



# APHA Vital Signs

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

17 November 2013

## APHA National Congress – Registrations Open

APHA is pleased to announce that registration is now open for the 33rd APHA National Congress to be held 23-25 March 2014 at the Brisbane Convention Centre.

Join us at what will prove to be the highlight of your networking and health care conferencing year!

Featuring plenary sessions addressing:

- Public-Private Partnerships Work
- Expanding the Contribution of the Private Health Sector
- The Importance of Culture in Health Care Settings
- Your Workforce in 2020: Is Your Succession Plan Ready?
- Leadership in Employee Engagement - How to Create an Engaged, Sustainable and Effective Team!
- The Importance of Imagination in the Workplace
- Open Disclosure - Meeting the Standard
- Complaints Management in a Social World

To register, visit: [www.aphacongress.com.au](http://www.aphacongress.com.au)

## Chemotherapy Supply Update

In the first Question Time of the 44th Parliament, Health Minister Peter Dutton announced that the Government will fix the well documented problems with chemotherapy funding caused by price disclosure, saying; “we will provide certainty to chemo therapy patients across the country and their families.” These are positive signs the Government has not only been listening to the concerns of stakeholders, but is also acting to address these issues.

APHA will continue to lobby actively in the coming weeks to achieve an assurance that the risk to services as a result of the 31 December cessation of interim funding arrangements will be averted.

## National Procedure Banding Committee - Freeze on 1 November Mohs/Shoulders Increments and New/Interim MBS Banded Items

In July 2013 the National Procedure Banding Committee established a Working Group to review the Committee’s Terms of Reference and Banding Methodology. On 7 November, the NPBC was advised that recommendations of this working party had been passed by a secret ballot of the NPBC held on 4 November.

Further details of this update are available on the members only area of the [APHA website](#) (requires APHA member login and password).

## PHIAC Data – Headlines from September Quarter 2013

The Private Health Insurance Administration Council (PHIAC) released its quarterly statistics for the September quarter of 2013 on 15 November 2013.

The headlines are available on the members area of the APHA website. APHA is analysing the PHIAC data in more detail and will publish this analysis as an Information Paper for members.

Please direct any queries you may have to Meke Kamps on 02 6273900 or at [Meke.Kamps@apha.org.au](mailto:Meke.Kamps@apha.org.au)

## **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.

## **On the Radar - Issue 152**

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:

*Identifying risks and monitoring safety: the role of patients and citizens*

*Now or Never: Shaping pharmacy for the future. The Report of the Commission on future models of care delivered through pharmacy*

*Talking with Patients about Other Clinicians' Errors*

*Improving Patient Safety through Transparency*

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