



APHA Vital Signs

A WEEKLY ROUND-UP OF NEWS VITAL TO THE PRIVATE HOSPITAL INDUSTRY

10 November 2013

Electronic Health Records Review Panel to Consult with Key Stakeholders

The Review into the operations of the troubled electronic health records scheme, commissioned by the Federal Minister for Health, the Hon Peter Dutton, met last week to determine its operating procedures.

Panel Chair, Richard Royle, said on Friday that, due to the urgency of developing recommendations to improve the Personally Controlled Electronic Health Records (PCEHR) scheme, the Panel had decided to initially invite written submissions from those 210 organisations which have previously submitted to consultation on the PCEHR.

“In addition the Panel will have more detailed meetings with a number of key stakeholders to assist the Panel to gain the views of those people most closely involved with the system,” Mr Royle said. “These stakeholders will include IT, clinical, and consumer representatives.”

Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook

The Government has announced its intention to deal with a backlog of 92 measures of announced but unlegislated tax and superannuation measures and to resolve all policies relating to these matters by 1 December 2013 for inclusion in the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO). The Government intends that the bulk of legislation that is to be progressed should be passed by the Parliament by 1 July 2014. Matters already resolved include:

Self-Education Expenses Cap *(Announced as part of the 2013-14 Budget, and delayed for one year in the 2013 Economic Statement)*

The Government will not proceed with Labor’s announcement to put a \$2,000 cap on the amount people can deduct as self-education expenses, including training and educational courses, textbooks and other accreditation expenses.

Net Medical Expenses Tax Offset (NMETO) phase out *(Announced as part of the 2013-14 Budget)* This measure will be retained. Transitional arrangements will allow taxpayers who incur medical costs for disability aids, attendant care or aged care expenses, to continue to claim the NMETO until 1 July 2019. After this date, the NMETO will cease to operate.

APHA National Congress – Invitation to Exhibit and Sponsor

The APHA Congress Organising Committee invites you to participate in the 33rd Annual APHA National Congress from 23-25 March 2014 at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The APHA National Congress is promoted broadly throughout Australia. As in 2013, the meeting will be held in March as we want to stand out, make an impact and be the first major health care event on the calendar for 2014. The APHA Congress aims to set the healthcare agenda for the forthcoming year with a program that is shaping up to be our best ever.

To ensure that you are part of this event, please visit: <http://www.icebergevents.com/apha2014/> for more information about Sponsorship and Exhibition opportunities.

APHA Member Forum: Social Media for APHA Member Hospitals & Day

Surgeries

APHA, [HESTA](#) and [ME Bank](#) have teamed up to provide APHA members with the opportunity to participate in a number of hands-on workshops on social media for staff working at APHA member hospitals and day surgeries. These workshops are free for APHA members and will take place in NSW, VIC, QLD, ACT, SA and WA. To find out more information about the member forum, please visit: <http://www.apha.org.au/2013/10/apha-member-forum-social-media-for-apha-member-hospitals-and-day-surgeries/>

Dates and Venues:

- 21 November 2013 – Canberra – APHA Office
- 27 November 2013 – Sydney – North Shore Private
- 28 November 2013 – Brisbane – Greenslopes Private Hospital
- 2 December – Melbourne – Epworth Richmond (limited spaces left)
- 6 December – Adelaide – Western Hospital

Please RSVP to [Lyndal Bailey](#) as places are limited.

Private Hospital Magazine – February 2014 Edition

APHA is looking for articles for the February 2014 Edition of *Private Hospital Magazine* and would love to hear from your hospital.

The theme for this edition focuses on training and education. Here is your chance to feature and show off your programs and facilities, and any other newsworthy happenings at your facility.

Submissions for the magazine should be around 450 words in length and should be accompanied with high resolution photographs. The deadline for submissions is 2 December 2013.

Please email [Lyndal Bailey](#) with your ideas for articles.

Improving the Management of Cognitive Impairment in Acute Care - Consultation

The *Handbook for improving safety and providing high quality care for people with cognitive impairment in acute care: A Consultation Paper* has been released by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care.

Consultation on the draft handbook will be held between October and December 2013. Feedback will be sought through an online consultation survey and a national round of consultation forums, which target both health care providers and health care consumers.

To download a copy of the draft handbook and its supporting documents, to link to the online consultation survey and for further information on consultation forums, please visit: <http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/cognitive-impairment/consultation/>

ACSQHC – Links to International Speaker Presentations

On 16 October 2013, Professor France Légaré, chair in Implementation of Shared Decision Making in Primary Care, from the Université Laval Québec, visited Australia to provide a public lecture on shared decision making. The video of this presentation is available at: <http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/shared-decision-making/>

On Monday 30 September 2013, Professor Sir Muir Gray spoke in Sydney at a public lecture focusing on health reform and medical practice variation. Sir Muir believes we are in the midst of a Third Healthcare Revolution driven by citizens, knowledge and the internet. The video of this presentation is available at: <http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/medical-practice-variation/presentations/>

Robert Francis QC, Chair of the inquiry into Mid Staffordshire NHS Foundation Trust, visited Australia during October 2013, presenting on the lessons from the Mid Staffordshire enquiry at several events across the country. The Melbourne event was recorded and is available to view

online at: <http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/robert-francis/>

On the Radar - Issue 151

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:

Patient-Reported Missed Nursing Care Correlated With Adverse Events

Do variations in hospital mortality patterns after weekend admission reflect reduced quality of care or different patient cohorts? A population-based study

Using "Near Misses" Analysis to Prevent Wrong-Site Surgery

When Is a Medical Treatment Unnecessary?

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

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