



3 October 2010

APHA Office Closure

The APHA Secretariat Office will be closed on Monday, 4 October 2010 for Labour Day. The office will re-open for business as usual on Tuesday, 5 October at 8.30am.

National health and Hospitals Network Bill 2010

The Minister for Health and Ageing has introduced the first Bill of the new parliament, the 'National Health and Hospitals Network Bill 2010'. The Bill provides for the establishment of the Australian Commission for Safety and Quality in Health Care as a permanent, independent statutory authority. The Bill gives an expanded role for the Commission in setting national clinical standards and strengthened clinical governance. The establishment of the Commission forms part of the National Health and Hospitals Network Agreement between the Commonwealth and the States (with the exception of WA) and Territories. It is expected that the Act will be amended in the future to include provisions to establish the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority and the National Performance Authority.

Despite recent media reports, the legislation to give effect to means testing of health insurance rebates has not been included on the Government's published legislative program. APHA understands this legislation is unlikely to be introduced until July 2011.

Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care – Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement

The Office of Best Practice Regulation have approved the release of the Commissions' Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS). The Statement can be found on the ACSQHC's website:

http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/internet/safety/publishing.nsf/Content/com-pubs_ConultRegImpactStatement

The RIS focuses on the implementation of the National Safety and Quality Standards giving two options for discussion. It also describes the model for implementation. Submissions close on 14 October 2010.

APHA's 30th Annual National Congress

There is now less than a month until the APHA's 30th Annual National Congress. Make sure you and your colleagues are a part of celebrating the 30th Annual APHA Congress and take advantage of this fantastic opportunity to network with colleagues from around the country.

The first class speakers to present at the Congress, include: Ged Kearney, Ann Fallon, Rosemary

Bryant, Samantha Gavel, Fred Bently, Mark Cormack, and Professor Chris Baggoley.

Visit the dedicated APHA Congress website <http://apha2010congress.squarespace.com> and register your hospital's delegates for the APHA 30th National Congress.

The Congress will be held from Sunday 17 – Tuesday 19 October 2010 at the Hilton Hotel, Sydney.

Promoting Private Hospitals – a workshop for private hospital staff

APHA is pleased to announce '**Promoting Private Hospitals: A Public Relations workshop for private hospital staff**'. If you or your staff want to learn the tricks of the trade in dealing with the media, issues & crisis management, making your website more engaging and the opportunities of social media like Twitter or Facebook, then make sure you register your interest for this one day workshop on 20 October 2010 in Sydney. The workshop is timed so that you can stay an extra day after the APHA Congress.

Anyone working at a private hospital who is responsible for marketing, public relations and communications should attend. Whether you are a CEO who manages hospital communications as just one hat you wear or a dedicated marketing and communications specialist working at a private hospital, this workshop will provide hands-on materials for you to take home and implement.

This full day workshop will cost \$125.00 for each delegate and APHA is pleased to be able to offer this low member rate because of financial support from our Diamond Sponsor, HESTA. To register, download a registration form at <http://www.apha.org.au/events/promoting-private-hospitals/>

Recent publications developed by the *beyondblue* National Perinatal Depression Initiative

beyondblue has recently published the September *Progress update on the National Perinatal Depression Initiative*, outlining the work being done by *beyondblue* over the past 12 months, on the NPDI. This document is available to download from the *beyondblue* website at the following link:

[Progress update on the National Perinatal Depression Initiative – September 2010](#)

What Australians know about Perinatal Depression and Anxiety:

In late 2009, *beyondblue* conducted a national survey to investigate how the Australian community perceives perinatal (ante- and postnatal) depression and anxiety disorders. *beyondblue* has recently published the analysis of the results from the *beyondblue* Perinatal Monitor titled *What Australians know about perinatal depression and anxiety*.

Please click on the below link to download a copy of this report:

[What Australians know about perinatal depression and anxiety - beyondblue Perinatal Monitor 2009](#)

Hey Dad- Fatherhood- First 12 months:

beyondblue in partnership with the Western Australian early parenting service provider Ngala, have launched the *Hey Dad - Fatherhood - First 12 Months* parenting booklet. This booklet, aimed

at dads, looks to create awareness around the issues new parents are likely to face, and also includes information on postnatal depression and anxiety.

The *Hey Dad - Fatherhood - First 12 Months* booklet is also available to order in hardcopy from the *beyondblue* [website](#).

Health Technology Assessment Website

The Department of Health and Ageing has developed a new website which provides a comprehensive overview of current Australian Government Health Technology Assessment (HTA) processes used to inform decisions about the registration of health technologies for use in Australia and the reimbursement of these technologies provided under various funding programs, including the Medicare Benefits Schedule, Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme and the Prosthesis List.

The website is part of the Australian Government's response to the December 2009 Review of Health Technology Assessment in Australia (HTA Review) and arose from stakeholders identifying the need to have comprehensive information about Australian Government HTA processes available in one central point in an easy to use format.

The website also provides a portal to the HTA Access Point (referred to during the HTA Review as a single entry point) which will assist potential applicants seeking assessment of codependent and hybrid technologies.

The new HTA website can be viewed at www.health.gov.au/hta.