



APHA Vital Signs

A WEEKLY ROUND-UP OF NEWS VITAL TO THE PRIVATE HOSPITAL INDUSTRY

18 December 2009

APHA Office Closure for the Holiday Period

The APHA Secretariat office will be closed from 5.00pm, Wednesday 23 December 2009 until 8.30am Monday 4 January 2010 for the Christmas and New Year break. This edition of Vital Signs will be the last one of 2009 and we will resume the service on 17 January 2010. All of us at APHA wish the staff at our member hospitals a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year period.

APHA 2009 Annual Review

APHA is pleased to release our 2009 Annual Review that showcases the work of the Secretariat over the past twelve months. This year the Annual Review is an online publication only, rather than a paper based annual report sent to each member hospital. To access the 2009 Annual Review, see www.apha.org.au/media-centre/annual-reports/annual-review/.

Clinical Teaching Grants available

Important information on Commonwealth grants available to private hospitals for clinical teaching

The Minister for Health and Ageing has announced two separate grant schemes to help develop clinical teaching and training infrastructure and to support undergraduate health profession students in 2010. **Private hospitals are eligible to apply for grants from both schemes.**

Full details on these grants were only made available this week and proposals need to be submitted in January (closing dates below).

Clinical teaching and training infrastructure grants

The Government is making available \$90 million over the four years 2009-10 for capital projects that will support health professional students and trainees across a range of health disciplines. The funding will be in the form of a grant known as 'Innovative Clinical Teaching and training Grants (ICTTG)'. Under these ICTTGs the Commonwealth is making available contributions of between \$100,000 and \$5million (GST exclusive) to public and private organisations for infrastructure projects that:

- Are innovative approaches to dealing with the increase in the numbers of people undertaking health professional training and education
- Improve distribution and capacity for teaching and clinical training outside tertiary hospitals; and
- Are in settings that may not normally be considered for Commonwealth funding.

The Government has stated that 'successful projects will help to ensure that students and trainees have access to top-quality facilities, especially in rural and regional areas'

Full details on the grants can be found here:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/grantITA+1950910>

The closing date for receipt of grant proposals is 27 January 2010.

Increased Clinical Training Capacity in 2010

The Government will be releasing \$67.5 million in one off grants in 2010 so that all undergraduate health students enrolled for the 2010 training year can undertake the clinical training required for the completion of their studies.

The Government is seeking joint proposals from educational institutions and clinical training providers in the public and private health sectors. Private hospitals that that could increase capacity subject to being awarded a grant should put forward a joint proposal in collaboration with an educational institution. Proposed projects should:

- Support innovative approaches to dealing with the increase in the numbers of students undertaking health professional training and education
- Improve distribution and capacity for teaching and clinical training outside traditional training settings
- Address training across the mix of eligible disciplines; and
- Have the immediate capacity to provide increased clinical training capacity.

Full details can be found here:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/grant2130910>

The closing date for receipt of proposals is 11 January 2010.

APHA Education and Training Survey

APHA are currently carrying out a survey of member hospitals to show how much high quality training the private sector is already doing. We encourage members to complete this survey so that we can show the Government that the private sector is a willing partner in workforce training.

The survey can be found here: <http://www.apha.org.au/survey/clinical.htm>

The closing date for the APHA survey is 24 December 2010.

Windows into Safety and Quality in Health Care Report 2009

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care released their annual *Windows into Safety and Quality in Health Care Report 2009* on Thursday this week. This report provides an insight into aspects of the safety and quality of patient care in 2009 and builds upon, and extends, the coverage of the Commission's *Windows 2008* report. *Windows into Safety and Quality in Health Care 2009* provides a number of insights into the current state of safety and quality in both the public and private health sectors.

Each chapter of *Windows into Safety and Quality in Health Care 2009* focuses on a specific area of patient safety. Topics covered in the report include clinical deterioration, general practice, hospital mortality rates and antimicrobial stewardship. Other chapters focus on the analysis of patient complaints, sentinel events and other forms of reporting, hospital indicators and the impact of clinical registries. The report also includes a look back to the 2008 report providing an update on what has happened in a number of the areas examined in last year's report.

To read *Windows into Safety and Quality in Health Care 2009* please visit the Commission Publication section on our web site www.safetyandquality.gov.au.