

## eTQC – an extraordinary year

Dear colleagues

The eTQC – **electronic Timely Quality Care** – program is our largest-ever investment in clinical information systems.

When the new Cerner functionality goes live in October this year, it will change the way we work. And over time, it will deliver even better outcomes for our patients.

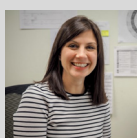
**This technology is not new to us** - we've been at the forefront of developing Cerner Electronic Medical Record capability since 1999. There are many great examples - FirstNet, SurgiNet/Anesthetic and PathNet to name a few - where staff and patients have seen significant benefits.

**What is new**, is that the new Cerner functionality we are currently building and testing, will **create a comprehensive clinical system across our health service**.

The first phase is planned to go live in October. The second phase of optimisation is planned for 2020.

Everyone will experience different degrees of change, and we will see the benefits grow over time.

We know it will take a whole of Alfred Health effort to ensure we are prepared and ready. eTQC Exchange is one of many communication initiatives you will see to help keep you informed and involved as we head towards go live.



Amy McKimm  
eTQC Program Director

*Welcome to eTQC Exchange - your information resource for the eTQC Program and our launch of new Cerner functionality in October this year.*

### eTQC will introduce:

- Inpatient clinical documentation
- Electronic medication prescribing and administration
- Electronic pathology ordering and specimen collection
- eReferrals for internal services
- Interdisciplinary plans of care
- Care Pathways (known as powerplans)

### Look out for:

- New devices, including vital sign machines and ECGs
- New technology - Bedside Mobile Workstations (BMWs), mobile device technology and barcode scanners
- Tap on-tap off computer login and password functionality



# Meet our eTQC team

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This month  
**Phil Lamont**  
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*"I am looking forward to eTQC Go Live as it will signify the beginning of a positive transformation in care for both patients and their families."* Phil Lamont, Nurse Manager Surgical Services, Clinical Projects, The Alfred

## My background...

- Registered Nurse for, I forget how many years
- Alfred Health 19 years
- Past Perioperative Nurse Manager
- Past ANUM Perianaesthetics
- Nursing experience in Coronary Care
- Perioperative (specialised cardiac and transplant surgery)
- Perianaesthetics
- Clinical Projects 4 years
- BN and Post Grad Quals

## Ask me about...

- Nursing
- Surgery
- Anaesthetics
- Surginet
- Scheduling

## Don't ask me about...

...the meaning of life but I will tell you how many kms I am running at the moment

## Your questions answered

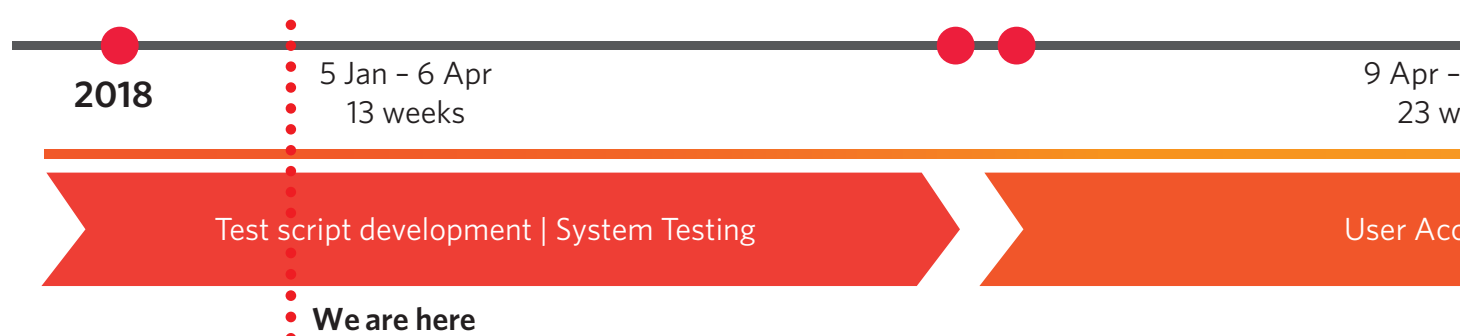
### *Will eTQC get rid of all paper?*

Not entirely. eTQC will remove the need for most paper within inpatient areas - but will still be a need to generate paperwork for communication with external organisations and clinicians.

There is also a need to retain paper for some internal processes as not all paper-based forms will be replaced by eTQC go-live in October 2018.

Outpatient documentation is scoped to transition to our clinical information system during the second phase of the eTQC Program in 2020.

## Timeline and progress



## Anatomical Pathology kicks-off our 2018 eTQC journey

Anatomical Pathology electronic orders will go live during the week of 11 March leading the way for eTQC implementation.

Anatomical Pathology orders will become digital with Pathology request slips replaced by an electronic order in Cerner. This order will then be printed for specimen collection and processing.

This will bring Anatomical Pathology requisitions in-line with our pathology ordering practice across all inpatient areas, embedding Cerner into daily use throughout surgical teams and provide consistency across pathology.

Cerner training has commenced for surgical teams in preparation for this change.



### What's next?

#### We are identifying local area super-users

Local super-users in each area will provide support leading into the Go-Live period and beyond. This group will receive extensive training and ongoing support. Expressions of interest will be issued soon.

#### Device procurement and selection is underway

This includes bedside mobile workstations (BMWs), tablets and integrated vital sign observation machines. In the next couple of months we will be asking clinicians to get involved through hands-on demonstrations of the equipment.

#### Training planning is in process

Our eTQC training team are assessing requirements and developing training plans. When complete these will be communicated with all staff.

### Stay Informed

*Our department page always has the latest! Go to Alfred Health Connect and search for eTQC.*

Have you got a question about eTQC Program or the new Cerner functionality to come?

Email us at [etqc@alfred.org.au](mailto:etqc@alfred.org.au)





# Benefit boast..

**Benefits for staff and patients will build over time to include:**

## For patients

- Improved patient outcomes from increased clinician access to real-time patient data to better inform clinical decision making
- Improved transparency and patient communication through the patient portal
- Reduced duplication of forms and requests for the same personal information during a hospital admission
- Increased security of a patient's clinical and personal information
- Increased medication safety measures reducing clinical risk
- Early warning systems and deterioration alerts for at risk patients

## For staff

- Increased ability to access more complete patient information, from anywhere in the hospital
- Timely access to information - less time searching for paperwork
- Less duplication of data capture activities - saving you time
- Standardised clinical documentation and care pathways
- Improved visibility of patient risk factors
- Increased ability to view workloads
- Increased alerts and clinical support to better inform clinical decision making and reduce risk

