

For ISQua membership information please turn to the reverse of the title page at the front of this issue or check the ISQua website: www.isqua.org

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