



# APHA Vital Signs

26 July 2009

## Prime Minister to Announce Health Reforms

APHA President Chris Rex and APHA CEO Michael Roff will attend an address by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd *"on the challenges of health reform for Australia's future followed by a discussion with participants"* tomorrow morning (Monday 27 July).

We suspect this will also entail the release of the final report of the NHHRC and the announcement of the Government's response to key recommendations. We will update members next week on the outcomes of this meeting.

## 2009 APHA / Baxter Awards for Quality & Excellence – Application Entries Due this Friday!

There is **1 WEEK REMAINING** to submit your entry for the APHA / Baxter Awards for Quality & Excellence!

- ✓ Celebrate your achievements!
- ✓ Identify your hospital as a leader!
- ✓ Boost team spirit!

Your hospital could be the **WINNER** for 1) Clinical Excellence, 2) Ambulatory Care Award, or 3) Community Service Award! Send your entry by Friday! Late entries may be accepted in special circumstances.

Winners will be announced at the **Gala Dinner & Awards Night** on 12 October at the 29<sup>th</sup> APHA National Congress. Contact Angela Hook, APHA Member Services Manager, on 02 6273 9000 or [angela.hook@apha.org.au](mailto:angela.hook@apha.org.au) with any questions.

## ACHS EQUIP REVIEW

Members will be aware the ACHS is currently reviewing the EQUIP4 Standards. APHA is advised that revised draft standards are likely to be released for field review around mid-August and would urge all members to provide feedback on the draft standards.

Details of the progress of the EQUIP review will be made available on the ACHS website: [www.achs.org.au](http://www.achs.org.au)

## \$5.1 Million for Better Support for Women with Post and Antenatal Depression

The Government has announced it will invest \$5.1 million over three years to enable four specialist organisations to provide telephone-based support for women experiencing post or antenatal depression, or grief following the loss of a baby that will link to an enhanced 24 hour hotline for pregnant women and new mums.

The four organisations are Post and Antenatal Depression Australia (PANDA), SIDS and Kids Australia, Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Support (SANDS), and the Bonnie Babes Foundation.

## 2009 APHA Membership Survey

A big *Thank You* to all those who participated in our 2009 APHA Membership Survey. We received a higher than anticipated response rate and appreciate the time you spent to give us your feedback. Best Practice Australia is now working on the “Data Analysis Phase” of this process and will be collating the survey results which will be presented at the Members’ Forum on Sunday 11 October at the APHA National Congress in Melbourne.

## Federal Parliamentary Library Background Note on Medical Practitioners: Education and Training in Australia

The Parliamentary Library has published a briefing note on this topic. Medical practitioners—general practitioners and other medical specialists, hospital non-specialists and specialists-in-training—are a fundamental and vital component of the health workforce. In 2006, there were an estimated 71 740 medical practitioners registered in Australia, and most of these were working in medicine throughout the country. The overall supply of employed medical practitioners in Australia increased in the period from 2002 to 2006. During the same time, however, the supply of general practitioners decreased. Download the note at <http://www.aph.gov.au/library/pubs/BN/index.htm>

## Minister Confirms Private Hospitals Included in Cancer Centre Tenders

APHA CEO Michael Roff has received a letter from Minister Roxon which states that both public and private sectors will be eligible to apply for funding under the initiative announced in the Federal Budget to build a network of up to ten regional cancer centres. More information about how the tender process will work, criteria etc is expected from the Department of Health in the next few weeks.

## The APHA 29<sup>th</sup> Annual National Congress

Visit [www.apha.consec.com.au](http://www.apha.consec.com.au) and read about the fantastic, world-class Australian and International speakers coming to the APHA National Congress in October! Places are limited, so register yourself and your colleagues early to ensure you get a spot! The APHA National Congress has grown over the years to become the premier event for the private hospital sector in Australia and is a must-attend event for everyone associated with the country’s private hospitals.

The Congress Trade Exhibition is filling up quickly, likewise sponsorship and branding opportunities are going fast. **To book an Expo Booth or to brand a Congress Session, act now!** For further details contact: Michaela Andelova, Conference Coordinator, 02 6251 0675 or [michaela@consec.com.au](mailto:michaela@consec.com.au).