7. Clinical accountability program - Western Australian Audit of Surgical Mortality (WAASM). The WAASM was established in 2001 as an independent operational research program to independently review all surgical deaths in WA. An evaluation of the WAASM in 2005 showed that for participating surgeons 73% had changed their practice as a result of the WAASM, 12% were aware of changes in their colleagues practice and 25% reported changes in systems delivery of surgical care. It is now mandatory for surgeons in WA to participate in the audit process. Since 2004, the WAASM model has been extended throughout Australia and New Zealand. Professor Semmens and Mr Aqif Mukhtar are special expert advisors for the NSW model, the Collaborating Hospitals Audit of Surgical Mortality (CHASM), with a service agreement for software support between Curtin University and the Clinical Excellence Commission.

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