21 June 2015

**Changed funding arrangements for chemotherapy**

APHA, together with other stakeholders, has been successful in securing a delay until 1 September 2015 to the full implementation of changes to funding arrangements for chemotherapy, announced as part of the 6CPA. This delay is to allow further consultation with stakeholders and establishment of the required data systems.

The implementation of these proposed changes will be complex and the risk of unintended consequences is significant. APHA will engage in further intensive discussions in the coming week. Further details are available to APHA via the Members’ Bulletin of 19 June 2015.

**Mental Health Expert Reference Group membership**

The Mental Health Expert Reference Group appointed by the Abbott Government to guide implementation of the recommendations of the Mental Health Commission’s Review of Mental Health Programmes and Services met for the first time this week. The Group is chaired by Kate Carnell AO and includes psychiatrists Professor Harvey Whiteford, the Kratzmann Professor of Psychiatry and Population Health, a position funded by Toowong Private Hospital, and Dr Andrew Wilson, Medibank’s Executive General Manager of Provider Networks and Integrated Care.

Click [here](#) for more information about the Review of Mental Health Programmes and Services and the [Committee Membership](#) and [Terms of Reference](#).

**South Australia state budget announced**

The South Australian Budget brought down this week included $260 million in funding for health reform. Priorities will include creation of ‘super emergency departments’ and transfer of services from the Daw Park Repatriation Hospital. The Post-Traumatic Stress Centre For Excellence planned to replace the Repatriation Hospital’s Ward 17 will cost the government $15 million. The South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute will receive an extra $5 million over the next four years. Read details of the [budget](#).
Consultation: Criteria for Clinical Use of Immunoglobulin in Australia

The government is seeking consultation on the recent changes to the [Criteria for the Clinical Use of Immunoglobulin in Australia](#). The focus has been to provide greater consistency across conditions and to more clearly define the requirements of eligibility at qualification and, where patients require continuing treatment, to demonstrate the effectiveness of Ig (immunoglobulin) therapy at patient review.

If you have any questions or comments, including issues that you would like APHA to raise on your behalf, please contact [Lucy Cheetham](#).

PHI (National Joint Replacement Register Levy) Amendment Bill 2015 passed

The [PHI (National Joint Replacement Register Levy) Amendment Bill 2015](#) was passed by the Senate this week. It changes the basis of the levy paid by device sponsors to reflect utilisation of particular prostheses. The Bill will commence on the day after Royal Assent.

Victoria: 2015 Premier’s Sustainability Awards introduces Health category

The Victorian Premier’s Sustainability Awards has announced the introduction of a Health category to the awards program and is now calling on leaders in the health sector to share their inspiring achievements. Clinical practices, businesses, hospitals, healthcare groups, service providers, not-for-profit organisations, professional associations and individuals that have shown leadership and innovation in sustainability and a commitment to improving the environment are invited to enter.

For further information email [clare.vella@sustainability.vic.gov.au](mailto:clare.vella@sustainability.vic.gov.au) or click [here](#). Entries close Monday 13 July 2015.

South Australia: Guidelines for Legionella Control

The draft [enHealth Guidelines for Legionella Control in the Operation and Maintenance of Drinking Water Distribution Systems in Health and Aged Care Facilities](#) are now complete and have been published for stakeholder review and input. Consultation closes on 31 July 2015. A copy of the draft guidelines — specific to South Australia — and risk management plan template are available [here](#).

Comments on the draft Guidelines and risk management plan template can be made in the following ways: Completion of the [online feedback form](#) or by email to: [legionella@health.sa.gov.au](mailto:legionella@health.sa.gov.au). The deadline for comments is Friday 31 July 2015.

NSW Workcover gazette: Rates effective 1 July 2015

The NSW Workcover schedule of rates for private hospitals has been gazetted. This schedule will be effective 1 July 2015. For details, click [here](#).
On the Radar – Issue 227

On the Radar is a summary of some of the recent publications in the areas of safety and quality in healthcare. Some of the latest content includes:


- Acute Stroke Clinical Care Standard
- Pursuing the Triple Aim: The First 7 Years
- The Quadruple Aim: care, health, cost and meaning in work
- Patient safety in ambulance services: a scoping review
- Reducing Surgical Errors: Implementing a Three-Hinge Approach to Success
- Association between weekend discharge and hospital readmission rates following major surgery
- Health Affairs
- BMJ Quality and Safety online first articles
- International Journal for Quality in Health Care online first articles

Issue 227 and previous issues of On the Radar are available via email or as PDF documents from the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care’s website.