



11 October 2009

National Registration and Accreditation Legislation

The Queensland Deputy Premier and Minister for Health this week introduced the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Bill 2009 (Qld)* to the Queensland Parliament.

All health ministers have agreed that this legislation will form the basis for a national scheme to begin on 1 July 2010. The scheme will cover registration and accreditation, complaints, privacy and information sharing, and transitional arrangements.

Under the scheme, a health practitioner will only have to register once and will have that registration recognised throughout Australia. No longer will a health practitioner wanting to work interstate be required to hold additional or multiple registrations. This will be of particular benefit in responding to national emergencies where a workforce can be mobilised quickly from across the country.

Following passage in the Queensland Parliament, draft legislation will progressively be introduced in all parliaments across Australia to adopt and apply the new national law.

The Bill was drafted in accordance with the Intergovernmental Agreement, signed by the Council of Australian Governments' in March 2008, and follows extensive consultation with consumers, practitioners and regulatory bodies.

Two new PHI Circulars released

Two new PHI circulars have been released this week.

- [PHI Circular 68/09 Medicare Levy Surcharge Review](#) - The purpose of this circular is to notify Private Health Insurers and Private Hospitals of meetings to be conducted as part of an independent review on 28 October 2009.
- [PHI Circular 69/09 General Hospital Information](#) - The purpose of this circular is to advise of a new private hospital in NSW and a private hospital name change in Queensland.

Showcase your Hospital's Work in the Community in December's *Private Hospital* magazine

The December edition of *Private Hospital* magazine will be themed around Community Involvement by private hospitals. If you would like to showcase the work your hospital is doing in your community, please contact [Lisa Ramshaw](#). Article submissions along with high resolution photos will be due by Friday 23 October 2009.

Medication Safety Seminar – Brisbane 30 October

NHMRC in collaboration with the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care and the Safe Medication Management Unit, Medication Services Queensland, Queensland Health are holding a seminar on 30 October 2009 in Brisbane on Medication Safety.

The seminar will focus on:

- current strategies being implemented at national and state level (session 1);
- medication safety in the electronic age (session 2);
- managing high risk medication (session 3); and
- implementing what we know works (session 4).

For more information see www.crepatientsafety.org.au

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