Safety Priorities

in Mental Health Alcohol and Other Drugs Care

Partnering for improved safety Recognising and responding to individual needs and preferences Improving collaboration between all health care providers • Improving access to and coordination with psychosocial support and other service providers Improving the identification of deterioration or increased risk of harm Improving identification of worsening health state Making it easier to escalate care and harm reduction responses Improving crisis and sub-acute care options Providing trauma-informed care Reducing use of potentially traumatising practices Applying trauma informed strategies Responding to inter-generational traumas Providing culturally safe care • Ensuring cultural capability across all services Strengthening pathways for First Nations and culturally diverse people seeking care Increasing the First Nations and cultural diversity of the workforce Enhancing First Nations and culturally diverse leadership Improving medication safety • Improving information sharing and collaborative decision making with multi-disciplinary teams, people seeking care, and their families and carers Reducing acute and chronic side-effects of medication Reducing suicide and self-harm Enabling routine screening, assessment and safety planning Increasing use of suicide specific interventions and assertive follow-up Addressing alcohol and other drug use that can increase the risk of self-harm and suicidality Increasing the safety of transitions • Improving transitions between care providers and other services Enhancing safety of emergency transport Improving transitions across the age spectrum Recognising stigma to reduce discrimination Identifying and collaboratively addressing stigma and discrimination Working to provide health equity

Harms to be identified, avoided and reduced through the priorities

Worsening health
Suicide and self-harm

Physical assault and injury
Sexual harassment and assault

Impaired physical health
Psychological harms

