



1 August 2010

APHA Council 2010/2012

Letters have been sent to all eligible APHA members calling for nominations to fill Council positions for the 2010/2012. The term for APHA Council positions is 2 years and the current term for all positions expires at the conclusion of the 2010 AGM. Members are invited to nominate for a position representing members in their electorate. Nominations must be on the prescribed form and be received by APHA by 4pm Friday 13 August 2010. Should you have any queries in relation to this please contact kathryn.lee@apha.org.au.

Second Tier Advisory Committee Meeting

The next Second Tier Advisory Committee meeting will be held on Friday 27 August 2010. The closing date for applications is **Friday 6 August 2010**. Please note that applicants are required to submit 9 stapled copies of their application to:

Second Tier Advisory Committee Secretariat
c/o Department of Health and Ageing
MDP 401
GPO Box 9848
Canberra ACT 2601

Information which must be included in the application is outlined in the *Second Tier Default Benefit – Sample Application Guide 2010* located on the APHA website:
<http://www.apha.org.au/advocacy/resources/>

Mental Health of Young People

The Australian Bureau of Statistics has released a report into the *Mental Health of Young People, 2007*. The report can be downloaded at:
<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/4840.0.55.001>

Call for Submissions – Private Hospital magazine

The October edition of Private Hospital magazine will be themed around Emergency Departments and ICUs. If your hospital would like to feature the work undertaken in your ED or ICU, please contact Lisa Ramshaw, APHA's Public Affairs Manager at lisa.ramshaw@apha.org.au. Deadline for submissions will be 13 August.

Health Workforce Australia – Clinical Supervision Support Program consultation

Health Workforce Australia is undertaking a Clinical Supervision Support Program to expand student supervision and competence across the health professions. The output of this program will be to develop and implement a National Clinical Supervision Support Strategy and Framework.

HWA has prepared a Discussion Paper to consider supervision across professions and the educational continuum from professional entry through to post graduate and vocational training. The Discussion Paper as well as providing a review of work to date outlines proposed strategies on a number of potential policy options. The paper can be found by visiting <http://tinyurl.com/39ly332>.

HWA are seeking submissions from interested parties addressing each of the policy options contained in the Discussion paper by 3 September 2010. Stakeholder Forums are being held in all capital cities from 5-19 August for interested parties.

APHA has prepared a short summary of the longer discussion paper for members. APHA intends to respond to the consultation. If you have any comments that you would like APHA to address in its response or for a copy of APHA summary of the discussion paper please contact Peter Thomas (peter.thomas@apha.org.au)

Seasonal flu vaccination for young children can be resumed

Advice received from Dr Jim Bishop, Commonwealth Chief Medical Officer recently said that continued investigations in Australia and overseas indicate that there does not appear to be the higher than normal incidence of febrile convulsions in children under five with the other seasonal flu vaccines Influvac and Vaxigrip.

In particular, data from Australia and New Zealand show that rates of fever and febrile convulsions associated with Vaxigrip and Inlfluvac are similar to those seen with trivalent seasonal flu vaccine in previous years. While to date it has still not been possible to identify a biological or other basis that would explain the higher than expected observed rates of fever and febrile convulsions with Fluvax, the investigations are continuing.

In the meantime he now advises that if parents of children under five years of age wish to have their children vaccinated against seasonal flu that they should discuss with their GP or vaccine provider the use of Vaxigrip or Inlfluvac.

National Palliative care performance indicators: results of the 2008 performance indicator data collection – New AIHW Report out now

National palliative care performance indicators: results of the 2008 performance indicator data collection presents the findings of the fourth national collection of performance indicator data from Australia's palliative care sector. The information collected provides information on the extent to which palliative care agencies have met the four national performance indicators that were developed based on the goals and objectives of the National Palliative Care Strategy. The report also presents information on changes to performance (as measured by these performance indicators) that have occurred between the 2008 survey and previous surveys.

The report can be downloaded at: <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10770>

Royal College of Pathologists review of accreditation

The Australian Medical Council is reviewing the education and training programs of the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia. The College received accreditation from the AMC for a limited time. The review is being carried out to see whether enough progress has been made in

relation to a number of key issues to extend accreditation to the maximum period of six years.

In addition to this the College is seeking accreditation for two new medical specialities, clinical pathology and genetic pathology. The College has provided the AMC with a submission which outlines developments since 2006 and covers these two new areas.

The accreditation submission can be found [by clicking this link](#). The AMC is seeking stakeholder comments on this submission to assist them in their assessment. APHA has been asked for comment by the AMC and will be responding on behalf of its members to the consultation. More information about the accreditation process can be found [here](#)