



1 April 2012

APHA Office unattended

Due to staff attending the Council meeting on Tuesday 3rd April the APHA office will be unattended from Tuesday until 1.30 on Wednesday 4th April.

Private Hospitals Week draws to a close

More than 180 private hospitals across Australia joined together to celebrate Private Hospitals Week last week. Many events were held to mark the week as well as information being distributed to patients and staff to explain the value of the private hospital system.

Photos from the week can be found at <http://privatehospitals.org.au/view-latest-news/latest-photos/photos-from-2012-private-hospitals-week> or viewed on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/valuingprivatehospitals.

Facebook Competition Winner announced

We are pleased to announce the winner of our Facebook 'Like' your private hospital contest is Mt Wilga Private Hospital's Physiotherapy Stars. This group of Mt Wilga staff members said their photo represented what they 'like' about their facility – "I like that our team provides STAR treatment to our patients: Sensational service; Treating customers with respect & empathy; Acting with integrity & honesty; Recognising excellence, and always SMILING!!" Congratulations to Maya Solway who wins a \$1000 voucher for the Apple store.

Christine Gee appointed to the Board of the Australian Safety and Quality Commission

The Federal Minister for Health has appointed Ms Chriss Gee, the Chair of the APHA Council, to the Board of the Australian Commission for Safety and Quality in Health Care. Chriss is a former President of APHA, and chairs the Association's Psychiatric Committee.

The ACSQHC was established as a permanent statutory body in 2011, after nearly fifteen years in a more temporary form. Chriss has been the Commissioner representing private hospitals for several years. APHA congratulates Chriss on her appointment as a foundation Board member of the permanent Commission, and thanks her for her outstanding representation of the private hospital sector.

Collection of PBS under co-payment data

The Department of Health and Ageing (DOHA) advised last year that the Federal Government would collect data on PBS prescriptions that are priced below the co-payment level. This will begin from 1 April. DOHA has stated that pharmacies will not need to do anything additional in terms of submitting PBS data to Medicare, as the under co-payment information will be collected at the Medicare end. For more information, private hospital pharmacies are advised to go to www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/provider.

State of the Health Funds Report released

The Private Health Insurance Ombudsman (PHIO) published its annual *State of the Health Funds Report* last week. The report, which covers the period from 1 July 2010 – 30 June 2011, focuses on general performance and service delivery by health funds. The report compares funds against a number of measures, including service performance, financial management and health fund operation. The report is available at www.phio.org.au.

ACHS National Conference 2012 Dates Announced

The Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS) along with its two collaborators, the Australian Hospital and Healthcare Association (AHHA) and the Women's and Children's Hospitals Australasia (WCHA) have announced the details of its 2012 annual conference: ***The Quantum Leap Measurement: Redefining Health's boundaries***. It will take place from 24–27 September 2012, more details click: <http://us2.campaign-archive1.com/?u=b0c6f0073384ed4a559ceb7bf&id=f04770b3be&e>

On the Radar – Issue 75

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 edition includes:

Development of an evidence-based framework of factors contributing to patient safety incidents in hospital settings: a systematic review

Development and evaluation of a 3-day patient safety curriculum to advance knowledge, self-efficacy and system thinking among medical students

BMJ Quality and Safety online first articles

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