



6 June 2010

ABS – Private Hospital Establishment Collection Released

The Australian Bureau of Statistics have released the 2008-09 Private Hospital Establishment Collection. The collection contains numerous useful statistics on private hospitals including figures on hospital and patient characteristics, as well as details on expenditure, revenue, and also the number of staff employed. The figures show that private hospitals are now treating 3.4 million patients per annum, up 10% on the previous census in 2006-07. There are now 564 private hospitals, with an increase of 17 free-standing day hospitals. Private hospitals now employ 52,114 FTE staff and performing over 7.1 million procedures per annum, 1 million more than the previous census. For further details see the ABS website:

<http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4390.0Main+Features12008-09?OpenDocument>

OSSIE Guide to Clinical Handover Improvement is now available online

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care's finalised edition of the OSSIE Guide to Clinical Handover Improvement is now available on their website at

www.safetyandquality.gov.au

The Guide assists with the implementation of a standardised process for handover that is customised to suit the local context. Standardised processes for clinical handover improve the flow of critical information between healthcare professionals. This helps to ensure patient safety and continuity of care.

The Guide incorporates the sound and practical feedback received by the Commission from healthcare professionals on a consultation edition, which was released in March 2009.

Additionally, this edition was endorsed by Australian Health Ministers in April 2010 as a national guide to improving clinical handover practices at shift change in a hospital setting.

A range of tools for improving clinical handover are also available from the website. These tools were developed and trialled across of a range of health specialties and settings, as part of the National Clinical Handover Initiative pilot program. The tools include:

- protocols and guidance for improving medical and nursing shift-to-shift handover;
- materials on using the briefing techniques (SBAR, ISBAR, ISOBAR, SHARED) at handover;
- tools for inter-facility transfers;
- online education tools; and
- materials on team communication.

For more information on the Commission's National Clinical Handover Initiative visit

www.safetyandquality.gov.au

Bowel cancer treatment costs quadruple in 10 years

Research released on 1 June shows annual bowel cancer treatment costs will have increased four-fold to \$1 billion over 10 years by 2011, strengthening the economic case for expanding the Government's National Bowel Cancer Screening Program. In the lead-up to Bowel Cancer Awareness Week (6 - 13 June), the study by researchers from the Royal Melbourne Hospital and BioGrid Australia, is the first to combine Australian screening data with treatment costs and survival rates, providing new evidence of the program's economic and social benefits.

August edition of Private Hospital magazine – call for submissions

Feature your hospital's innovative work in Private Hospital magazine by submitting an article for publication. The August edition will be themed around innovation in private hospitals and will also provide readers information on speakers at this year's 30th Annual APHA National Congress. If your hospital has an innovative program you'd like to feature, please contact Lisa Ramshaw, APHA Public Affairs Manager at lisa.ramshaw@apha.org.au. All submissions are due 18 June 2010.

Baxter Awards Open for Entries!

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

Cardiovascular disease a major threat to Australian women

Cardiovascular disease is a major threat to the health of Australian women, according to a new report released this week by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. The report Women and heart disease: Cardiovascular profile of women in Australia was funded by the National Heart Foundation of Australia and shows that cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the leading cause of death among women and was responsible for over a quarter of years of life lost to premature death among women. The report can be downloaded at:

<http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10748>

7th Annual Innovative Practice in the Private Sector Conference

PHAQ will again host their annual Innovative Practice in the Private Sector Conference to showcase innovations in the private hospital sector which have demonstrated outcomes in the areas of Clinical & Non-clinical Operational Innovations; Strategic Innovations and Innovations in Education and HR Management. The conference will be held in Brisbane on 21 June 2010. For more information see www.phaq.org.

3rd Quality & Safety in Action Conference

PHAQ will also host the 3rd annual Quality & Safety in Action Conference in Brisbane on 22 June

2010. This is a one-day conference covering a broad cross-section of topical State and National Quality and Safety issues and initiatives. The program will look at current ACSQHC programs, National Registration and Clinical Risk Hotspots. This is an excellent one-day round up of the major safety and quality initiatives and one that should not be missed. For more information or to register see www.phaq.org.