

Child Information Sharing Acronym Resource for Primary Health Care Nurses

The purpose of this resource is to improve understanding of commonly used acronyms related to the Child Information Sharing Scheme (CISS) and Family Violence Information Sharing Scheme (FVISS), for nurses working in prescribed primary health care settings, known as Information Sharing Entities (ISEs).

Please see the Victorian Government Acronyms and Glossary for the source information for child information sharing terms explained. <https://www.vic.gov.au/frequently-asked-questions-about-information-sharing-and-maram#acronyms-and-glossary>

Acronyms

Acronym	Term	Link to information	Explanation
APNA	Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association	https://www.apna.asn.au/profession/child-information-sharing-scheme	The Australian Primary Health Care Nurses Association (APNA) is the peak body and professional membership association for all nurses working outside of a hospital setting in Australia. APNA champions the role of primary health care nurses, to advance professional recognition, ensure workforce sustainability, nurture leadership in health, and optimise the role of nurses in patient-centred care. APNA is working to improve awareness of child information sharing through the "Improving Child Safety and Wellbeing and Family Violence Outcomes Project."
CISS	Child Information Sharing Scheme	https://www.vic.gov.au/about-information-sharing-schemes-and-risk-management-framework	The Child Information Sharing Scheme (CISS) allows authorised organisations and professionals working with children, young people and families to share information to promote a child's wellbeing or safety.
DET	Department of Education and Training	https://www2.education.vic.gov.au/pal/information-sharing-schemes/resources	DET supports Victorian government schools, including school nurses, to request and share information under the Child and Family Violence Information Sharing Schemes.
DFFH	Department of Families, Fairness and Housing	https://providers.dffh.vic.gov.au/mandatory-reporting	DFFH is responsible for child protection, prevention of family violence, housing, disability, multicultural affairs, LGBTIQ+ equality, veterans, and the offices for Women and Youth, and provides information on mandatory reporting requirements in Victoria.
DH	Department of Health	https://www.health.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-03/multi-agency-risk-assessment-management-information-sharing-health-workforces.docx	Provides the Factsheet on the Information Sharing Schemes and the Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management Framework (MARAM) for health workforces.

Acronym	Term	Link to information	Explanation
Excluded information	Excluded information	See the CISS Guidelines and the FVISS Guidelines for the full list of excluded information https://www.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-01/Child%20Information%20Sharing%20Scheme%20Ministerial%20Guidelines%20-%20Guidance%20for%20information%20sharing%20entities.pdf	Excluded information is information that cannot be shared under the Information Sharing Schemes.
FVISS	Family Violence Information Sharing Scheme	https://www.vic.gov.au/about-information-sharing-schemes-and-risk-management-framework	The Family Violence Information Sharing Scheme (FVISS) allows authorised organisations to share information to assess and manage family violence risk.
ISE	Information sharing entity	https://www.vic.gov.au/information-sharing-entity-list	A person or body, or class of person or body, prescribed to be an information sharing entity under CISS and/or FVISS. Information sharing entities may also be referred to as 'authorised organisations' or 'prescribed entities' or 'prescribed organisations and services'.
Mandatory reporting	Mandatory reporting of child abuse and neglect	https://aifs.gov.au/cfca/publications/mandatory-reporting-child-abuse-and-neglect	View the information relevant to your state.
MARAM	Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management Framework (MARAM)	https://www.vic.gov.au/family-violence-multi-agency-risk-assessment-and-management	The Family Violence Multi-Agency Risk Assessment and Management Framework (MARAM) is a framework that guides services in assessing and managing the risk of family violence.
NMBA	Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia	https://www.nmsupport.org.au/	NMBA "Your Health Matters" is an independent national support service for nurses, midwives and students. It is available 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. Or you can call Your Health Matters on 1800667877. The service provides access to confidential advice and referral and has great resources.
PHC	Primary health care	https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/primary-health-care/primary-health-care-in-australia/contents/about-primary-health-care	In Australia, primary health care is typically the first contact an individual with a health concern has with the health system. Primary health care covers health care that is not related to a hospital visit, including health promotion, prevention, early intervention, treatment of acute conditions, and management of chronic conditions.

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PHC nurses	Primary health care nurses	https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/primary-health-care/primary-health-care-in-australia/contents/about-primary-health-care	<p>Primary health care nurses work in a range of settings, each sharing the characteristic that they are a part of the first level of contact with the health system.</p> <p>In Australia, those settings can include: general practice, schools, community health, aged care, corrections, Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations, Refugee health.</p>
Safer Families	Safer Families	https://www.saferfamilies.org.au/about-us	<p>Safer Families is a consortium of organisations including University of Melbourne, Murdoch Children's Research Institute, La Trobe University and South Australia Health and Medical Research Institute. Safer families aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote early engagement of families experiencing domestic or family violence • Build innovative, sustainable programs and tools for health practitioners to identify, respond and refer for safety and healing • Undertake collaborative research to transform health policy and practice responses to domestic and family violence.
Training	Training for health workforces in the information sharing and MARAM reforms	https://training.infosharing.vic.gov.au	Health Workforces are able to access Victorian Government online learning modules via the link.

Background

Keeping children safe and ensuring their wellbeing is essential.

The Child Information Sharing Scheme (CISS) aims to promote better child wellbeing and safety outcomes. It does this by authorising specified organisations and service providers, known as Information Sharing Entities (ISEs), to share confidential information about children (personal, health or sensitive information), their families or relevant third parties that will:

- improve early risk identification and enabling earlier support and engagement including linking with relevant wrap around services to support wellbeing;
- Support a collaborative, coordinated and integrated approach to service delivery across the service sector
- Empower professionals to make informed decisions about the needs of the children and families in their care
- Promote a shared responsibility for wellbeing, safety and identifying and responding to family violence across the service sector.



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