



APHA Vital Signs

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

16 June 2013

Rebate Indexation Increases Public Health Sector Costs

Government legislation to index the Private Health Insurance Rebate to the CPI will result in a decline in membership, higher premiums and an immediate increase in public hospital pressure and costs. As part of its submission to the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee into the Private Health Insurance Legislation Amendments (Base Premium) Bill 2013, Private Healthcare Australia released a Port Jackson Partners Report which states that indexation will lead “to an immediate net increase in public sector costs as public hospital costs exceed rebate savings”. The Report says the number of insured persons plateaus immediately and starts to decline a few years after the Rebate is indexed.

For more information, visit: <http://youshouldknow.com.au/wp-content/uploads/PHA-Media-Release-Rebate-Indexation-Increases-Public-Health-Sector-Costs-11Jun13.pdf>

National Clinical Supervision Skills Initiative

Health Workforce Australia’s Clinical Supervision Support Program (CSSP) is developing a [National Clinical Supervision Skills Initiative \(Skills Initiative\)](#). The Skills Initiative will deliver a range of interprofessional clinical supervision education and training opportunities for new and existing clinical supervisors across Australia, facilitated by the Integrated Regional Training Networks (IRCTNs) in each state and territory.

The closing date for expressions of interest is 4pm ACST Friday 21 June 2013. Any questions or requests for information regarding the expressions of interest should be addressed to: CSSPSkillsInitiative@hwa.gov.au.

PHI Circular 33-13: Key Dates for the August 2013 Prosthesis List

The key dates for the production of the August 2013 Prosthesis List are listed below:

- August Prosthesis List Published - 16 August 2013
- August Prosthesis List Effective - 31 August 2013

For more information, visit: <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/health-phicirculars2013-index1>

Organ and Tissue Authority Community Awareness Grants now Available

Parliamentary Secretary for Health and Ageing Shayne Neumann has announced the availability of \$463,000 in Community Awareness Grants to support community-based activities promoting organ and tissue donation.

The Community Awareness Grants are provided by the Organ and Tissue Authority as part of its ongoing community awareness and education program. Applications are invited from non-government organisations and professional bodies, including community-based not for profit organisations or local government associations.

The closing date for applications is 5.00pm AEST Tuesday 23 July 2013. For details about the Community Awareness Grants and how to apply, visit the [DonateLife website](#).

Surgeon named member of the Order of Australia

Orthopaedic surgeon John Harrison was appointed as a member of the Order of Australia for his service to medicine and water polo. Dr Harrison, works at Norwest Private Hospital, Westmead Private Hospital and the Mater and has held many executive positions on industry committees and organisations.

Health Calendar

APHA has created a calendar to help facilities plan future fundraising events, promote specific health related issues on their Facebook or Twitter pages and/ or use it as a talking point for patients.

The calendar highlights health related months, weeks and days such as Mental Health Week which is celebrated in over 180 APHA member facilities.

To view the calendar, visit: <http://www.apha.org.au/resource/health-week-calendar/>

On the Radar - Issue 130

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:

The contribution of prescription chart design and familiarity to prescribing error: a prospective, randomised, cross-over study

Association of patient preferences for participation in decision making with length of stay and costs among hospitalized patients

How patient centered are medical decisions?: Results of a national survey

Relationship between the prognostic expectations of seriously ill patients undergoing hemodialysis and their nephrologists

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