Monday, 28 September: APHA secretariat closed

Please be advised that the APHA secretariat will be closed on Monday, 28 September due to a public holiday in the ACT.

The office will reopen on Tuesday, 29 September at 8.30am.

Changes to second tier administrative arrangements

A new version of the administrative arrangements for the second tier default benefits for overnight and day only treatment has been published by the Department of Health.

This document and associated materials can be viewed here.

The current STAC-approved list of second tier facilities can be found here.

IN THE MEDIA: ‘Call to curb ‘junk’ insurance policies that exclude private hospitals’

This week, APHA worked with Fairfax Media to shed light on some of the findings from the national benchmarking research that our team commissioned in June.

The Sydney Morning Herald’s health editor, Amy Corderoy, wrote a piece about the growth in exclusions and restrictions on private health insurance policies. Chief Executive Michael Roff was quoted extensively in the piece.

The story can be read here.

APHA is pleased it was able to bring this issue into the public domain. We are continuing to look for ways to push this issue in the media.

OAIC consultation on new health privacy guidance

APHA has again been invited to comment on the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner’s proposed list of new health privacy guidance for private sector health service providers and consumers.

The draft resources can be viewed here.

The closing date for feedback is Tuesday, 20 October 2015.

If you have any questions or comments, including issues that you would like APHA to raise on your behalf, please contact Lucy Cheetham.
New HPOS security controls

The Department of Human Services is strengthening the Health Professional Online Services (HPOS) security controls from 1 October 2015.

HPOS users will need to update their browsers to the minimum browser requirements to avoid potential access issues following the security upgrade.

General information about minimum browser requirements is available here.

PH News – The week in review

Catch up on the latest news, features and videos from APHA member hospitals.

Recommended by the editor:

- The end of an era: Dr Leon Clark bids farewell to the San
- Soaring high at 91 – age no barrier to living life fully
- Mayo expansion plan in the millions
- PHOTO GALLERY: MayoInOz

If you have a story you’d like to see featured, please contact Antony Perry.

On the Radar – Issue 241

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


- Improving length of stay: what can hospitals do?
- Establishing and implementing best practice to reduce unplanned admissions in those aged 85 years and over through system change
- Ambitions for Palliative and End of Life Care: A national framework for local action 2015-2020

Issue 241 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.