



APHA Vital Signs

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

22 September 2013

Victorian Elective Surgery Initiative – Request for Submissions

The Victorian State Government has announced a Request for Submissions for public and private hospitals and day procedure centres to bid for a share of a \$15 million pool for 2013-14 to drive efficiencies in elective surgery, meet increasing level of demand and treat more Victorian elective surgery patients. If successful, there will be options to extend the contract for future years, with up to \$165 million in contracts to be awarded.

The Victorian Department of Health will hold two information sessions and a webinar to provide further information. For dates and for further information see

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/surgery/competitive>

Northern Beaches (NSW) Hospital Development

The NSW State Government has short-listed Ramsay Health Care, Healthscope and Adventist HealthCare to proceed to the next phase (Request for Proposals) in the tender for the design, construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed \$400m Northern Beaches Hospital at French Forest. Initially four hospital operators had expressed their interest in this tender, including Macquarie University Hospital Operations which has been dropped from this latest phase. The three selected operators will now be requested to submit their proposals, and the preferred bidder will be selected by the end of 2014. The winning bidder will enter into a long-term contract with the NSW Government to provide services to both public and private patients. The proposed hospital at French Forest will have 423 beds and is expected to be functional from 2018.

PHI Circular – Nursing Home Type Patient Contribution Rates

Private Health Insurance Circular 57/13 - Nursing Home Type Patient Contribution Rates and Minimum Benefits - rates for nursing home type patients have been updated as of 20 September 2013 and can be accessed through the following link:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/health-phicirculars2013-index1>

APHA's Research and Data Manager departs

Dr Mehrdad Khodai-Joopari, APHA's Research and Data Manager has decided to move his family to Brisbane and has accepted a position with Qld Health as Principal Policy Officer (Performance Monitoring and Data). Mehrdad joined APHA in July 2011 and in the ensuing period has contributed significantly to numerous submissions and policy positions, has produced facts and figures for use in the promotional campaign and has revamped the presentation of our analysis of the quarterly PHIAC figures in addition to providing secretariat support of the APHA workforce Taskforce.

Mehrdad's last day in the office will be on 27 September and APHA has commenced the search for a replacement.

TGA Overview of Regulatory Arrangements – Medical Software & Mobile Medical Apps

Software is becoming increasingly important in medical devices; however, its rapid evolution, particularly in relation to mobile technology, presents new and complex challenges for the

Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) and regulatory agencies internationally.

The TGA has provided guidance on the regulatory arrangements pertaining to medical software and mobile medical apps by addressing some questions frequently put to them. Please see <http://www.tga.gov.au/industry/devices-software-mobile-apps.htm>

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