

Complaints and Avoidable Harms

# Ensuring Sexual Safety in Acute Mental Health Inpatient Units

## SAVE THE DATE

**Friday 23 March 2018**  
9.30am - 2pm  
Melbourne Arts Centre

On 23 March 2018, the Mental Health Complaints Commissioner (MHCC) will be holding its inaugural Learning from Complaints Forum, which will focus on the important issue of ensuring sexual safety in acute mental health inpatient units.



The forum will explore key themes and issues identified in the MHCC's Sexual Safety Project, which reviewed:

- safety, quality and other issues identified in complaints relating to sexual safety in Victorian public mental health inpatient environments
- key considerations from the literature
- consultations with a broad range of stakeholders and recognised experts.

The forum will also provide an opportunity for services to consider recommendations relating to practices, guidelines, infrastructure, training and culture within services to ensure sexual safety and effective responses to incidents and allegations.

Presentations and panel sessions will outline key considerations, including lived experience expertise, police and legal perspectives, trauma informed care, gender safety initiatives, and national standards for ensuring safe environments.

Commissioner Lynne Coulson Barr said the forum will focus on people's right to sexual safety in mental health services, highlighting that 'one incident is one too many'.



*'Our aim is to create a shared understanding of the issues, and achieve a shared commitment to preventing these significant avoidable harms in mental health services.'* – Commissioner Coulson Barr

For more information or to register your interest, contact [info@mhcc.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@mhcc.vic.gov.au).



Learn more about the MHCC by  
visiting our new website at:  
[www.mhcc.vic.gov.au](http://www.mhcc.vic.gov.au)



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