



CLINICAL GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK			
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ESTABLISHING A CLINICAL GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

Sundale is committed to delivering excellence in care and service and providing the highest possible levels of resident/consumer safety. Clinical governance is an integrated component of corporate governance and the Sundale Clinical Governance Framework sets out the key structures, systems and processes that enable organisation wide accountability. The Framework and focus of our clinical governance system is to ensure excellence across the continuum of care for our resident/consumers with emphasis on outcomes for our resident/consumers and reflect the level of care and services the community can expect from Sundale. To that end Sundale has established a Clinical Governance Framework which defines the principles, structure and processes that underpin service quality, continuous improvement and client, resident and staff satisfaction and safety at its core always focused on Clinical Care and Excellence.

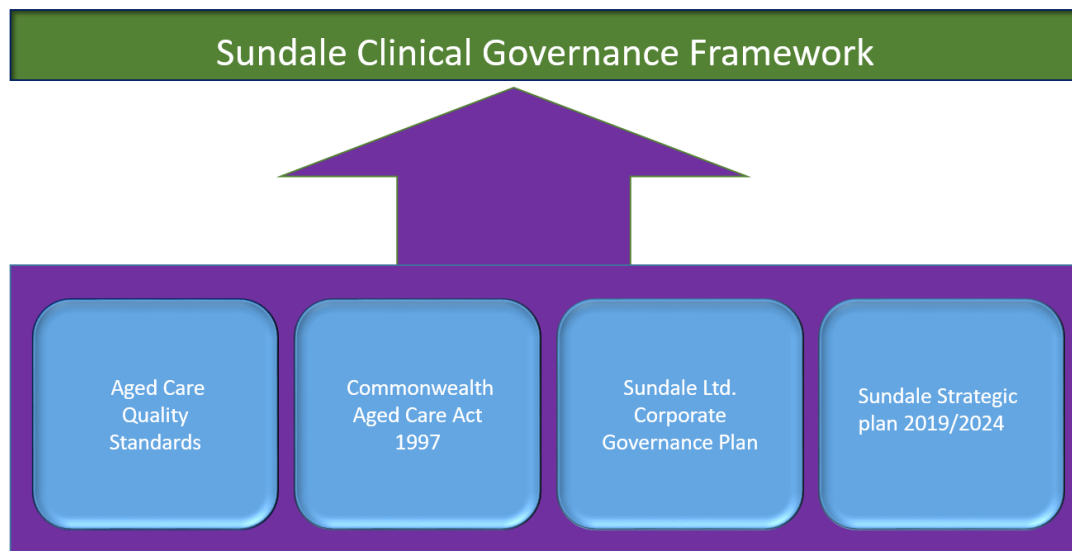
The purpose of a clinical governance framework also provides an organisation with guidance about how to sustainably achieve excellence in health care and facilitates the process of monitoring the performance of the organisation against the standards that the organisation has set for itself and committed to achieve

Clinical governance is an integrated set of leadership behaviours, policies, procedures, responsibilities, relationships, planning, monitoring and improvement mechanisms that are implemented to support safe, quality clinical care and good clinical outcomes for each consumer
(Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission 2019).

DRAWING FROM FOUNDATION DOCUMENTS & STANDARDS

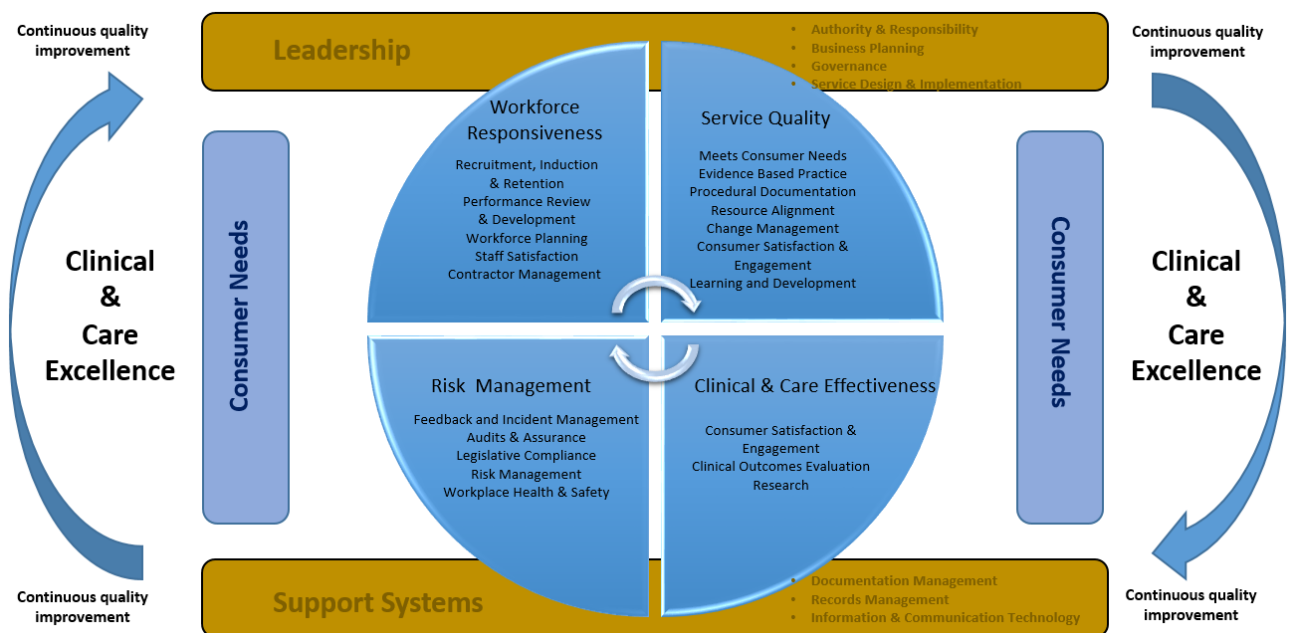
The Sundale Clinical Governance Framework has been developed by identifying those key principles in aged care, regulations and standards that are set out in a variety of documents including; the Aged Care Quality Standards and the Commonwealth Aged Care Act 1997. These documents underpin the delivery of Aged Care services and programs and contain the essential elements which are the building blocks and the foundations from which the Sundale Clinical Governance Framework is based on, as outlined below.

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THE FRAMEWORK

The Sundale Clinical Governance Framework, as shown in the diagram below, comprises four pillars containing multiple integrated processes which create an environment of transparent responsibility and accountability.



CLINICAL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE AND SUB COMMITTEES

To ensure good governance is achieved and sustained, a Sundale Clinical Governance Committee has been established. The Clinical Governance Committee is a formal Committee of the Sundale Board. The purpose of the Clinical Governance Committee is to ensure clinical practices and engagement across Sundale are appropriately governed, consistent across Sundale, and compliant with legislative and policy requirements. The Committee is therefore to provide assurance to the Board that the clinical practices and activities of Sundale are appropriately monitored and reported to the Board. The Committee’s role is to assist the Board’s work in those domains which fall under the auspices of the Committee. Finally, the Committee will also apply a model of continuous improvement.

To support the function of the Clinical Governance Committee three executive subcommittees have been formed and are aligned to specific pillars of the framework. These committees have a workgroup focus looking in greater detail and often developing and approving documents and proposals (as deemed necessary) to bring to the Clinical Governance Committee. This ensures the Clinical Governance Committee is able to focus on overarching monitoring and governance. The distribution of responsibilities is as follows:

- The elements within the Service Quality pillar will fall within the responsibility of the Service Quality Committee chaired by Executive Manager, Aged Care and Community Services.
- The elements within the Workforce Responsiveness pillar will fall within the responsibility of the Workforce Responsiveness Committee chaired by Executive Manager, Corporate Performance.
- The elements within the Risk Management and Clinical and Care Effectiveness pillars will fall within the responsibility of the Clinical Risk and Effectiveness Committee chaired by Executive Manager, Governance and Clinical Engagement.



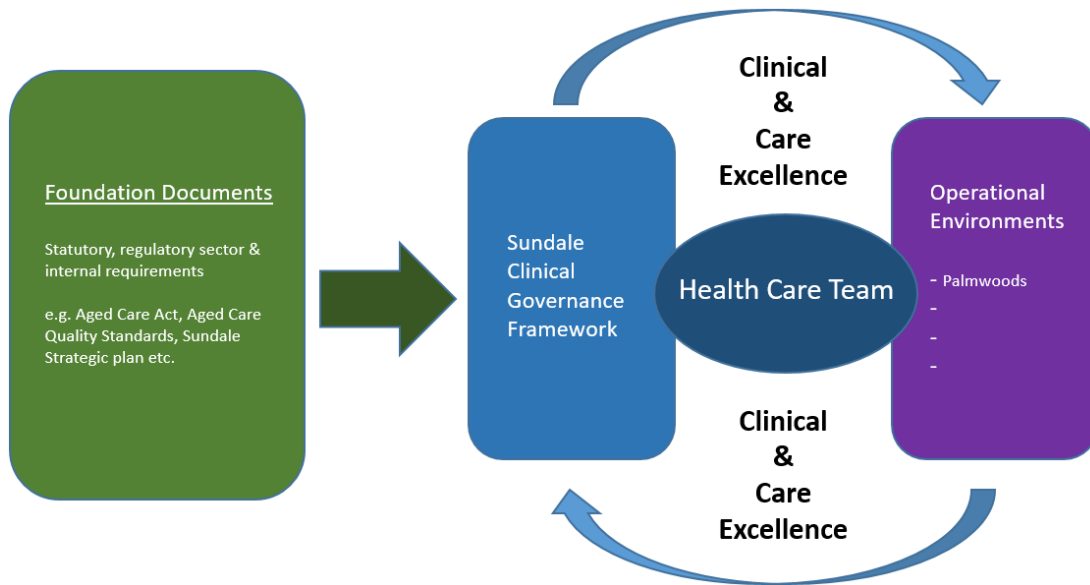
DEVELOPING, IMPLEMENTATION AND CLINICAL GOVERNANCE OVERSIGHT

It is primarily the role of the Governance team and those responsible for quality oversight to actively monitor the performance against the four (4) pillars which make up the Clinical Governance Framework.

To help drive and foster Clinical Governance within Sundale the Executive Manager, Governance and Clinical Engagement will work closely with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the Executive team at Sundale. It is however acknowledged that the Executive Manager, Aged Care and Community Services and the Clinical Operations Manager will have a strong and important role to play in leading and supporting the success of the Clinical Governance Framework and, importantly, the outcomes for our residents/consumers, their families and our staff so that collectively, all parts of the organisation are reached and maintain clinical and care excellence.

The following diagram illustrates the inter-relationship between the foundation documents which are used to put ‘flesh on the bones’ of the Clinical Governance Framework, the framework itself and the health care team which plays a key role in assisting the operational elements of the organisation meet the standards as outlined in the framework. The team also plays an important role in monitoring how

well the organisation is performing against the standards within the framework, which they have signed up to.



RESOURCES AND REFERENCES

- Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission, Guidance and Resources for Providers to support the Aged Care Quality Standards. <https://www.agedcarequality.gov.au/providers/standards>
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