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LATEST UPDATE FROM THE AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION ON SAFETY AND QUALITY IN HEALTHCARE

The ACSQHC has released its latest update. Click on the link below for news about the proposed national safety and quality framework, the national Hand Hygiene Initiative, the Australian Charter of Healthcare rights and other safety and quality issues of key interest to hospitals.

[http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/internet/safety/publishing.nsf/Content/48AA03304E252B17CA25751600148047/\\$File/Issue-08.pdf](http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/internet/safety/publishing.nsf/Content/48AA03304E252B17CA25751600148047/$File/Issue-08.pdf)

ABS PRIVATE HOSPITALS DATA COLLECTION TO BE RESUMED

The Australian Bureau of Statistics has announced that it secured funding in the Federal Budget to recommence the Private Health Establishments Collection. The next survey will be done in 2009-2010. The ABS will be sending out consent forms to hospitals at the end of August and the survey forms will follow at the end of September. The form and questions will be the same as for the last survey in 2006-2007. The data collected will be for the 2008-2009 financial year.

During 2009-2010, the ABS will be reviewing both the questions asked in the survey and the way data is captured. APHA will have input to this review.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Members are reminded that membership renewal subscriptions are due by 1 July.

Congratulations to Maryvale Private Hospital in Victoria, who won the draw for a free registration to the APHA National Congress for those hospitals that paid their renewal subscription by 19 June.

NEW REPORT FROM AIHW ON INJURY SEVERITY

This is a technical report from the AIHW which sets out the method used to distinguish 'high threat to life' injuries from less serious injuries in some publications. The method is called the ICD-based Injury Severity Scaling (ICISS). This technical report documents a revision and update to the method.

Click on the link to the report:
<http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/inj/injcat-126-10717/injcat-126-10717.pdf>

CIRCULAR FROM FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND AGEING

The Department has issued a circular which contains information on revised data to be collected by the Government from Private Hospitals. Apologies for the broken link in last week's News.

The Circular is at
http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/health-phicirculars2009-34_09.htm

2009 APHA MEMBER SURVEY

A big thank you to those of you who have already participated in the 2009 APHA Membership Survey commissioned by Best Practice Australia.

There has been a fantastic initial response. Your feedback is important to us and necessary for us to progress towards the goal of understanding and delivering value to members. If you haven't filled out your survey, please do so before Friday 3 July. Make sure you are one of the survey respondents opting to go into the draw for a \$500 gift voucher to David Jones!

2009 APHA / BAXTER AWARDS FOR QUALITY & EXCELLENCE

Nominations are now open in 3 Categories:

1. Clinical Excellence Award
2. Ambulatory Care Award
3. Community Involvement Award

Has your hospital demonstrated excellence? Visit

www.apha.consec.com.au to download Selection Criteria and Application. Deadline for submissions is 31 July 2009. Winners will be announced at the 29th Annual National Congress. Contact Angela Hook for more details: angela.hook@apha.org.au.

ACCESS AND DISCHARGE BARRIERS

There has been little discussion in medical literature in Australia of access and discharge barriers as they pertain to subacute care. To try and help expand the understanding of the scope of this problem and foster further research an on-line survey has been put together that takes about 10 minutes. The survey is directed at rehabilitation and aged care physicians, and members of senior hospital management with responsibility for patient flow/discharge between acute and subacute hospitals, and/or from subacute hospitals into the community.

The survey can be completed by going to:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=uZZp6jijiRnVciB9ed36JLQ_3d_3d

This survey is closing on the 24th July. As an incentive to complete the survey a \$100 gift voucher will be given to one person who completes the survey.