



Q.I. RECIPE

Alcohol Intake

Why improve this area?

In 2015, alcohol was the sixth highest risk factor contributing to the burden of disease in Australia.¹

36% of drug treatment episodes in 2018–19 were primarily for alcohol, making it the most commonly treated drug in Australia.¹

There were 1,366 alcohol-induced, with an additional 2,820 alcohol-related deaths recorded in 2017.¹

Reduce harm to at-risk groups:

- Young adults 18-25 years
- Young people 14-18 years
- Pregnant & breastfeeding women
- People aged over 60 years
- People with a history of alcohol dependence
- People who use illicit drugs or misuse prescription medicines
- People taking medications where alcohol may interact
- People experiencing mental illness
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

1. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

QI ideas

- Set goals and consider targeting an at-risk group or opportunistic screening ([AUDIT-C](#))
- Prepare service delivery model, establish team roles and monitor progress.
 - Survey patients understanding of alcohol guidelines and discuss alcohol use.
 - Screening tools handed out in reception.
 - Provide patient education resources.
 - Review/update health assessment forms
 - Regular team meetings to discuss progress.
- Schedule staff [training and upskilling](#)
- Case conferencing with Alcohol and Other Drugs treatment services and other members of care team.
- Consider opportunities to engage peer workers or people with lived experience as a part of your model of care.

MBS items

- [Health Assessment](#) (701, 703, 705, 707)
- [Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Health Assessment](#) (715)
Item number eligibility may be dependent on the patient's comorbid conditions – review [MBS criteria](#)
- [GP Management Plan \(GPMP\)](#) (721)
- [Team Care Arrangement \(TCA\)](#) (723)
- [Review of GPMP or TCA](#) (732)
- [GP Mental Health treatment plan](#) (2700, 2701, 2715, 2717)
- [Review of GP Mental Health treatment plan](#) (2712)
- [Medication management reviews](#) (900, 903)

Clinical and QI Resources

COORDINARE Resources:

- [Data Quality](#)
- [Drug and Alcohol](#)
- [Quality Improvement](#)

Health Pathways:

- [Illawarra Shoalhaven](#)
- [ACT & Southern NSW](#)

Health Professional Resources:

- Drug and Alcohol Specialist Advisory Service ([DASAS](#)) 24 hour support line
Phone: 1800 422 599
- [Alcohol and other drugs GP education program](#) – RACGP
- [SNAP](#) – RACGP
- [Australian guidelines to reduce health risks from drinking alcohol](#) - NHMRC

Patient Resources:

- [Standard Drinks](#) - NHMRC
- [Pregnancy and Alcohol Poster](#) - DOH
- [Alcohol and Drug Information Service \(ADIS\)](#)
Phone: 1800 250 015
- [Your Room](#) – NSW Health
- [Get Healthy - Alcohol Reduction Program](#)
- [Get Healthy - Referral form](#)

