



APHA Vital Signs

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

28 April 2013

Chemotherapy Senate Inquiry

The Senate Committee was due to release its report last week but APHA has been notified in this [interim report](#) that the finding of the inquiry will not be available until **FRIDAY 10 MAY 2013**.

A key issue raised during the hearings was that pharmacy services and private hospitals have agreed to continue to provide services based on the assumption that changes to funding would be retrospective and backdated to 1 December 2012 (read Hansard [here](#)). It was also noted that the risk of services being reduced or ceased would increase if negotiations were delayed, particularly after changes to funding due to come into effect 1 April 2013.

Pharmacy services and private hospitals have now been providing chemotherapy services at a financial loss for nearly six months. APHA would like to hear from you if you are aware of any changes to patient care or how chemotherapy services are being delivered since 1 December 2012 so an update can be provided to the Senate Committee. Please send any information you can share to [Lucy Cheetham](#) by COB Tuesday 30 April or you can send information directly to the [Committee Secretary](#).

Win \$5000 in our Private Hospitals Week Video Competition – Enter by 10 May

As previously mentioned, APHA and [ME Bank](#) have teamed up to provide APHA members the opportunity to showcase their hospital and its contribution to Australian health care system through a video competition on Facebook:

http://www.facebook.com/valuingprivatehospitals/app_95936962634.

There are two categories for hospitals:

- Small member facility (less than 100 hospital beds or a day surgery)
- Large member facility (more than 100 beds)

The video in each category that receives the most votes (11-16 May) will receive an iPad donated by ME Bank.

In addition, the top three videos in each category will be deemed category finalists and will enter into win a \$5,000 cash Grand Prize also donated by our good friends at ME Bank.

If you have questions about the competition, please contact [Lyndal Bailey](#), Communications Officer at APHA.

NSW/QLD Exceptional Drugs List Committee Circular – 1 May 2013

The 1 May 2013 update for the NSW/QLD Exceptional Drugs List is now available for download on: <http://www.apha.org.au/2013/04/nswqld-exceptional-drugs/>

At its last meeting the NSW/QLD Exceptional Drug List Committee decided that the 1 May 2013 edition of the EDL will be the last release. This document will no longer be updated in line with future PBS amendments but will remain as a point in time reference.

National Joint Replacement Registry (NJRR)

Last October the NJRR launched an online reporting system. This system provides reports to surgeons. At present hospitals do not have online access but they are also able to request ad hoc reports free of charge. The issue of online access has been raised with the Registry and APHA has undertaken to consult with members about this issue, the relevance and usefulness of this service and the advantages and barriers to provision of online access. Please direct comments and questions to [Lucy Cheetham](#) at APHA on 02 6273 9000.

Second Tier Renewal Reminder

Please note that the Second Tier status of some private hospital facilities is due to expire on 30 June 2013. The closing date for applications was **Friday, 26 April 2013**, and the next meeting date of the Second Tier Advisory Committee is Friday, 24 May. This is the last meeting before 30 June 2013. Those hospitals wishing to apply for continued eligibility need to submit an application to the APHA, details regarding the process and a performance application can be downloaded from the APHA website <http://www.apha.org.au/industry-resources/>

Should you require further information please contact [Andrea Versteegen](#) at APHA on 02 6273 9000.

Meet Australia's Best in Nursing!

The nomination phase for the 2013 HESTA Australian Nursing Awards has now ended. The judges are behind closed doors, making their decisions. Planning for the awards dinner is underway — and HESTA would love you to join them at this event! The evening will be a celebration of excellence in nursing and midwifery, to inspire and enjoy.

Tickets are available for group bookings of eight or more (\$80 per individual) or individuals (\$95). Purchase online at hestanursingawards.com.au

Two Events in Two Days

10th Innovative Practice in the Private Sector Conference – Monday 17 June 2013 – Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre

Sponsored by HESTA, this one day conference will showcase a range of private hospital clinical and non-clinical innovations, all of which are finalists in the 2013 Innovative Practice in the Private Sector Awards.

6th Quality & Safety in Action Conference – Tuesday 18 June 2013 – Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

With a theme of Putting the National Standards into Practice this interactive conference will focus on a complex hypothetical scenario which not only encompasses elements of the Governance, Partnering with Consumers, Clinical Handover and Recognising and Responding to Clinical Deterioration Standards, but also will include Open Disclosure and preparing for and attending a Coronial hearing.

A combined registration program for both events may be downloaded from the home page of the [PHAQ website](#) or alternatively please contact Lucy Fisher, PHAQ (07) 3279 7600 for further information.

Epworth HealthCare – Men's Health in General Practice Symposium

Epworth HealthCare is proud to announce the inaugural Men's Health Symposium. The Surgical Specialty and General Surgery & Gastroenterology Clinical Institutes will be holding a combined symposium in recognition of the importance of Men's Health. To register, or to view the Program and Speaker profiles please go to - <http://wired.ivvy.com/event/MENS13/>

On the Radar - Issue 124

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:

Workbase. Literature review of health literacy education, training tools and resources for health

providers

Bring it on – 40 ways to support patient leadership guide

Healthy Communities: Australians' experiences with primary health care in 2010-11

Parent perceptions of children's hospital safety climate

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

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