



APHA Vital Signs

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

6 October 2013

Public Holiday – Monday 7 October – APHA Office Closed

Monday 7 October is Labour Day and the APHA Secretariat will be closed. The office will re-open at 8.30am on Tuesday 8 October.

Mental Health Week 2013

Nearly 200 private hospitals around Australia are celebrating Mental Health Week this week.

If you would like to get involved with this year's Mental Health Week, please contact [Lyndal Bailey](#) or follow the celebration on [Australia's Private Hospitals Facebook page](#) or [Priv8hospitals Twitter page](#).

APHA Annual General Meeting

An email was sent out on Wednesday to hospital members advising details of our Annual General Meeting (AGM) including the agenda, the 2013 annual financial statements, voting information and a personalised proxy form.

The AGM will be held on 28 October 2013 and as a quorum of 55% of member votes is required to convene a meeting it is essential that we receive your completed proxy form.

Completed proxy forms must be received by APHA by 2.00 pm on 26 October 2013 and instructions for submitting these are included on the form.

Should you have any queries in relation to this please contact: ruth.mcgorman-mann@apha.org.au.

Nurses Award 2010 – Determination re Public Holidays – 1 October 2013

The Fair Work Commission has issued a determination amending the Nurses Award 2010 in respect of Clause 32 – Public Holidays. The [revised clauses](#) are in accordance with the wording proposed by the Private Hospital Industry Employers' Associations (PHIEA) on behalf of APHA. The determination takes effect from the first full pay period commencing on or after 1 October 2013.

Once again APHA recognises and appreciates the work done by Lucy Fisher and Lynda Hepworth in support of the PHIEA's case.

APHA Adopts Position on Clinical Registries

Noting that clinical registries are now giving rise to significant costs for hospitals, the APHA Board, while recognising the potential value of clinical registries, has moved to adoption the following position:

When a hospital is asked to participate in a clinical registry, the cost of participation should be fully identified and funded by a third party.

Hospitals participating in clinical registries should be provided with access to feedback on underperforming outliers at hospital, unit and clinician level.

For further information on this issue contact Lucy Cheetham on 026273 9000 or lucy.cheetham@apha.org.au

Improving the Management of Cognitive Impairment

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care will soon be consulting on a draft handbook developed as part of the 'Improving the Management of Cognitive Impairment using the NSQHS Standards' Project.

The consultation forums will be held between Tuesday, 29 October 2013 and Friday, 6 December 2013. Consultation forums will be held in each capital city and also in Broken Hill, NSW.

The online consultation survey will be available between Monday, 14 October 2013 and Friday, 13 December 2013.

For further information on the project and consultation, please visit:

<http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/cognitive-impairment/consultation/>

To express interest in attending a consultation forum, please visit:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ciconsultationregistration>

PHI Circulars Update

The following two circulars were published this week:

- [PHI 57/13 - Amendment to the Private Health Insurance \(Benefit Requirements\) Rules 2011](#)
- [PHI 60/13 - Changes to Second-Tier Eligible Hospitals](#)

Mobile Privacy: a better practice guide for mobile app developers

Is your organisation considering designing a mobile app to connect with your stakeholders? The Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) has developed a guide to assist mobile app developers to embed better privacy practices into their products and to comply with Australian privacy law.

[Read news story](#)

[Read Mobile privacy guide](#)

New Privacy Law Reform Guidance Released

External Dispute Resolution scheme guide

The OAIC has released the [Guidelines for recognising external dispute resolution \(EDR\) schemes under s 35A of the Privacy Act 1988](#). Under the Privacy Act, EDR schemes recognised by the OAIC can be used by organisations and individuals to resolve privacy complaints. The Guidelines outline the conditions that must be met by EDR schemes to be recognised under the Privacy Act.

[Read news story](#)

[Read guidelines](#)

Guidelines for developing codes

The [Guidelines for developing codes](#) cover the development, registration and ongoing administration of Australian Privacy Principles (APP) codes and the Credit reporting (CR) code. Under the new Part IIIB of the Privacy Act the Information Commissioner can register enforceable codes which are developed by entities on their own initiative or on request from the Information Commissioner, or developed by the Information Commissioner directly.

[Read news story](#)

[Read guidelines](#)

On the Radar - Issue 146

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:

Large simple trials and knowledge generation in a learning health system: Workshop summary

Health economic evaluation of an infection prevention and control program: Are quality and patient

safety programs worth the investment?

Clinical transfusion practice update: haemovigilance, complications, patient blood management and national standards

Variation in Surgical-Readmission Rates and Quality of Hospital Care

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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