



**Date: 1 March 2009**

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### **APHA NEW MEMBER SERVICES MANAGER**

APHA is pleased to announce that Angela Hook will join the staff in the APHA Secretariat as the new Member Services Manager on Monday 2 March. Angela can be contacted on 02 6273 9000 or [angela.hook@apha.org.au](mailto:angela.hook@apha.org.au)

### **REVIEW OF EXISTING PBS SUPPLY**

The review examines the existing arrangements for PBS medicines supplied to patients in private hospitals with the aim of achieving improved efficiency whilst maintaining quality use of medicines and reflecting the role of community pharmacy.

To ensure that a broad spectrum of views is reflected, the Review includes: consultation with a wide range of relevant stakeholders; dissemination of a discussion paper; facilitation of workshops opened to stakeholders, providers and consumers in each State and Territory; and delivering options in a written report. The Agreement Consultative Committee Review Group, comprising representatives of the Department and the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, will consider the final report and the outcomes of the Review will be provided to the Agreement Consultative Committee.

The discussion paper was published on the Department and the Pharmacy Guild of Australia websites on 8 December 2008.

It is anticipated that during April 2009 a number of workshops will

be held in each State and Territory to assess the feasibility of the options proposed in responses to the discussion paper.

If you intend to participate in such a workshop to discuss potential options for improving the existing supply arrangements of PBS medicines in residential aged care facilities and private hospitals and assess their feasibility, you will need to fill in the *registration form* and the *consent form* that can be found at one of the following web pages:

- Department of Health and Ageing : [www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/content/pharmacy-4cpa-reviews](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/content/pharmacy-4cpa-reviews)
- Pharmacy Guild of Australia: [www.guild.org.au](http://www.guild.org.au)

### **FEBRUARY 2009 PROSTHESIS LIST**

The Prosthesis Section of the Department of Health and Ageing have confirmed that the February 2009 Prosthesis List contains 43 errors that need correction. Updated versions of the list that reflect the corrections will be available on the department's website on 2 March 2009. See [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au)

### **APHA CONNECT –TIME IS RUNNING OUT TO REGISTER**

All members have been sent the final program for APHA Connect – the inaugural international Study Tour for APHA members that is coordinated by Thomson Adsett.

If you have not received the program please visit [www.aphaconnect.com](http://www.aphaconnect.com) to download a program and registration form. **Registration closes 6 March.**

### **NSW MEMBERS ONLY**

The NSW Food Authority has introduced a new law in NSW which covers businesses who serve food to vulnerable persons. Hospitals are covered by the new law and will need to have a licence. The deadline for applications has now passed – if you are yet to apply please do so immediately - you can apply electronically at [www.foodauthority.nsw.gov.au](http://www.foodauthority.nsw.gov.au).

### **APHA PANELS OF INTEREST**

Thank you to everyone who nominated themselves to sit on one of APHA's Panels of Interest. You will be contacted in the near future by the chair of the relevant taskforce who will outline your tasks and responsibilities.

### **PRIVATE HOSPITAL MAGAZINE**

APHA's Public Affairs Manager, Lisa Ramshaw is looking for contributions for the next issue of Private Hospital magazine, which will have a focus on **Mental Health**. If you have a story you would like to share with a wider audience, please contact Lisa at [lisa.ramshaw@apha.org.au](mailto:lisa.ramshaw@apha.org.au) by **6 March 2009**.