

<p>Medicinal cannabis safety and effectiveness study - Department of Health and Human Services, University of Melbourne, University of Sydney</p>	<p>This is a longitudinal study using online tools to collect data from patients and practitioners regarding the use, safety and effectiveness of medicinal cannabis products prescribed in Australia.</p>	<p>See reasons column</p>	<p>Began late 2018. Will recruit participants over 3-years; final surveys completed 25 months later. Initial results will be made available in a de-identified aggregate form and published twice annually. Final results will be published following completion of study and after a further time to allow for analysis to take place.</p>	<p>See reasons column</p>			<p>Y</p> <p>https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/drugs-and-poisons/medicinal-cannabis/medicinal-cannabis-study</p> <p>Description of project as at 13 August:</p> <p>https://www.liv.asn.au/Staying-Informed/General-News/General-News/August-2019/The-Permanency-Amendments-Longitudinal-Study</p>
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Permanency Amendments Longitudinal Study (PALS) - Consortium led by the University of Melbourne including the University of Sydney and University of New South Wales	A longitudinal study to understand the impact of the 2016 permanency amendments to the Children, Youth and Families Act 2005 on outcomes for children and young people involved with child protection. The study responds to a recommendation made by the Commission for Children and Young People in its 2017 inquiry report 'Safe and wanted'.	See reasons column	Two-year project from 2019	This study will provide vital information about the impacts of the permanency reforms, including impact for the service system, families and children.	n/a - report published by an external body	n/a - report published by an external body	
Research and data analytics - University of Adelaide	Collaboration between University of Adelaide and DHHS to analyse a series of policy questions using departmental linked data sets to support Children and Families Reform.	See reasons column	Ongoing	This collaboration maximises the value of the department's linked data and enables evidence informed policy responses for priority reforms of the children and families service system.			N
Search and assess published literature for the Menu of Evidence-informed Practices and Programs - University of Adelaide	Review technical specifications developed by the Centre for Evidence and Implementation and then use these to build published literature content for the Menu of Evidence-informed Practices and Programs. The Menu is a key component of the reform of children and families services. It will be a repository of the best available evidence on what works for children and families. This will support commissioning of evidence-	See reasons column	In Progress	Rigorous and accessible information for decision makers on evidence-informed interventions for children and families. This includes including what interventions are relevant to particular cohorts, their cost and	\$305,665.93(GST incl)	\$305,665.93(GST incl)	Various documents relating to the department's research on evidence-based practices are available at: https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/publications/roadmap-reform-strong-families-safe-children

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	informed interventions that improve outcomes for children and families.			implementation information.			
The first evaluation of The Orange Door - PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) in partnership with Pricewaterhouse Indigenous Consulting and the Australian Catholic University.	To evaluate the establishment, operations and initial service offering of The Orange door in the first four areas. To identify key lessons and make recommendations for improvements to establishment activities and processes to support implementation of The Orange Door in the next three areas and to improve the initial service offering at The Orange Door in current areas.	See reasons column	Ongoing (commenced September 2018)	This report will inform improvements to the Orange door initiative in the initial sites and inform the roll out to the remainder of the State.	\$790,000	\$790,000	Request for Tender (now closed) available at: https://www.tenders.vic.gov.au/tender/view?id=96884
Inquiry into NDIS Market readiness - National Disability Insurance Scheme (JSC) Committee of Federal Parliament	As part of the committee's role to inquire into the implementation, performance and governance of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), the committee will inquire into and report on market readiness for provision of services under the NDIS.	See reasons column	Report tabled 20 September 2018	See reasons column	n/a - report published by an external body	n/a - report published by an external body	Y https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/National_Disability_Insurance_Scheme/MarketReadiness/Report

Inquiry into the Quality of Care in Residential Aged Care Facilities in Australia - Health, Aged Care and Sport (SC) Committee of Federal Parliament	The Standing Committee on Health, Aged Care and Sport will inquire into and report on: 1. The incidence of all mistreatment of residents in residential aged care facilities and associated reporting and response mechanisms, including the treatment of whistle blowers; 2. The effectiveness of the Australian Aged Care Quality Agency, the Aged Care Complaints Commission, and the Charter of Care Recipients' Rights and Responsibilities in ensuring adequate consumer protection in residential aged care; and 3. The adequacy of consumer protection arrangements for aged care residents who do not have family, friends or other representatives to help them exercise choice and their rights in care.	See reasons column	Report tabled October 2018	See reasons column	n/a - report published by an external body	n/a - report published by an external body	Y https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House/Health_Aged_Care_and_Sport/AgedCareFacilities/Report
Thunderstorm asthma – Coroner's Court of Victoria	Inquest into the ten deaths that related to the thunderstorm asthma event of November 2016.	See reasons column	Findings completed 9 November 2018	See reasons column			N

<p>Accessibility and quality of mental health services in rural and remote Australia – Community Affairs References Committee (SSC) of Federal Parliament</p>	<p>To inquire and report on the accessibility and quality of mental health services in rural and remote Australia, with specific reference to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the nature and underlying causes of rural and remote Australians accessing mental health services at a much lower rate; (b) the higher rate of suicide in rural and remote Australia; (c) the nature of the mental health workforce; (d) the challenges of delivering mental health services in the regions; (e) attitudes towards mental health services; (f) opportunities that technology presents for improved service delivery; and (g) any other related matters. 	<p>See reasons column</p>	<p>Report tabled 4 December 2018</p>	<p>See reasons column</p>	<p>n/a - report published by an external body</p>	<p>n/a - report published by an external body</p>	<p>Y</p> <p>https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Community_Affairs/MentalHealthServices/Report</p>
<p>Effectiveness of the Aged Care Quality Assessment and accreditation framework for protecting residents from abuse and poor practices, and ensuring proper clinical and medical care standards are maintained and practised – Community Affairs References Committee (SSC) of Federal Parliament</p>	<p>On 13 June 2017, the Senate referred this matter to the Senate Community Affairs References Committee for inquiry and report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the effectiveness of the Aged Care Quality Assessment and accreditation framework for protecting residents from abuse and poor practices, and ensuring proper clinical and medical care standards are maintained and practised; b. the adequacy and effectiveness of complaints handling processes at a state and federal level, including consumer awareness and 	<p>See reasons column</p>	<p>Final report tabled April 2019</p>	<p>See reasons column</p>	<p>n/a - report published by an external body</p>	<p>n/a - report published by an external body</p>	<p>Y</p> <p>https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Community_Affairs/AgedCareQuality/Report</p>

	<p>appropriate use of the available complaints mechanisms;</p> <p>c. concerns regarding standards of care reported to aged care providers and government agencies by staff and contract workers, medical officers, volunteers, family members and other healthcare or aged care providers receiving transferred patients, and the adequacy of responses and feedback arrangements;</p> <p>d. the adequacy of medication handling practices and drug administration methods specific to aged care delivered at Oakden;</p> <p>e. the adequacy of injury prevention, monitoring and reporting mechanisms and the need for mandatory reporting and data collection for serious injury and mortality incidents;</p> <p>f. the division of responsibility and accountability between residents (and their families), agency and permanent staff, aged care providers, and the state and the federal governments for reporting on and acting on adverse incidents; and</p> <p>g. any related matters.</p>						
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b) Please outline the Department's/Agencies in house skills/capabilities/expertise to conduct reviews/studies/evaluations/data analysis of the programs and services for which the Department /Agency is responsible.

The following areas provide specific in-house skills, capabilities and expertise to conduction reviews, studies, evaluations and data analysis of the programs and services for which the department is responsible.

- Strategy and Planning Division provides internal consultancy on policy design and leads thinking on long-term reforms within and across ministerial portfolios to progress our key results. It is building the department's capabilities in analytics and research and evaluation.
- Safer Care Victoria is the lead agency for quality and safety improvement in health care. Safer Care Victoria oversees and supports health services to provide safe, high-quality care to patients. The agency works with health services and the department to support state-wide and regional partnerships that deliver sustained, measurable improvements. It also partners with consumers and their families, clinicians and health services to support the continuous improvement of health care.
- The Victorian Agency for Health Information is responsible for providing data and information products that stimulate and inform improvements in clinical care across public and private hospitals, strengthen local oversight of health and community services and inform Victorians about safety and quality of care in their local area. The agency also has primary responsibility for population health surveillance of noncommunicable diseases and their determinants in Victoria through the Health Intelligence Unit.

In addition, the department is undertaking a broad program of organisational reform that will enable it to continue to improve the health and wellbeing of all Victorians. The Organisational Transformation division was established in January 2019 to support this important program of work. The division is leading a transformation program that will plan, develop and oversee implementation of new ways of managing departmental functions over the next two years. It is also driving work to embed ongoing innovation, business process management, and change practices and culture to enable staff to work more effectively and efficiently.

All wording taken from the published DHHS strategic plan accessible at:

<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/201907/Department%20of%20Health%20and%20Human%20Services%20strategic%20plan.pdf>