



24<sup>th</sup> October 2010

### Meeting with Independent MP's

On Thursday, APHA CEO, Michael Roff, met with independent MP's Tony Windsor & Rob Oakeshott. Issues discussed included the contribution private hospitals make to the delivery of services & workforce training in regional areas; the Productivity Commission's report on Public & Private Hospitals; the Henry Review of taxation and the Government's proposal to means-test health insurance rebates.

### Health & Hospitals Fund – Regional Priority Round

The Government has opened a new funding round under the HHF, with funding of up to \$1.8 billion available for health infrastructure projects. Private Hospitals are eligible to apply for funding.

The primary focus of this HHF funding round is to provide capital funding to projects in regional communities in the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) Remoteness Areas (RA) 2 to 5 to support upgrades to regional health infrastructure, expansions to regional hospitals and to help support the clinical training capacity of regional hospitals.

Applications under the Regional Priority Round will close at **2pm on Friday, 3 December 2010**.

Further information is available from:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/HHF>

### 2010 APHA/Baxter Award Winners Announced

The 2010 APHA/Baxter Award winners were announced last Monday night at the 30th Annual APHA Congress Gala Dinner. St Andrew's Hospital in Adelaide was the winner of the Clinical Excellence award for its development of the "Integrated Performance Management System". This is a locally devised method to identify, measure, monitor and manage key performance indicators.

Currumbin Clinic in Queensland and Joondalup Health Campus in WA were joint winners of the Ambulatory Care Award. Currumbin Clinic was recognised for an innovative approach to weight management for people suffering mental illness. Joondalup Health Campus was recognised for their innovative Family Friendly Initiative in their mental health unit.

In the Community Involvement Award category, Tamara Private Hospital won for partnering with a local disability support service provider to create an innovative recycling system for the use of Kimguard.

The judges also awarded a special recognition award to the Sydney Adventist Hospital in recognition of the contribution to the local, national and international community by the establishment, coordination, development and financial support of the HealthCare Outreach program.

Congratulations to all of the 2010 APHA/Baxter Award winners.

## **Celebrate the Unsung Heroes at your Hospital**

APHA would like to feature articles about unsung heroes at your hospital in the December edition of Private Hospital magazine. The magazine is being written at the moment so please get in touch with Rebecca Angove, APHA's Communications Officer at [rebecca.angove@apha.org.au](mailto:rebecca.angove@apha.org.au) as soon as possible to tell us about your local unsung hero.

## **Are you interested in being part of Australia's e-health revolution?**

In the 2010-11 Budget, the Australian Government committed \$466.7 million to establish the key components of the personally controlled electronic health record (PCEHR) system for Australia. A major element of this is to establish a number of e-health sites to align with the national work program, and will be concurrently funded across different geographic and functional parts of the Australian Health sector.

The Department of Health and Ageing is seeking to fund further sites to improve patient care and the safety and efficiency of the health system. In collaboration with the National E-Health Transition Authority, the department is calling for organisations, partnerships and consortia to register their interest in being notified when further e-health site funding guidelines are released.

These sites will enable Australians living in regions where funding is provided, and who choose to, along with their approved health care providers, to securely access their health information online. The Australian Government has already selected three sites in Brisbane, Melbourne and the Hunter Valley.

To register your interest in being notified of when e-health site funding guidelines have been publicly released and receive updates on this process visit [www.health.gov.au/tenders](http://www.health.gov.au/tenders).

## **Get in the running to win one of five Pocket Video Cameras**

The Valuing Private Hospitals Campaign Facebook Reader Competition is up and running with more than 85 Australians telling their story about how private hospitals have made a difference in their lives. The top five most original and creative stories will win a Flip Mino HD Pocket Video Camera!

Are you in the running?

Whether you have been a patient, family member or loyal staff member, we would love to hear your story. Visit the contest section on the Valuing Private Hospitals Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/#!/valuingprivatehospitals>) and in 50 words or less, tell us about a time when private hospitals made a difference to you. Then spread the word to your work colleagues, family and friends.

While you are on the Facebook site, become a Fan and join the 470+ fans from around Australia who are spreading the word about why they value Australia's private hospitals. Entries close 6 November 2010.