



APHA Vital Signs

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

29 July 2012

APHA Council 2012/2013 Elections

Members are advised that as this is an election year for APHA Council positions, APHA will shortly be commencing the election process by calling for nominations.

Following the successful trial of the online Council election in the “*For profit small independent*” electorate last year, APHA will utilise a web based tool to call for nominations and if required to hold ballots to fill all Council positions.

The process will commence on Monday 13 August 2012 when chief representatives of eligible members will receive an email inviting them to follow a link to nominate for a position on the APHA Council. Nominations will close on 27 August. If a ballot is required in any of the electorates the ballots will be issued electronically on 31 August.

Should a member like to confirm who is listed as the chief representative of their organisation or have any queries in relation to this please contact kathryn.lee@apha.org.au

AHMAC recognizes role of private sector in internships

The Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council (AHMAC) met on July 19 to consider the latest information regarding any potential shortfall of internships for international fee paying students of Australian medical schools in 2013.

APHA has been advised that measures to increase intern capacity will include:

- considering additional capacity in new settings such as the private and non-government sector;
- ensuring that accreditation for any new places is fast tracked; and
- identifying any additional capacity for intern rotations and places.

APHA is liaising with HWA and other stakeholders in addressing this challenge keen to ensure that strategies agreed by AHMAC are implemented smoothly and with effective consultation with the private sector.

Call for Nominations - Standards Australia to consider Standards for Gloves

Standards Australia has invited APHA to nominate a representative to its Surgical Apparel Committee. The Committee will soon be working on the revision of two standards:

- 1 AS/NZS 4011 - 1997- Single use examination gloves – specification, and
- 2 AS/NZS 4179 - 1997 - Single use sterile surgical rubber gloves - specification.

The commitment required is for approximately three meetings in the first 8 months with the possibility of further work after a process of public consultation. The overall timeline is about 12 months.

Meeting locations are determined with a view to minimising travel. There is no provision for travel costs to be met but teleconferencing facilities are available. APHA nominees would be requested to liaise with Lucy Cheetham, Director of Policy and Research throughout the project. Please contact Lucy Cheetham at lucy.cheetham@apha.org.au.

Important Study on Clinical Supervision in NSW - NSW Hospitals Only

Calling for Survey Responses from Doctors, Allied Health Professionals, Dentists, Midwives and Nursing Working in the Private sector in NSW.

Health Workforce Australia has funded research into the factors that support or prevent participation in clinical supervision in the private sector in New South Wales. Please bring this important survey to attention of allied health professionals, doctors, dentists, midwives and nurses working in your facilities. Everyone in these professional groups is invited to participate regardless of whether or not they currently provide supervision in the clinical workplace. Simply follow the link to answer some simple questions. www.surveymonkey.com/s/NSWCSSPprivate

This survey seeks to inform the development of a profile of student, trainee and intern supervisors across allied health, dental, medicine, midwifery and nursing in NSW.

Information captured through this survey will be used to develop a strategy for training in the clinical workplace that will aim to increase patient safety and quality of care through increased supervision support and capacity.

What is the NSW Clinical Supervision Support Project?

The NSW Clinical Supervision Support Project (CSSP) funded by Health Workforce Australia (HWA). The CSSP is a \$28 million program funded under the National Partnership Agreement on Hospital and Health Workforce Reform.

How will the information be used?

Survey responses will be collated and analysed to provide a profile of student, trainee and intern supervisors across allied health, dental, medicine, midwifery and nursing in the NSW health service (public and private).

Prostheses List Health Technology Assessment Grouping Review – SOCAG Phase 3 & Definition for Biologically Active

HTA Grouping Review – SOCAG Phase

The proposed changes to the grouping scheme and group benefits for products covered by Phase 3 of the HTA Review of SOCAG products has been deferred. This decision was made by the PLAC to allow further review of the groups and group benefits and further consultation with sponsors. It is expected that this final part of the HTA Review will be completed for the February 2013 Prostheses List.

Definition for Biologically Active

The PLAC has endorsed a definition for 'Biologically Active', to assist with the grouping of products in the following four Bone Graft Substitute groupings:

- 6.3.15.13 Biologically Active Bone Inductor, 0 – 2.5mg
- 6.3.15.14 Biologically Active Bone Inductor, >2.5mg – 5mg
- 6.3.15.15 Biologically Active Bone Inductor, >5mg – 10mg
- 6.3.15.16 Biologically Active Bone Inductor, >10mg

The definition of Biologically Active is 'A molecule or protein that actively and directly initiates and promotes osteogenesis in a heterotopic site.'

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/health-phicirculars2012-54>

Member Discounts – Accor Hospitality/Hertz

APHA encourages its members to take advantage of the commercial benefits with Hertz and Accor that enable APHA members to receive discounted rates.

The Accor "Away on Business" discount program enables current APHA members and their employees to book any Accor hotel in the world with a 10% discount off the daily public rate. Hertz offer an excellent rate to APHA members on rental cars and complimentary membership to the Hertz #1 Club gold.

To access these benefits please email Andrea Versteegen, APHA Membership Officer on member-office@apha.org.au or phone 02 6273 9000 and she will provide you with the simple step

by step instructions.

On the Radar - Issue 89

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:

An Interactive Preventive Care Record: A Handbook for Using Patient-Centered Personal Health Records to Promote Prevention

How Can Health Care Organizations Become More Health Literate?: Workshop Summary

CareTrack: assessing the appropriateness of health care delivery in Australia

Towards the delivery of appropriate health care in Australia

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