



22nd April 2012

APHA Office closed

APHA Secretariat will be closed for ANZAC Day Wednesday 25 April 2012. It will reopen for business as usual Thursday 26 April 8.30am.

HHA Day Hospital Guidelines now in use

Hand Hygiene Australia (HHA) day hospital guidelines are now in use. The 2012 deadline for data submissions to HHA is by 30 June and 31 October 2012.

APHA is encouraging all facilities, including day hospitals to submit data, for further information go to www.hha.org.au.

Medical Training Review Panel

The fifteenth report of the Medical Training Review Panel (MTRP) is now available. The report covers the three levels of medical training in Australia, providing data on all trainees in undergraduate, postgraduate and vocational training programs in the last year, 2011. PDF (printable version) of the report is available from the Department of Health and Aging website at:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/work-pubs-mtrp-15>

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare has released a snapshot of the latest statistics on Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD). COPD limits airflow in the lungs. It includes emphysema and chronic bronchitis. To view the COPD snapshot web pages please go to the following link: <http://www.aihw.gov.au/copd/>

More detailed information about COPD can be found in [Asthma in Australia 2011](#), and in other publications from the AIHW and the [Australian Centre for Asthma Monitoring \(ACAM\)](#) .

Private Sector National Hospital Cost Data Collection (NHCDC)

On 29 March 2012, the Department of Health and Ageing announced that due to the marked reduction in the number of private hospitals participating in Round 14, it would not be able to publish a set of results representative of the full sector.

Following this announcement, the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA) – which has accepted responsibility for the National Hospital Cost Data Collection (NHCDC) since October 2011 – invited private sector peak bodies to a meeting to discuss Round 14 and envisage a series of measures to improve the private Round 15 NHCDC. Below are some highlights from the meeting.

1. The group raised their concerns about:

- a. the lack of communications between Commonwealth and the private sector;
 - b. Despite the knowledge of the reduced participation from some hospital groups for Round 14 from the beginning, the Commonwealth failed to notify participants, or raise the lack of contribution from other providers as a critical issue until Sep-2011 when the results were due to be published. The lack of action/communication from the Commonwealth resulted in cancellation of the round and denied the private sector an opportunity to remedy the situation by submitting further hospital data for Round 14;
2. IHPA commented that it “had its hands full” with the public sector ABF costing-processes in any event, and was unable to apply more effort to the private sector costing process for Round 14;
 3. IHPA commented that it was reluctant to publish the Round 14 costing results (cost weights and absolute \$ costs by DRG) due to the high degree of “statistical variation” in the smaller dataset;
 4. IHPA agreed to market and call for private sector submissions for Round 16 to establish “participation rates” before the round commenced;
 5. IHPA would work with the private sector to determine what minimum participation rate would constitute a “statistically valid” sample size.

Industry Events, Research, Funding

For information on industry events, research and funding in the community services and health industries, please visit the Community Services & Health Industry skills Council (CS&H) website via the following link. <https://www.cshisc.com.au/index.php>

AROC v4 Dataset Training Workshops - Flyer and Registration Form

As you may be aware, AROC will be implementing a new version of their dataset on 1 July 2012. In addition AROC is implementing an upgrade to our IT System – AOS (AROC Online Services) – which will include a web based data entry system that will replace SNAPshot (for those members currently using SNAPshot). In preparation for these events AROC will be running a series of training workshops in major centres around Australia during June.

If your organisation has not received an invitation email from AROC and wish to attend the training workshops, please email Mehrdad.khodai@apha.org.au and I will forward you the Flyer and Registration form for these workshops. Please note that:

1. Dates and venues are listed in the flyer and you need to register to attend the workshop most conveniently located for you;
2. for those more rural and remote members AROC will be staging a small number of Webinars as well – dates and times of these will be announced later. If you cannot attend a workshop and wish to express interest in a Webinar, please indicate this on the registration form.

Second Tier Renewal Reminder

Please note that the Second Tier status of some private hospital facilities is due to expire on 30 June 2012. APHA recently sent a reminder email to those facilities that are members, the closing date for applications is Friday 4th May 2012. Those hospitals wishing to apply for continued

eligibility need to submit an application to the Department of Health and Ageing. The details regarding the process and a proforma application can be down loaded from:
<http://www.apha.org.au/advocacy/resources/sample-application-2012-updated/>

Should you require further information please contact Andrea Versteegen at APHA on andrea.versteegen@apha.org.au or 02 6273 9000.

PHAQ Conference Registration open

Private Hospitals Association of Queensland (PHAQ) Conference Registration Program is now open for the **9th Innovative Practice in the Private Sector Conference & 5th Quality & Safety in Action Conference**.

The Conferences are being held from 18-19 June 2012 at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre. The closing date for registrations is Friday 8 June 2012. To register go to: www.phaq.org

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