1 September 2013

2013 Federal Election

Both major parties released their Mental Health Policies for the 2013 Election on Friday 30 August.

A copy of the **Labor announcement** can be found here...

A copy of the **Coalition announcement** can be found here...

While neither statement said anything directly about private hospitals, Labor announcements included $40 million to support new and existing workplace mental health and suicide prevention initiatives while the Coalition commitments include provision of training, career support and information resources for up to 12,000 mental health clinicians and service planners by 2020.

PHI Circular 55/12: August 2013 Prostheses List

The August 2013 Prostheses List is now available via:
http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/health-phicirculars2013-55

APHA is providing feedback to the department about difficulties that arise for hospitals each time the Prostheses List is updated.

Western Australia: Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Bill (MPTG Bill)

The Western Australian Parliament is current considering a new bill, the MPTG Bill, to replace the Poisons Act 1964 and the Poisons Regulations 1965. The Pharmaceutical Services Branch of the Department of Health is consulting over the development of new subsidiary legislation (see New Subsidiary Legislation).

APHA has been invited to comment. If there are any issues that you would like APHA to raise in relation to this matter please contact Lucy Cheetham.

Department of Health Alert – Measles Outbreak Melbourne

Further to the measles alert issued on the 8 August 2013, there have now been nine cases reported over the last three weeks in Melbourne. Two separate clusters have been detected. With an average incubation period of 10 days, further cases may present.

Health services are warned to be alert for measles in patients presenting with a febrile rash and to notify the Communicable Disease Prevention and Control section at the Department of Health on 1300 651 160 of suspected and confirmed cases immediately. For further information regarding these outbreaks and required responses and recommendations see
http://www.health.vic.gov.au/chiefhealthofficer/alerts/alert-2013-08-measles-cases.htm?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=healthalerts

Health Workforce Australia Initiative - SimNET Website

SimNET is an online portal for simulation education and training resources. It will allow clinicians and educators to share high quality simulation resources to facilitate the delivery of simulation learning experiences. The first stage of the SimNET website being the Simulation in Health

Directory (SHD) was completed in September 2012.

Other resources on SimNET include a data dictionary and generic position descriptions for key healthcare simulation roles. Subsequent stages to SimNET to be delivered in 2014 include the ability to upload and download simulation education materials and an area for peer review of equipment and research articles.

If you wish to register as a user on the directory, please go to the SimNET website.

Have your say on the future of *Private Hospital*

We need you to tell us what you think about Private Hospital magazine. We've made some changes over the past few months to the layout and content of the magazine and we'd like to know what you think of it. We're also asking your opinion on the format of the magazine as many magazines are now producing digital versions. Would you read Private Hospital if it was sent to you as a digital version?

Please spend just a few minutes taking the Private Hospital magazine 2013 Reader's Survey to go into the draw to win an iPad Mini. See https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PHReader2013 for more details

On the Radar - Issue 141

On the Radar is a summary of some of the recent publications in the areas of safety and quality in health care. Some of this week's content includes:

Quality of care and patient safety in the UK: the way forward after Mid Staffordshire

Project BOOST: Effectiveness of a multihospital effort to reduce rehospitalisation

Using Four-Phased Unit-Based Patient Safety Walkrounds to Uncover Correctable System Flaws

A Comprehensive Patient Safety Program Can Significantly Reduce Preventable Harm, Associated Costs, and Hospital Mortality

On the Radar is available via email or as a PDF document from http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/publications-resources/on-the-radar/