



Better Patient Safety Strategy 2020-2024

As the State’s insurer and risk adviser, we work with our healthcare partners and hospitals to reduce the risk of harm to patients in Victoria’s healthcare system. This will keep patients safer, but it will also mean that health services have more resources for looking after patients and managing risks effectively.

VMIA’s Better Patient Safety Strategy 2020-2024 is about working with our system partners to achieve these two goals.

Top three risks



General surgery



Emergency medicine



Obstetrics



10%

of hospital inpatients are affected by one or more adverse events. Around 50% of adverse events are considered preventable.



Annual costs of adverse events to the Australian health care system alone could be in the order of

\$2 billion.

How will we do it?



Frontline interventions

With our system partners and health services, we will invest in initiatives that have been shown to improve patient safety and reduce medical indemnity claims.



Relationships

We will advise and support health service boards and senior executives to understand their organisation’s risks and opportunities when it comes to reducing medical indemnity claims.



Financial levers

We will design financial incentives for health services so that they send a clear signal that it is financially beneficial for them to improve patient safety.



Information

We will work with health services and other system partners to collect more data of better quality about adverse events that may lead to claims.



Thought leadership

We will communicate and publish our insights into the factors that lead to organisational risk and medical indemnity claims, and how they can be addressed.