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# MEMO

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**To:** Board Members  
**From:** Elizabeth Wood, Chair of Clinical Governance Committee  
**Date:** 18 October 2017  
**Subject:** **Clinical Governance Report**

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## *Status*

This report contains:

- For decision
- Update
- Regular report
- For information

### Key messages from Clinical Governance meeting held on 6 October 2017

#### DHB CGG approved:

- *Medication stewardship structure* – This is an important function for our health system whereby we have a forum to address medication safety issues and stewardship. Medication errors, both internationally and locally, are one of the commonest causes of mishap leading to patient harm, so it makes sense to have a coordinated approach to this. The other risk for the integrity of our local health system is the potential for medications to consume several millions of health dollars, so oversight and monitoring of emerging and expensive trends in prescribing is appropriate. This new structure will enable the oversight of our regional medication usage as well as focusing effort on critical medication safety issues.
- *A coronary care, cardiology education document* – This educational package covers all the information that is required for a nurse to be skilled in caring for high dependency unit (HDU) type cardiology patients.

#### DHB CGG noted:

- *Results of an audit prompted by information from our quarterly Health Round Table (HRT) reports* – An audit of a random sample of all cases of mortality from pneumonia and stroke over a three month period identified high quality of care with no causes for concern. Rather the high numbers of patients undertaking their preferred end of life journey with the support of their families was noted. This may provide opportunities for a new model of care in that a different approach to these end of life journeys may have been possible if suitable supports were available in the community.

Elizabeth Wood  
**Clinical Director and Chair Clinical Governance Committee**

#### RECOMMENDATION:

**THAT THE BOARD RECEIVE THE CLINICAL GOVERNANCE REPORT.**