



APHA Vital Signs

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

16 May 2010

HEALTH BUDGET 2010

The Health Portfolio Budget Statements for 2010-11 have been released and contain few surprises and even fewer mentions of private hospitals. Reform of Australia's health system in line with the recent announcements from COAG is at the centre of the Health Budget. Following three major reviews and a public consultation process, the Federal and State Governments have agreed (with the exception of WA) to establish a National Health and Hospital Network. The majority of the announcements within the budget are set against the formation of the Network. An APHA Information paper summarising the major Budget initiatives has been sent out separately to members and is also available on the Members' area of the APHA website www.apha.org.au.

Professions and the Trade Practices Act

This week the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) launched its Professions and the Trade Practices Act which provides an overview of the common trade practices issues on which individual professionals may seek guidance, while also explaining those provisions of the Trade Practices Act most likely to impact on professional associations. The publication seeks to educate APHA members in their legal obligations and minimise the risk for breaches of the law. The publication can be downloaded at <http://www.accc.gov.au/content/index.phtml?itemId=926525>

Baxter Awards Open for Entries!

The 2010 APHA Baxter Awards are open for entry. APHA would like to encourage all current members to submit an entry in the following awards categories:

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

Entry is free and the submission criterion is short and simple to complete. What better way to reward your staff and promote your hospital's pursuit of excellence in the industry?

IDENTIFY your hospital as an industry leader

CREATE recognition for your hospital's community work

CELEBRATE your achievement via the APHA / Baxter awards

Entries close on **30th July 2010**. Download the Application Prospectus at www.apha.org.au

Two new reports from the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

The AIHW has released *Public and private sector medical indemnity claims in Australia 2006-07 a summary*. This report presents data from the combined Medical Indemnity National Collection of

public and private sector claims. Data on claims that were current at any time over the period of 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 are included. The report includes the circumstances that gave rise to claims, the medical specialities involved in claims, the people making claims, the size of claims and the length of time they have been open.

The report can be accessed at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10740>

AIHW has also released a report entitled *Gynaecological cancer projections 2010-2015*. This document provides information on the projected incidence of gynaecological cancers for the calendar years 2010 to 2015, by state and territory and at the national level. The purpose of the data is to help inform the national gynaecological cancers service delivery and resource framework. This document will provide information on the predicted incidence of gynaecological cancers in the next five to ten years and how the workforce is best able to meet the future service delivery requirements of women affected by gynaecological cancers.

This report can be accessed at <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/11687>.

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