

COR 2018 005744

BAC-CO-54010

Coroner Jamieson

Coroners Court of Victoria

Via email: [cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au](mailto:cpuresponses@coronerscourt.vic.gov.au)

Dear Coroner Jamieson,

**Regarding the investigation into the death of Carlene Salveson**

In 2021, Safer Care Victoria responded to your findings and recommendation into the tragic death of Carlene Salveson. Since this time, the Department of Health (the department) in collaboration with Safer Care Victoria, have provided Her Honour with several status updates. We write today to inform you of the outcome of this recommendation.

You recommended that:

- *the Chief Digital Health officer of Victoria coordinate with clinical and safety leaders in Victoria and nationally, including Safer Care Victoria, the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in the Health Care and TGA, to review how EMRs and Electronic Medication Management systems present and manage high risk medicines.*

Safer Care Victoria in conjunction with the department were pleased to accept the recommendation, later convening a national eHealth High Risk Medicine Safety advisory group. The group consisted of clinical safety representatives from Safer Care Victoria, the Therapeutic Goods Administration, the Australian Commission into Safety and Quality in Health Care, and clinical leads from the departments' Digital Health branch.

The outcome of this extensive consultation process was the development of the '*Electronic Medication Management – Prescribing High-Risk Medicine Guidance*' document designed to support the sector by offering recommendations for improving high-risk medication management in clinical systems. The guidance document (see Attachment 1) contains several links for resources intended to assist health services in strengthening their management of high-risk medicines and improving patient safety across the healthcare system.

We advise this document has been disseminated to key stakeholders via the department and Safer Care Victoria bulletins and other craft group forums. It will soon be available for use on the department website.

The Guidance was also presented to the Interjurisdictional Committee for the Australian Commission for Quality and Safety in Health Care this week and there is interest in applying the thinking and approach at a national level too.

Safer Care Victoria will continue to monitor this issue in collaboration with the department and commit to informing the sector when opportunity arises. We thank the Court and Coroner Jamieson for highlighting this important safety issue.

Should you have any queries, please contact Jodyanne See, Senior Project Officer for Coronial matters at [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely



**Ms Louise McKinlay**

Chief Executive Officer

Safer Care Victoria

Date: 21 / 03 / 2025