



# APHA Vital Signs

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

24 November 2013

## Chemotherapy

Last week, APHA joined oncologists, pharmacists and patient advocates at Parliament House in welcoming Minister Dutton's commitment to fix the problem of chemotherapy therapy funding.

Minister Dutton further announced at the Pharmacy Guild Dinner that a solution will be found outside of the Pharmacy Agreement. The former government had provided an interim dispensing fee of \$60 per infusion until 31 December 2013, pending the outcome of an inquiry into chemotherapy costs.

Health Minister, Peter Dutton has assured APHA that further announcement will be made in coming weeks before the 31 December deadline.

## 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)

## Health Professionals Prescribing Pathway (HPPP) Report Approved

On Friday 8 November 2013, the Standing Council on Health (SCoH) considered the final report of the Health Professionals Prescribing Pathway (HPPP). The HPPP was approved by the SCoH, and Health Workforce Australia will now work with jurisdictions to develop an implementation strategy for HPPP. Key implementation issues are likely to include regulatory practice, education standards, accreditation and training.

Please find attached a copy of the final HPPP project report and the pathway, both of which have also been published on the website [www.hwa.gov.au/hppp](http://www.hwa.gov.au/hppp).

## AHHA's Lean Healthcare White Belt Course Discount

Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA) is extending AHHA membership pricing to APHA members who are interested in attending their Lean Healthcare course which is a 1-day instructor led program that provides healthcare clinicians and managers with a basic introduction and awareness of Lean Thinking and the benefits to both themselves and their organisation of

implementation of Lean principles.

Date: Friday 6 December 2013

Venue: Novotel Sydney Central, 169-179 Thomas Street, Sydney NSW 2000

For more information about the course, visit: <https://ahha.asn.au/event/lean-healthcare-white-belt-course> or to register, email: [averhoeven@ahha.asn.au](mailto:averhoeven@ahha.asn.au)

## Register Online for Federal Government Trade Missions

Trade and Investment Minister Andrew Robb announced last week, that Australian companies and business associations will now be able to register their interest online to join overseas ministerial trade missions.

"Trade missions that are led by ministers are a great way for Australian business men and women to discover commercial opportunities in overseas markets," Mr Robb said.

The Government will also consult with industry associations, chambers and other business groups to ensure that companies with an interest in overseas trade missions are made aware of the opportunity to register online.

The online facility is accessible at [www.austrade.gov.au/business-delegations](http://www.austrade.gov.au/business-delegations)

## 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.

This week APHA presented to ACT member hospitals and day surgeries who found it very interesting and useful. If you would like to attend the NSW, VIC, QLD, or SA member forum, please RSVP to [Lyndal Bailey](#) ASAP.

Dates and Venues:

- 27 November 2013 – Sydney – North Shore Private
- 28 November 2013 – Brisbane – Greenslopes Private Hospital
- 2 December – Melbourne – Epworth Richmond
- 6 December – Adelaide – Western Hospital

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/>

## Call for Abstracts: 11th Innovative Practice in the Private Sector Conference

The Private Hospitals Association of Queensland (PHAQ) extends an open invitation to all private hospitals and day hospitals to consider submitting an abstract for the 2014 Innovative Practice in the Private Sector Conference and Awards.

PHAQ, in conjunction with HESTA Super Fund, will be hosting this very popular conference at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre on Monday 16 June 2014. It is an event which provides a unique platform to showcase a cross section of innovation in the private hospital sector from around the nation. Abstracts selected for presentation will be eligible for the Innovative Practice in the Private Sector Awards 2014, which will carry a category award prize of \$1,000 to the winning hospital in addition to each of the category winners being eligible for an overall prize of a further \$4,000.

The closing date for abstract submissions is Friday 21 February 2014. A copy of the guidelines for the submission of abstracts, together with an abstract submission template may be obtained either from the home page of the PHAQ website – [www.phaq.org](http://www.phaq.org) or by contacting Lucy Fisher

(07) 3279 7600 – [lucyf@phaq.org](mailto:lucyf@phaq.org)

### **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](mailto:Lyndal.Bailey@phaq.org) with your ideas for articles.

### **On the Radar - Issue 153**

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:

*A Life in Error: From Little Slips to Big Disasters*

*Improving America's Hospitals: The Joint Commission's Annual Report on Quality and Safety*

*Antibiotic resistance and prescribing in Australia: current attitudes and practice of GPs*

*Meta-Analysis of Surgical Safety Checklist Effects on Teamwork, Communication, Morbidity, Mortality, and Safety*

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