



**NSW  
TAG**

NSW  
Therapeutic  
Advisory  
Group Inc.

Advancing  
quality use  
of medicines  
in NSW

## The Case for DUE 2020

### Who should participate in this survey?

NSW Therapeutic Advisory Group (TAG), in conjunction with the QLD Drug Use Evaluation Subcommittee (DUESC), is conducting a survey in order to understand the current status of drug use evaluation (DUE) activities\* within NSW, ACT and QLD public hospitals including the identification of barriers, enablers and resource allocation. The information will be used to inform a written report which will be made available on the NSW TAG website and may be used for advocacy of DUE-type activity within the healthcare system.

Directors of Pharmacy or their nominated delegates are invited to complete the survey. Only one response per hospital is required; although, in order for responses to be comprehensive, information should be sought from relevant colleagues participating in DUE-type activities before formulating a response and completing the survey. (In order for your responses to be comprehensive, a list of survey questions is provided in the document attached to the email inviting you to participate).

The survey contains 25 questions and should take no more than 30 minutes to complete. Responses may be saved and/or edited until the survey is submitted.

The survey is open from 19 February 2020 to 25 March 2020.

Ethics approval has been granted by the St Vincent's Hospital Network HREC. Participation in the survey is deemed to be consent. However, you may change your mind and withdraw from the study at any stage. No identifiable information will be published. Your contact details are collected in case NSW TAG needs to check a survey response. The collated (non-identifiable) responses will be written in a report that will be found on the NSW TAG website. The results may also be presented at conference proceedings.

\* DUE-type activities include those undertaking antimicrobial stewardship, opioid stewardship, anticoagulant stewardship activities and QUM/medicines-related auditing etc.

For the purpose of this survey:

- the term "health district" refers to Local Health Districts (LHDs) or Speciality Networks in NSW and

**Hospital and Health Services (HHS) in QLD.**

**- Drug and Therapeutics Committees in NSW and Medicines Management Committees in QLD are multidisciplinary committees with a commitment to the overall governance of medicines management system in their health service organisation to ensure the judicious, safe, effective and cost-effective use of medicines.**



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Respondent's details

1. Please complete the following contact information

|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Name</b>          | <input type="text"/> |
| <b>Email Address</b> | <input type="text"/> |
| <b>Phone Number</b>  | <input type="text"/> |

\* 2. Please outline your position within your organisation

- Director of Pharmacy
- Drug use evaluation (DUE) or Quality use of medicines (QUM) pharmacist
- Medication safety pharmacist
- Antimicrobial stewardship pharmacist
- Opioid/analgesia stewardship pharmacist
- Anticoagulant stewardship pharmacist
- Senior pharmacist
- Other (please specify)

\* 3. What is the name of your hospital?

\* 4. What is the approximate bed size of your hospital ?

\* 5. Please select which health district your hospital belongs to.



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### The DUE and medicine-related stewardship position(s) and activities

6. Which of the following dedicated positions exist in your hospital/health district?

(Select all that apply)

|  | Hospital                 | Health District          | Unsure                   |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| DUE/QUM position                       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| AMS position                           | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Medication safety position             | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Opioid/analgesic stewardship position  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| VTE/anticoagulant stewardship position | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Other (please specify):

7. With respect to the dedicated positions described above, please outline which clinicians are employed in the various roles, their FTE and how long the role has existed using the drop-down menus below:

|  | Type of clinician employed in the role | Full time equivalent | How long has the position been in existence? |
|--|--|----------------------|--|
| DUE/QUM position                       | <input type="text"/>                   | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/>                         |
| AMS position                           | <input type="text"/>                   | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/>                         |
| Medication safety position             | <input type="text"/>                   | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/>                         |
| Opioid/analgesic stewardship position  | <input type="text"/>                   | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/>                         |
| VTE/anticoagulant stewardship position | <input type="text"/>                   | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/>                         |
| Other                                  | <input type="text"/>                   | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/>                         |



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DUE activities and resources

8. In your organisation, is the dedicated DUE position a stand-alone position or is the position responsible for additional activities ?

*For example: combined with ward or other clinical roles*

9. For hospitals WITHOUT any dedicated DUE positions including medicine-related stewardship positions, please indicate:

a. Which staff typically perform DUE duties? (e.g. grade 2 pharmacists, nurse educators, students etc)

b. How do you complete DUEs? I.e. how do you decide the topic and data collection method?

c. What resources/organisations do you link in with to undertake DUEs?

\* 10. In the past year:

|            | Approximately how many DUE activities were completed in your organisation? | What would be the optimal number of DUE activities you would want to have completed? |
|------------|--|--|
| 0          | <input type="radio"/>  | <input type="radio"/>  |
| 1 - 3      | <input type="radio"/>  | <input type="radio"/>  |
| 4 - 6      | <input type="radio"/>  | <input type="radio"/>  |
| 7 - 9      | <input type="radio"/>  | <input type="radio"/>  |
| 10 or more | <input type="radio"/>  | <input type="radio"/>  |

11. Please describe current GAPS in the delivery of local DUE activities in your organisation?

*Examples might include:*

- staff shortages
- lack of appropriate DUE skills
- lack of knowledge of research methodology
- difficulties with completing/gaining ethics approval



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Support, enablers and barriers to DUE-type activities

12. Please describe hospital or health district executive support or training for DUE-type activities

*For example: funding for project completion, conference attendance, course enrolment to advance skills/qualifications etc.*

\* 13. Are DUE activities a standing agenda item for the responsible Drug and Therapeutics Committee (DTC)/ Medicines Management Committee (MMC) meetings?

yes

no

If not, please describe how DUE activities are communicated to DTC/MMC

14. Please describe strategies that could be used to enhance DUE activities in your organization

*Examples might include:*

- create designated DUE positions
- identify DUE champions
- enhance research methodology and publication skills

15. Have shortages in Pharmacy staff or non-approval of Pharmacy positions impacted on the ability of the Pharmacy department to undertake DUE activities?

Please indicate how they have impacted in the text box

*For example: have they led to DUE activities being curtailed/ceased or other clinicians undertaking DUE activities or have they had no effect despite the shortages?.*

- Yes
- No
- N/A as there are no DUE activities undertaken

How have they impacted?

16. Please outline any other current barriers to successfully undertaking DUE activities in your hospital or health district.

*For example: other hospital priorities such as eMeds implementation*



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Role of DUE program

17. Of the following clinical audit activities, please indicate which are undertaken in your institution, AND whose responsibility it is (DUE position or another).

If it is not the responsibility of the DUE position, please indicate below the role of the person responsible.

|   | Yes, activity is undertaken | Responsibility of DUE position? | Responsibility of another? |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| NSMC audits   | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| AMS audits  | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| Medication Safety Self-assessment (MSSA) audits                     | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| Adverse drug reaction reporting & analysis                          | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| QUM indicator data collection                                       | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| Incident Information Management System (IIMS) or Riskman activities | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC) projects                       | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| Clinical Excellence Queensland (CEQ) projects                       | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| NSW TAG projects  | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>   |
| QLD DUESC audits  | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/>        | <input type="checkbox"/>   |

Role of others responsible for activities:

18. Are there other clinical audit activities undertaken (NOT included in the previous question) that fall under the responsibility of the DUE position?

|                       |                       |   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Yes                   | No                    | N/A; there is no dedicated DUE position |
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/>                   |

If yes, please specify other activities



## 19. Multidisciplinary involvement in DUE activities

Please select all that apply.











Besides pharmacists, please indicate generally the involvement of other personnel involved in DUE activities in:

|  | Quality & safety manager/<br>team | Medical officer(s) relevant<br>to project | Nursing rep(s) relevant to<br>project | Other (please specify<br>below) |
|--|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Planning   | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input type="checkbox"/>                  | <input type="checkbox"/>              | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| Data collection  | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input type="checkbox"/>                  | <input type="checkbox"/>              | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| Analysis   | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input type="checkbox"/>                  | <input type="checkbox"/>              | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| Report writing   | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input type="checkbox"/>                  | <input type="checkbox"/>              | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| Development of Quality<br>Improvement strategies       | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input type="checkbox"/>                  | <input type="checkbox"/>              | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| Implementation of<br>Quality Improvement<br>strategies | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input type="checkbox"/>                  | <input type="checkbox"/>              | <input type="checkbox"/>        |
| Feedback of results to<br>staff                        | <input type="checkbox"/>          | <input type="checkbox"/>                  | <input type="checkbox"/>              | <input type="checkbox"/>        |

Other personnel or stages of input from non-pharmacists:

20. How are DUE activities promoted to enhance multidisciplinary involvement? Has your organisation undertaken any multidisciplinary DUE activities? Please provide examples if applicable.

21. Please prioritise the following drivers for performing DUEs, from most important (1) to least important (5) for your organisation:

|   |
|---|
| <br><br>Reduced medicine-related costs                                    |
| <br><br>Alignment of practice with best evidence                          |
| <br><br>To improve patient safety   |
| <br><br>To meet accreditation requirements                                |
| <br><br>To develop pharmacy workforce in DUE/research/quality improvement |

\* 22. List the CURRENT top 3 DUE priorities (e.g. disease state, medicine specific, medication processes) for your hospital/health district:



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**NSW TAG and QLD DUESC wish to promote multisite DUE projects which may be useful for benchmarking and accreditation purposes.**

\* 23. In NSW: NSW TAG coordinates and convenes medSMART - a support group for clinicians with an interest in DUE/QUM. This group shares information, activities, problem-solving and challenges via teleconference and feedback.

In QLD: the equivalent group is known as Drug Use Evaluation Subcommittee (DUESC).

|  | Yes                      | NO                       |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Have you heard of NSW TAG medSMART support group?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have you heard of QLD DUESC?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Would your organisation be interested in participating in the medSMART SG <u>or</u> DUESC? (If yes, please provide details below.) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Would your organisation be interested in participating in a multi-site DUE/QUM activity in 2020?                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Name, contact phone number and email of person interested in membership of NSW TAG medSMART SG or DUESC:

**\* 24. Accreditation against the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards**

At what stage of the accreditation cycle is your hospital or health district?

- Short Notice Survey Site (48 hours notice)
- Preparation
- Imminent/ just happened
- Acting on recommendations
- Sometime in the future

If applicable, how has/did the accreditation process influence(d) planning, appreciation of impact or use of the results of DUE activities?

\* 25. Use of audit tools for DUE activities

|   | Locally developed        | Commercially available audit maker (e.g. Auditmaker™) | Tools available from the Clinical Excellence Commission (CEC) e.g. QIDS/QARS | Tools accompanying the National QUM indicators (NSW TAG and ACSQHC) | QLD DUESC tools          | Tools available from other external organisations (please list) | N/A, audits not undertaken |
|---|--------------------------|---|--|---|--------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Generally, what is/are the source(s) of the audit tool used in your DUE activities? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>                              | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>  | <input type="checkbox"/>   |

Other (please list)



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Thank you for your participation on this survey

**Thank you for your participation. The results of the survey will be published on the NSW TAG website in 2020 and will be used to inform discussions with relevant stakeholders.**