



# APHA Vital Signs

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

28th October 2012

## PBS

Among the new and extended PBS listings announced this week are:

- Aprepitant (Emend®) - for the treatment of nausea and vomiting associated with chemotherapy for cancer
- Atenolol (Atenolol-AFT®) - for the treatment of high blood pressure
- Ezetimibe with simvastatin (Vytorin®) - for the treatment of high cholesterol
- Naloxone hydrochloride (Naloxone Min-I-Jet®) - for the emergency treatment of opioid overdose
- Paraffin compound eye ointment (VitA-POS®) - for the treatment of severe dry eye syndrome
- Rivaroxaban (Xarelto®) - for the treatment of deep vein thrombosis (blood clots)
- Sodium hyaluronate (Hilo®-Fresh) (Hilo®-Forte) - for the treatment of severe dry eye syndrome
- Temozolomide (Temodal®) - for the treatment of certain types of malignant brain cancer

The majority of new and extended listings will take effect from 1 December 2012. All PBS listings are subject to final arrangements being met by the suppliers of the medicines.

A full list of the price changes are available on the PBS website

<http://www.pbs.gov.au/info/news/2012/10/price-increases-for-the-pbs>

## Free Opportunity to Advertise Nursing and Midwifery Graduate Vacancies

The Nursing and Midwifery Graduate Jobs Information Portal, a national electronic jobs board for new nursing and midwifery graduates, has been extended until at least 30 June 2013. The site was launched by Health Workforce Australia (HWA) in January this year, amidst concerns new graduates were having difficulty finding positions at the end of their training.

For health employers, this site is a central, national and free website on which to advertise positions suitable for new graduates. It gives them access to an Australia-wide pool of newly qualified health professionals, as well as the opportunity to promote their organisations. The site has received more than 3000 hits since it was launched in January 2012, with more than 900 graduates registering.

All Australian public and private sector employers of nursing and midwifery jobs, suitable for graduates, are eligible to register with the site. Registration and advertising are free.

Employers register with HWA via the website [www.nmgj.org.au](http://www.nmgj.org.au) or by emailing [graduatejobs@hwa.gov.au](mailto:graduatejobs@hwa.gov.au). Once registered, a username and password will be issued with

instructions for posting information to the site.

For further information and assistance contact [graduatejobs@hwa.gov.au](mailto:graduatejobs@hwa.gov.au).

### **Menzies-Nous Australian Health Survey:**

Public hospitals scored a satisfaction rating of just 59 per cent while private hospitals had a rating of 85 per cent.

For more information, visit [http://www.menzieshealthpolicy.edu.au/mn\\_survey/index.htm](http://www.menzieshealthpolicy.edu.au/mn_survey/index.htm)

### **Timeline for the Round 16 private sector National Hospital Cost Data Collection**

Price Waterhouse Coopers have advised their proposed timeline for Round 16 as follows:

- Data specifications sent to hospitals - 26 October 2012
- Hospitals advised of their collection window - 26 October 2012
- Website becomes available to hospitals for submission - 19 November 2012
- Data collection period - 21 November – 21 December 2012
- Analysis and feedback to hospitals - 15 January – 28 February 2013
- Analysis and cost weight production - 1 February – 1 March 2013
- Final reporting - 31 March 2013

PwC proposes to advise each hospital of their collection window by Friday 26 October.

Further guidance on the data submission process will be provided once the website becomes available.

### **Safety and Quality Improvement Guides and Accreditation Workbooks now available on line and Advice Centre now open for enquiries**

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care has finalised resources to assist health service organisations to implement the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards, and also established an Advice Centre to assist with queries about the Standards and the accreditation process. These initiatives are described below.

#### **1. Safety and Quality Improvement Guides**

The Commission has developed Safety and Quality Improvement Guides (the Guides) for each of the 10 NSQHS Standards. These Guides are designed to assist health service organisations to align their quality improvement programs using the framework of the NSQHS Standards. The Guides are primarily intended for use by people who are responsible for a part or whole of a health service organisation.

#### **2. Accreditation Workbooks**

Two Accreditation Workbooks, one each for hospitals and day procedure services, that focus on the processes of accreditation and:

- outline the key steps in an accreditation process
- provide examples of evidence that could be used to demonstrate the NSQHS Standards have been met.

The Workbooks are designed for use by individuals in health service organisations who are

responsible for coordinating accreditation processes.

These resources are available to download from the Commission's website at <http://www.safetyandquality.gov.au/our-work/accreditation/nsqhss/safety-and-quality-improvement-guides-and-accreditation-workbooks/>

A complete set of documents will be sent to all health service organisations in the coming weeks.

### 3. Advice Centre

The Advice Centre is now open for enquiries from health service organisations, surveyors and accrediting agencies. The Advice centre can be accessed by calling 1800 304 056 (normal business hours Australian Eastern Standard Time) or via email [accreditation@safetyandquality.gov.au](mailto:accreditation@safetyandquality.gov.au)

The Advice Centre will provide advice and support during the transition to the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards to ensure health services have a consistent and shared understanding of the NSQHS Standards.

### **On the Radar - Issue 102**

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:

*Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care Annual Report 2011/12*

*Adapting clinical guidelines to take account of multimorbidity*

*A Systematic Review of the Effectiveness, Compliance, and Critical Factors for Implementation of Safety Checklists in Surgery*

*[WHO] Patient Safety Research: A guide for developing training programmes*

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