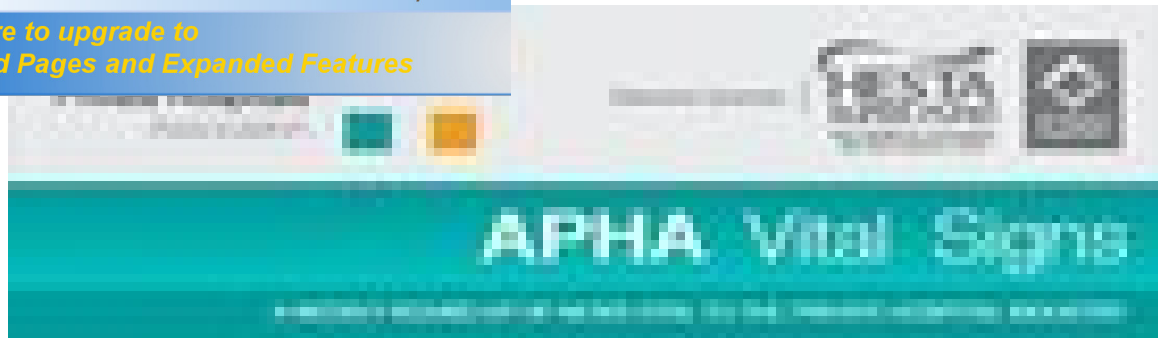




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17th October 2010

APHA Office Closure

The APHA Secretariat Office will be closed on Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th of October for the APHA 30th Annual National Congress. The office will re-open for business as usual on Wednesday, 20 October at 8.30am

Prime Minister & Minister for Health announce funding for more doctors, nurses and health professionals

Prime Minister Julia Gillard and the Minister for Health Nicola Roxon announced on 13th October funding for the clinical training of up to 12,000 more medical, nursing and allied health professional students to help deliver better health care to Australians. 22 health and medical professions will benefit in remote, regional and metropolitan Australia including doctors, nurses, midwives, physiotherapists, dieticians, dentists and Aboriginal Health Workers. The Prime Minister said the funding will provide much-needed training places for undergraduates in those professions in highest demand. The funds will support the undergraduate clinical training requirements for a 9.1% increase in the number of health professional students over the next three years. To see a table of the organisations that will be funded in each state, and the professions for which they will be funded to deliver extra training go to:

<http://www.hwa.gov.au/sites/uploads/FACTSHEET%20successful%20proposal%20by%20jurisdiction%20key%20contact%20and%20profession.pdf>

APHA Nominee appointed on Prosthesis List Advisory Committee

Paul Fitzmaurice from Ramsay Health Care has been appointed as the nominee of APHA on the Prosthesis List Advisory Committee from 1 October 2010 until 1 October 2014. The PLAC replaces the previous Prosthesis and Devices Committee and is a non-statutory committee established to provide advice to the Minister for Health and Ageing about which products should be included on the Prosthesis List and the benefits private health insurers should be required to pay for them.

Healthcare Associated Infection Program Update

The Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare 2010 have now been released, and are available for download from the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) website: <http://www.nhmrc.gov.au/node/30290>.

The Guidelines were developed in collaboration with the NHMRC to establish a nationally accepted approach to infection prevention and control, focusing on core principles and priority areas for action.



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healthcare workers and healthcare facilities can develop
tion of infection that are appropriate for their specific situation.

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care (ACSQHC), in conjunction with the NHMRC, will be conducting a range of activities to coincide with the release of the Guidelines. As part of the implementation strategy, the Commission has invited States and Territories to collaborate in hosting a series of workshops across the country to introduce health care workers to the resources available, and to provide direction on the implementation of the Guidelines key recommendations. Letters of invitation have been sent to the Director Generals of each State/Territory. It is anticipated that workshops will be held between November 2010 and March 2011; these will be advertised by the individual States/Territories.

Australian doctors and nurses increase, but supply varies across regional and rural areas

The number of employed medical practitioners and nurses in Australia increased by 18% and 12% respectively between 2004 and 2008, according to two reports released today by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

However, regional areas continued to have lower rates of medical practitioners per head of population - most significantly, outer regional areas, where there were 187 full-time equivalent (FTE) medical practitioners per 100,000 people, compared to 376 FTE medical practitioners per 100,000 people in major cities. David Braddock of the AIHW's Labour Force Unit said the report, Medical labour force 2008, shows there were 68,689 medical practitioners employed in medicine in Australia in 2008.

Solutions for Safe Care Conference – Register Now!

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care is holding its second National Conference as part of its Recognising and Responding to Clinical Deterioration program. The conference, held in Adelaide, includes international speakers and will showcase current approaches and practical solutions to the challenge of properly recognising and responding to patients who deteriorate in hospital.

Places are limited and registration closes on Friday 22 October, 2010. To secure your place register online at: <https://www.catalystevents.com.au/deterioration.asp>