



APHA Vital Signs

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

17 March 2013

Private Health Insurance Amendment (Lifetime Health Cover Loading and Other Measures) Bill 2012

On 12 March, the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee tabled its report in support of this bill. The Bill seeks to amend the Private Health Insurance Act 2007 (the PHI Act) so that the Australian Government Private Health Insurance Rebate on private health insurance (the rebate) is no longer payable on the component of private health insurance premiums that have been increased because of Division 34 of the PHI Act (the Lifetime Health Cover loading).

The Bill will also cease the Incentive Payments Scheme (IPS) to streamline the payment of the rebate with effect from 1 July 2013. It is likely that this Bill will be debated by the Senate in the coming week.

APHA Quarterly PHIAC Update – December 2012

APHA has completed the analysis of Private Health Insurance Administration Council's (PHIAC) quarterly statistics for the December quarter of 2012. To read this report, go to the member's area of www.apha.org.au.

If you have any queries, please contact Mehrdad Khodai at mehrdad.khodai@apha.org.au.

Second Tier Renewal Reminder

Please note that the Second Tier status of some private hospital facilities is due to expire on 30 June 2013. The closing date for applications is Friday, 26 April 2012, and the next meeting date of the Second Tier Advisory Committee is Friday, 24 May. Those hospitals wishing to apply for continued eligibility need to submit an application to the APHA, details regarding the process and a performance application can be downloaded from the APHA website <http://www.apha.org.au/industry-resources/>

Should you require further information please contact Andrea Versteegen at APHA on andrea.versteegen@apha.org.au or 02 6273 9000.

New Guide on Borderline Personality Disorder

Last Thursday, Minister for Mental Health and Ageing Mark Butler launched a new guide to assist health professionals to recognise and treat Borderline Personality Disorder. The Clinical Practice Guideline for the Management of Borderline Personality Disorder was developed by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) at the Government's request.

Mr Butler said Borderline Personality Disorder (BPD) was the most serious and common of the personality disorders, affecting adolescents and adults "Borderline Personality Disorder is estimated to affect at least one per cent of the population," Mr Butler said.

Save the Date for Private Hospitals Week : 12 – 18 May 2013

Hospital champions will be notified in the coming weeks of this year's 'We Do So Much More' campaign.

If you would like to be involved with this year's Private Hospital Week, please contact Lyndal Bailey at Lyndal.bailey@apha.org.au or 02 6273 9000.

APHA Launches New Website

APHA is proud to launch its new website which highlights the latest news affecting private hospitals and the healthcare industry, APHA's Private Hospital magazine and social media channels.

To view the new website, visit: <http://www.apha.org.au/>

If you experience any difficulties with the website, please advise APHA's Communications Officer [Lyndal Bailey](#).

On the Radar - Issue 118

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 Essential Guide for Patient Safety Officers.

Through the Eyes of the Workforce: Creating Joy, Meaning, and Safer Health Care

Types and origins of diagnostic errors in primary care settings

Publicly Reported Quality-Of-Care Measures Influenced Wisconsin Physician Groups To Improve Performance

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