

# Queensland Clinical Guidelines

## Consumer role for working parties

### About Queensland Clinical Guidelines (QCG)

The Queensland Clinical Guidelines (QCG) was established in response to clinician demand for standardised decision support tools, accessible electronically from a central source ([www.health.qld.gov.au/qcg](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/qcg)). Members of the Statewide Maternity and Neonatal Clinical Network (the Network) have repeatedly prioritised clinical guideline development and implementation as their most important activity.

QCG drives statewide standardisation of clinical care through the development of evidence based clinical guidelines and associated resources that support the translation of evidence into clinical practice. QCG is a high productivity team that drives improvements in the quality and safety of care provided to Queensland families using an innovative and efficient approach to establishing and implementing best clinical practice. QCG produces, maintains and supports the implementation of evidence-based clinical guidelines to benefit Queensland via a robust governance structure.

Additionally, QCG supports Queensland clinicians to integrate the guidelines into local clinical practice. This support includes the development of educational material (e.g. videoconferences, power point presentations, online knowledge assessments, recognition of professional development hours), clinical audit tools and criteria, and a responsive engagement with clinicians.

QCG is a statewide service that is hosted within Metro North Hospital and Health Service (MNHHS). The work is supported by the Queensland Minister for Health, Health Systems Innovation Branch and Metro-North Hospital and Health Service.

QCG initiatives engage clinicians, families and healthcare policy makers to support:

- Evidence informed frontline clinical decision making
- Evidence informed service planning and care delivery processes
- Access to workforce development resources, particularly in rural and remote areas
- Better healthcare experiences for women and their families

To achieve the above goals, QCG engages with consumers in a variety of ways. Formal recruitment, selection and remuneration processes have been introduced.

### Context

Consumer representatives will represent a constituency (organisation/group)-some sort and seek their input as well as report back to them. Your-experiences and personal attributes should include an ability to think laterally and have a clear understanding of the health system, contribute to decision-making and have capacity to challenge the assumptions of health professionals.

### Purpose

The purpose of the consumer role is to share the common perspectives of members of your organisation, population group or network and also to contribute your own experiences or those of-your family members to guideline development.

## Your key responsibilities

- To raise issues and prompt the working party to consider issues from a different experience base and range of perspectives.
- To assess evidence and draft recommendations along-side health professionals
- To be accountable to the nominating organisation as you are a formal representative of that organisation.
- To operate within the conditions of-your appointment including:
  - Undergoing a police check
  - Being held accountable for maintaining confidentiality and protecting privacy
  - Declaring conflicts of interest in line with Queensland Health policies

## Are you the right person for this role?

You will be assessed on your ability to demonstrate the following key attributes. Within the context of the responsibilities described above, the ideal applicant will be someone who can demonstrate the following:

- Experience as a patient, consumer or carer of maternity and or neonatal health care and a representative of an organisation relevant to these
- An ability and willingness to reflect the experiences of a wider group of people through patient organisations, forums or self-help groups
- The time and commitment to attend meetings, do background reading and comment on draft documents
- Personal skills including teamwork, communication and computer literacy

## Qualifications/Professional registration/Other requirements

No formal qualifications are required

## How to apply

Please register online at: <http://qcg.cvent.com/consumerregistration>

Or contact us by email: [guidelines@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:guidelines@health.qld.gov.au)

## Additional information

- Participation in guideline development is a 2 step process that involves an initial application and selection process. Successful applicants will be added to the QCG consumer database and will be contacted to complete an expression of interest when a guideline is being developed or reviewed to indicate-your interest in that working party. Prior to participation in a working party orientation and induction information and paperwork must be completed.
- Each guideline will usually have two consumer representatives although in some circumstances there may be more.
- Applicants must have access to telephone, computer and internet.
- Appointment is for a maximum of up to two years from the date of commencement. There will be opportunity to reapply for another term.
- Further information may be obtained from the Frequently Asked Questions at [www.health.qld.gov.au/qcg/html/consumers.asp](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/qcg/html/consumers.asp) or by contacting us at [guidelines@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:guidelines@health.qld.gov.au) or phone 07 37066726.