

# Farewell to 2013

*APHA continues to lobby the government regarding chemotherapy funding, and looks forward to working with the new government to address healthcare issues in the coming year*

## **Chemotherapy Supply Update**

In the first question time of the 44th Parliament, Health Minister Peter Dutton announced that the government will fix the well documented problems with chemotherapy funding caused by price disclosure, stating, "we will provide certainty to chemotherapy patients across the country and their families." These are positive signs the government has not only been listening to the concerns of stakeholders, but is also acting to address these issues.

APHA will continue to lobby in the coming weeks to achieve an assurance that the risk to services as a result of the 31 December cessation of interim funding arrangements will be averted.

## **APHA National Congress – registrations open**

APHA is pleased to announce that registration is now open for the 33rd APHA National Congress to be held 23-25 March 2014 at the Brisbane Convention Centre.

Join us at what will prove to be the highlight of your networking and healthcare conferencing year! Featuring plenary sessions addressing:

- Public-Private Partnerships Work
  - Expanding the Contribution of the Private Health Sector
  - The Importance of Culture in Health Care Settings
  - Your Workforce in 2020: Is Your Succession Plan Ready?
  - Leadership in Employee Engagement – How to Create an Engaged, Sustainable and Effective Team!
  - The Importance of Imagination in the Workplace
  - Open Disclosure - Meeting the Standard
  - Complaints Management in a Social World
- To register, visit: [www.aphacongress.com.au](http://www.aphacongress.com.au).

## **Fresenius Kabi becomes a new major sponsor of APHA**

APHA is pleased to welcome Fresenius Kabi – one of Australia's fastest growing and innovative

pharmaceutical companies, which is dedicated to improving the quality of life of patients in Australian hospitals by creating a new level of expertise and care.

## **APHA Annual General Meeting**

Thank you to all those members who submitted proxies for the APHA Annual General Meeting. The AGM was conducted on Monday 28 October in Sydney and the meeting resolved to accept the Director's Report and Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2013.

## **APHA Council Meeting**

The APHA National Council met in Sydney on Monday 28 October. The council received a briefing from the CEO on lobbying activity undertaken since the election and endorsed the association's strategic objectives to be pursued with the new government.

In addition, the council discussed issues relating to promotion of the private hospitals sector and reviewed the draft program for the 2014 National Congress.

Finally, the council farewellled Nick Warden, who is stepping down as councillor as a consequence of his impending retirement as CEO of Burnside War Memorial Hospital.

## **Mental Health Week 2013**

Nearly 200 private hospitals around Australia celebrated Mental Health Week on the 6-12 October 2013. To view the celebrations, please visit the Australia's Private Hospitals Facebook page or @Priv8hospitals Twitter page.

## **Staff changes**

APHA has farewellled Dr Mehrdad Khodai-Joopari who worked as our research and data manager since 2011 and has contributed significantly to numerous submissions and policy positions. APHA would like to welcome Meke Kamps who joins us from AHIW where she worked on a number of projects analysing data and publishing reports on health and social welfare topics. [PH](#)