



## APHA Vital Signs

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

30 June 2013

### Private Health Insurance Legislation Passed This Week

The affordability of PHI received a setback this week as two pieces of legislation passed the Senate:

- [Private Health Insurance Legislation Amendment \(Base Premium\) Bill 2013](#)  
From 1 April 2014 the Rebate for each private health insurance policy will be indexed by the lesser of the CPI percentage change or the change of the premium charged by a private health insurer that is approved by the Minister.
- [Private Health Insurance Amendment \(Lifetime Health Cover Loading and Other Measures\) Bill 2012](#)  
The Rebate on private health insurance is no longer payable the on Lifetime Health Cover loading paid by Australians who do not take out PHI by the age of 30.

### PHI 35/13 - Default Benefits effective 1 July 2013

The Private Health Insurance (Benefit Requirements) Amendment Rules 2013 (No. 2) bring into effect updated default benefits. Full details can be downloaded here:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/health-phicirculars2013-35>

### Fair Work Australia – Award Amendments

- [MA000027 - Health Professionals and Support Services Award 2010](#) - has been amended. The document affecting this change is: [PR536692 - http://www.fwc.gov.au/alldocuments/PR536692.htm](#)
- [MA000034 - Nurses Award 2010](#) - has been amended. The document affecting this change is: [PR536820 - http://www.fwc.gov.au/alldocuments/PR536820.htm](#)

### Rehabilitation Hospitals – AROC deadline

Hospitals which provide rehabilitation services and participate in the Australasian Rehabilitation Outcomes Centre Collection are reminded of deadlines for the next reporting period (Financial Year 2013 - FY13).

Data must be submitted to AROC by July 31st. A further two weeks will be allowed for corrections to be made to your data. The FY13 reporting data will be closed (i.e. no more data will be able to be included) at midnight 14 August with report production commencing 15 August. Similarly, data for the reporting period following (Calendar Year 2013 - CY13), data MUST be submitted by January 31st 2014. After allowing two weeks for corrections the CY13 data will close at midnight 14 February with report production commencing 15 February.

### ACSQHC National Standards Risk Analysis for Training Needs for Basic Life Support

ACHSQHC has published information on how hospitals might assess the need for training in basic life support.

To view the report, visit: [Sample risk analysis: Training needs for basic life support](#)

### Release of the Victorian Hospital Admission Policy effective 1 July 2013

The Victorian Hospital Admission Policy provides guidelines to enable hospitals to distinguish between admitted and non-admitted patient episodes for the purpose of data reporting (i.e. the Victorian Admitted Episodes Dataset (VAED)). This document applies to public and private hospitals, and all health services registered under the Health Services (Private Hospitals and Day Procedure Centres) Regulations 2002.

This guideline can be downloaded at: <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/hdss/vaed/index.htm>

### **Queensland - Mental Health Act under review**

Minister Springborg has announced a review of Queensland's Mental Health Act 2000. The review will include feedback from the State's new Mental Health Commission to support better mental health strategies and community needs. Anyone who wishes to make a submission to the review can access the Terms of Reference at: [www.getinvolved.qld.gov.au](http://www.getinvolved.qld.gov.au)

### **Health Status and Experience of Health Services Across Australia Report**

The NHPA report on Australian communities show the diversity in health status and experience of health services across communities in Australia. The report includes data collected from each of the Medicare Local catchment areas on the incidence of chronic health conditions, levels of health service use and barriers to usage including cost.

For more information, visit: [http://www.nhpa.gov.au/internet/nhpa/publishing.nsf/Content/Healthy-communities/\\$file/NHPA\\_HC\\_Report\\_Patient\\_Exp\\_June\\_2013.pdf](http://www.nhpa.gov.au/internet/nhpa/publishing.nsf/Content/Healthy-communities/$file/NHPA_HC_Report_Patient_Exp_June_2013.pdf)

### **Standards Australia Update - Health Sector**

Standards Australia has published an update on activities relevant to the health sector. This update includes a listing of all new standards published since October 2012. This update includes publication details for new/revised standards on the storage of blood and blood products, management programs for medical equipment and Health Informatics standards on core discharge summaries, personal health record classification, electronic prescribing and Health Level Seven (HL7) implementation.

Full summaries for all industries including health can be found at:

<http://www.standards.org.au/StandardsDevelopment/Sectors/Documents/Sector%20Updates.pdf>

### **New Online Indigenous Health Resource Launched**

The Australian Indigenous Clinical *InfoNet* ([www.clinicalinfonet.net.au](http://www.clinicalinfonet.net.au)) presents, in a single resource, existing tools, guides and online information that promote best practice in the prevention, identification and management of chronic disease in Indigenous Australians. New website for information in indigenous health issues including clinical tools, references and guidelines and patient information. The Clinical *InfoNet* is developed and managed by the Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet (AIH) and funded by the Australian Department of Health and Ageing.

For more information, visit: <http://www.clinicalinfonet.net.au/Pages/default.aspx>

### **Small Grants Available from Mental Health NSW for Mental Health Month**

Applications are invited by Mental Health NSW from organisations seeking support for Mental Health Month. For more information, visit: <http://www.mentalhealth.asn.au/well-being/campaigns/mental-health-month-nsw.html>

### **Second Tier Default Benefits Reminder**

The next scheduled meeting of the Second Tier Advisory Committee (STAC) will be held on Friday, 30 August 2013. Those hospitals wishing to apply need to submit an application to APHA by Friday, 9 August 2013, details regarding the process and a pro forma application form can be down loaded from the APHA website <http://www.apha.org.au/resource/sample-application-2013-2nd-tier-default-benefit-eligibility/>

Should you require further information please contact Andrea Versteegen at APHA on [andrea.versteegen@apha.org.au](mailto:andrea.versteegen@apha.org.au) or 02 6273 9000.

### **On the Radar - Issue 132**

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:

*Making the Case for Information: The evidence for investing in high quality health information for patients and the public*

*The incidence of diagnostic error in medicine*

*Nurses' workarounds in acute healthcare settings: a scoping review*

*BMJ Quality 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/>

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