



10 June 2012

APHA Office closed

APHA Secretariat will be closed for the Queen's Birthday long weekend Monday 11 June 2012. It will reopen for business as usual Tuesday 12 June 8.30am.

Meeting with Queensland Premier

Last Tuesday, APHA President, Chris Rex, and Vice President, Richard Royle, met with the Premier of Queensland, The Hon Campbell Newman and the Queensland Health Minister, Lawrence Springborg.

In a positive meeting, discussions centred on ways the private sector could become more involved in the delivery of hospital care to assist the Government in meeting its health reform goals. APHA also raised concerns over the growing number of private patients being treated in Queensland public hospitals.

APHA Submission on Classification of MBS item 42738

APHA has made a submission to the Department of Health and Ageing in support of the current Type B classification of 42738 for (Intra-vitreous injection) based on clinical and safety reasons. This recognises the procedure of intra-vitreous injection is appropriate to be performed as Hospital treatment regardless of anaesthetic type, medical condition or any other special circumstance as required under Type C.

To read our submission, please go to: <http://www.apha.org.au/advocacy/submissions/>

National Hospital Cost Data Collection (NHCDC) Round 16

Last week APHA met with senior officials of the PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) who have been engaged by the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA) to conduct Round 16 of the National Hospital Cost Data Collection (NHCDC).

Discussion with PwC focussed on strategic challenges and opportunities of the NHCDC from private hospitals point of views, in particular:

- The value of the NHCDC collection to the private sector;
- Improving the communication between PwC and private hospital representatives;
- PwC to work out a "statistically valid" sample size required for a meaningful publication of the results;
- PwC to establish the "participation rate" prior to proceeding with the data collection process. This is to be achieved through an Expression Of Intention process;
- Re-establishment of the "Technical Working Group" to:
 - Oversee the review process by data contributors after data submission;
 - Review of definitions and standards of the input data;
 - Review the process of data submission to improve consistency (moving towards web-based and user interface tool kits with clear guidelines for data submission);
 - Review of the publication format;

- PwC to consult with the private hospital representatives prior to proceeding with the data collection.

PwC will run a few workshops with a wider group of private hospital representatives in relation to the NHDC Round 16 data collection within the next three weeks.

ACSQHC: Open Disclosure Standard Review - Consultation open

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care has announced that consultation on the review of *the Open Disclosure Standard* is now open.

<http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/open-disclosure/the-open-disclosure-standard/>

All materials have been uploaded to the web site. Please visit:

<http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/open-disclosure/the-open-disclosure-standard/consultation/>. Consultation forums will be held on the following dates:

Date	Location	Venue
Friday 29/06/12	Hobart	The Royal Yacht Club of Tasmania, Marieville Esplanade, Sandy Bay
Friday 06/07/12	Adelaide	Terrace 1, Stamford Plaza, 150 North Tce, Adelaide
Thursday 12/07/12	Perth	Silver Room, Novotel Langley, 221 Adelaide Tce, Perth
Thursday 19/07/12	Brisbane	Raffles Room, Stamford Plaza, Cnr Edward and Margaret Streets, Brisbane
Friday 27/07/12	Melbourne	Private Function Room, Rydges Melbourne, 186 Exhibition St, Melbourne
Friday 03/08/12	Sydney	Dorothea MacKellar Room, Marriott Sydney Harbour, 30 Pitt St, Sydney

ACHS Quality Improvement Awards

The ACHS Quality Improvement (QI) Award is now open for nominations. Last year, a QI Award was awarded to St Andrew's Hospital, Adelaide, for an integrated performance management system; to Hunter New England LHD, NSW, for an online training and learning portal; and to Armidale Rural Referral Hospital, Armidale, NSW for an initiative by the nursing staff to reduce pressure ulcers in patients with hip fractures.

The QIs are judged on the project's demonstrated quality improvement rather than sophisticated presentation, as ACHS is ever mindful of the constraints on smaller organisations in time and resources.

The submissions from last year's awards and information about this year's awards can be found on the ACHS website, <http://www.achs.org.au/QIawards>

The three QI Award categories are:

- Clinical Excellence and Patient Safety
- Non-clinical Service Delivery
- Healthcare Measurement

HWA launch new e-newsletter

Health Workforce Australia HWA has launched its new e-newsletter *Health Workforce Insight*.

The e-newsletter will keep readers updated on HWA and its projects as well as the latest health workforce policy, issues and innovations happening nationally and internationally. To subscribe click: <http://www.hwa.gov.au/subscribe>

New form for notifying NSW Director-General of Health of lost or stolen accountable drugs

The NSW Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Regulation 2008 requires persons who are authorised to be in possession of a drug of addiction (Schedule 8 substance) or 'prescribed restricted substance' (Schedule 4 Appendix D substance) to immediately notify the Director-General of Health of any loss or theft of these drugs.

For more information and to access the new form to notify of loss or theft, see the NSW Ministry of Health website at <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/PublicHealth/Pharmaceutical/loststolen.asp>

On the Radar - Issue 82

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 weeks content includes:

Moving Forward with Wellness Incentives Under the Affordable Care Act: Lessons from Germany

Patient Safety Thought Papers

Preventing Central Line–Associated Bloodstream Infections: A Global Challenge, a Global Perspective

Clinical influences on antibiotic prescribing decisions for lower respiratory tract infection: a nine country qualitative study of variation in care

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

Inaugural CEO appointed to Health Performance Authority

Dr Diane Watson has been appointed as the inaugural Chief Executive Officer of the National Health Performance Authority. The Authority which was established under the National Health Reform Act 2011, is charged with reporting on the performance of all local hospital networks, public and private hospitals and primary healthcare organisations across Australia.