



eNews

Email Bulletin of Health Issues
Centre

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT HEALTH ISSUES CENTRE

HEALTH ISSUES CENTRE AGM

Health Issues Centre invites you to our Annual General Meeting

Our guest speaker will be **Carol Bennett, Executive Director, Consumers Health Forum of Australia** who will speak on **Health Reform: Opportunities and Threats for Consumers.**

Monday, 26 October 2009

Victoria University Conference Centre

Level 12, Function Room 1

300 Flinders Street, Melbourne

commencing with drinks and refreshments at 5.30 pm

RSVP to [Souzi Markos](#) by Friday, 16 October 2009 or you can call (03) 9479 5827 or

Fax (03) 9479 5977

[2008-2009 Health Issues Centre AGM Information](#)

[2008-2009 Health Issues Centre AGM Nomination Form](#)

Participate in Health Conference - My Story Matters

21-22 September 2009 Melbourne

Victoria University, City Campus

300 Flinders Street, Melbourne

On behalf of the Victorian Department of Health and the Participation Advisory Committee on consumer, carer and community participation in health, we would we would like to thank you for your participation and contribution to such a successful event. The Conference was held from 21-22 September 2009 at Victoria University, City Campus.

The event was a huge success with over 150 delegates registered. An exceptional program was developed covering a wide range of themes from patient safety, consumer participation, health reform and quality improvement. We hope you enjoyed the many highlights of the Conference, including the compelling presentations from speakers such as Fran Baum and Beth Wilson as well as the interactive workshops, speakers market and entertainment.

[Participate in Health conference program 2009](#)

A selection of presentations from the conference will be available shortly

New Project

Review of the Melbourne East General Practice Network's Consumer Engagement Strategy

The review will involve the assessment of written reports and documents produced within the context of the implementation of the Strategy, and approximately five face-to-face interviews with staff, Board members and stakeholders (GP and practice staff and others). The final report will include a series of recommendations, emerging from the review, to enhance the engagement strategy in the future.

To find out what other projects we are working on, please follow the link:

<http://www.healthissuescentre.org.au/projects/current.shtml>

JOURNAL NEWS

Health Issues #99... and Beyond!

Health Issues #99 on climate change and health is now available to members and subscribers and will be included in Informit once the Health Issues Centre - Informit arrangements are finalised.

Health Issues #100, celebrating consumer participation past and future, is at final production stages and promises to be a great Issue. It includes articles from a variety of writers, including long term friends of Health Issues Centre and well known consumers. This Issue also has lots of cartoons from our well-known cartoonists, Bev Aisbett and Simon Kneebone. Bev and Simon also collaborated in this Issue by sending us their own reflections – an cartoons - of being a cartoonist for *Health Issues* for more than 20 years.

Health Issues #101 will be on human rights and health, Issue #102 will be on the rural consumer journey to access health services and *Health Issues* #103 will be on oral health issues.

Become a member or subscribe to *Health Issues* and you will receive hard copies of the Journal! For further information go to <http://www.hic.infoxchange.net.au/membership/> or contact Souzi Markos on 9479 5827 or email s.markos@healthissuescentre.org.au

CONSUMER PARTICIPATION

Input Sought from Women with Disabilities for the Fifteen Year Review of the Beijing Platform for Action

Women With Disabilities Australia (WWDA) is contributing to the national consultations on the fifteen year review of the Beijing Platform for Action (Beijing +15, Fifteen-Year Review Of The Beijing Platform For Action). WWDA is seeking your views, including brief case studies and/or stories on any of the 12 critical areas of the Beijing Platform for Action, as well as any emerging issues which are not covered in these areas.

If you would like more information on Beijing+15 and the Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA), you can go the website: <http://jerainternational.org/scope-of-services/projects/bpfa> or contact WWDA and we can email you more information.

Please send your responses to wwda@wwda.org.au

CONSUMER POSITIONS

Consumer Position CNP090046

Southern Melbourne Integrated Cancer Service (SMICS) Community Advisory Group
Closing date 6 November 2009

The Consumer Advisory Group meet quarterly and provides the structure for SMICS to gain the consumer perspective on projects and activities that will lead to improving the cancer experience for consumers across southern Melbourne.

[CNP090046- SMICS CAG Information](#)

[CNP090046- SMICS CAG Application Form](#)

[CNP090046- SMICS CAG Poster](#)

Consumer Position CNP090045

Royal District Nursing Service Consumer Participation Committee
Closing date 30 October 2009

The Role of the RDNS Consumer Participation Committee is to advise on the implementation of consumer participation activities that actively contribute to the improvement of RDNS' service delivery

[CNP090045 RDNS Community Participation Committee Information](#)
[CNP090045 RDNS Community Participation Committee Application Form](#)

Consumer Position CNP090044

Leadership Group of Maternity and Newborn Clinical Network
Closing date 6 October 2009

The leadership group is comprised of a group of people with a knowledge of maternity services in Victoria. The aim of the Leadership group is to guide the work of the Maternity & Newborn Clinical Network to ensure safe, quality outcomes for women and their babies by reducing variation in clinical practice and by using evidence to inform practice.

[Consumer Position CNP090044 Maternity and Newborn Clinical Network Committee Information](#)
[Consumer Position CNP090044 Maternity and Newborn Clinical Network Application Form](#)
[Consumer Position CNP090044 Maternity and Newborn Clinical Network TOR](#)

Consumer Position No CNP090043

DHS HARP Advisory Committee
Closing date 10 October 2009

Department of Human Services (The Department) Hospitals Admissions Risk Program (HARP) diabetes service development Advisory Committee. The role of the Project Advisory Group will be to provide advice to the HARP Diabetes Service Development Project team and appointed consultants on matters to be canvassed in the review of HARP diabetes services.

[Consumer Position No 090043 DHS HARP Advisory Committee Information](#)
[Consumer Position No 090043 DHS HARP Advisory Committee Application Form](#)

EVENTS OF INTEREST

Workshop: Involving Consumers on Committees: 27 October 2009

Most health service committees are dominated by health professionals. Involving consumers on committees in your health service will bring new ideas from critical stakeholders to the table and assist in developing ongoing dialogue between consumers and health professionals. At the end of this session participants will be able to:

- Define Consumer Participation
- Identify strategies to involve consumers in their organisations
- Implement strategies to recruit and support consumers
- Develop policies to support consumer participation for their organisation

[Workshop Flyer and information](#)
[Workshop Registration](#)

Professional Workshop: Working With It - Anxiety Recovery Program

Derived from materials from Bev Aisbett's Working With It anxiety recovery program, this presentation is designed to introduce and demonstrate key strategies which have been proven to be highly effective over the past decade in assisting clients to overcome anxiety. Handouts are included in the price, and full catering will be provided, starting with tea and coffee on arrival.

Date: Friday, 4 December 2009
Time: 10am to 4pm (9.15am registration)
Venue: Darebin Arts & Entertainment Centre
Cnr. Bell Street and St Georges Road, Preston VIC

Cost: \$185.00/\$155.00 Early Bird Price if paid by 26 October 2009

More information is available at:

<http://www.adavic.org.au/PG-adavic-news.aspx>

CONFERENCES

Victorian Healthcare Association (VHA) Conference: 22-23 October 2009

The VHA Annual Conference, 'People Centred Health Systems' will be held at Hilton on the Park in Melbourne from 22 to 23 October 2009.

For more information, visit the website:

http://www.vha.org.au/event/People_Centred_Healthcare_Systems:_Annual_Conference_2009.html

POLICY NEWS

Latest News: National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission's Report

For a quick view of what have Australia's major health bodies had to say about the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission's report, visit the following websites:

- Australian Medical Association: <http://www.ama.com.au/node/4834>
- Australian Dental Association:
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/07/29/2639905.htm?site=news>
- Public Health Association of Australia:
http://www.phaa.net.au/documents/mediaRelease/MediaReleasePHAAWELCOMESM_OVESTOREFORMHEALTHSERVICES.pdf
- The Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA):
http://www.aushealthcare.com.au/news/news_details.asp?nid=14505&ao=s
- and others at:
- <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2009/07/28/2638136.htm?site=news>

OTHER NEWS

Carers National Data Repository Scoping Study Final Report

The Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA) commissioned the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) to undertake this study to investigate and document the scope, feasibility and utility of setting up a Carers National Data Repository (CNDR). The CNDR is conceived as a way of improving the evidence available about carers using existing data which would mitigate issues arising from scattered evidence by bringing data together, standardising metadata and analysing data in more integrated ways (including through the use of data linkage) to inform important policy and research issues. This is an internet only publication, so click on the link to view the [Final Report](#) (AIHW catalogue number: AGE 59).

DO YOU WANT TO BE INVOLVED?

Type 2 Diabetes, Cardiovascular Disease and Complementary Therapies

If you have been diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes or cardiovascular disease (including high blood pressure, controlled by medication) for more than 12 months, you may be eligible to contribute to a study on the self-management of chronic conditions and the use of complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) therapies. The study, underway at Monash University, seeks to better understand both the perspectives and needs of people with these conditions.

For further information, please contact Rachel Canaway:

Tel: (03) 9903 4507

Email: rachel.canaway@med.monash.edu.au

Web: www.camelot.monash.edu.au

Participants Needed for Electricity Pricing Focus Groups

The Social Justice Initiative at the University of Melbourne is seeking people on low incomes, pensioners, and people with health related electricity needs to participate in focus groups on potential changes to electricity pricing following the rollout of smart electricity meters. Focus groups will take place across four states in October.

http://www.healthnews.infoxchange.net.au/news/detail.html?filename_num=290862

Do You Use Physiotherapy Services or Chiropractic Services?

Would you like to be involved in a symposium for the development of good practice evidence based models for physiotherapists and chiropractors? The Monash Institute of Health Services Research is looking for consumers who would be happy to record their stories of using physiotherapy services or chiropractic services. These stories will then be presented to allied health professionals in the form of a podcast as part of symposium to be held in 2010.

If you are interested or would like further information, please contact Denise O'Connor or Matthew Page:

Tel: 1300 798 527

Email: denise.oconnor@med.monash.edu.au
matthew.page@med.monash.edu.au

NEW ON OUR WEBSITE

Key note presentation, Richard Davis, Vice President for Innovation and Patient Safety, Johns Hopkins Medicine's 7th Australasian Conference on Safety and Quality in Health Care 2009

"we want you to create a revolution.... Here at Hopkins and we want to become and we will become the safest place to receive care in the world, it will become our number one priority everything else will be second to that... Come back Wednesday morning and tell us what you are gong to do ... it was 7.04... they said any questions... we said no... we walked out we looked at each other and we said its 7.15 is it too early to have a beer."

[Key note podcast from the 7th Australasian Conference on Safety and Quality in Health Care- Richard Davis](#)

Enabling Consumers, Carers and Community Members to have their say- National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission Report

The Commonwealth government is planning a major reform of the Australian health system. The Prime Minister and Minister for Health have been visiting hospitals around Australia to consult on the 123 recommendations in the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission Report.

As a consumer health organisation we believe that the government needs a number of consultation mechanisms with a number of different groups to ensure that they capture the diverse views of consumers, carers and community members.

We would like to provide feedback to the Federal Government from a consumer perspective. Please take a few minutes to provide your perspective on a number of key recommendations.

This survey should take between 15-20 minutes to complete. This survey will close on Friday, 16 October 2009. If you would like a hard copy of this survey please call Assunta Morrone 03 9479 3520

[Start your survey](#)

[Final Report of the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission – June 2009](#)

NEW RESOURCES

Victorians Participate in Health

New resources, web links and practice examples added for October 2009-
Health Literacy

Health Issues Centre with funding from the Department of Health maintains and provides a webpage which contains information about consumer participation in health. Documents focus on resources - key relevant policy documents, examples of participation in practice, and research on consumer participation.

[New Resources added for October 2009-Health Literacy](#)

Victorian good practice example- Northern Health

One of the ways that Northern Health celebrates Community and Consumer Participation is through an annual Community Participation Week. Since 2005, five Community and Consumer Participation Weeks have been conducted which have provided a platform for staff education about consumer and community participation. This has demonstrated Northern Health's commitment to the relevance and importance of involving consumers across the different levels of participation.

[Victorian good practice example- Northern Health](#)

WorkWelfareWills

WorkWelfareWills is a plain English web guide to legal issues around health and life changes. It was produced for use in Victoria only as some of the laws will be different in other states of Australia. Chronic illnesses bring about lifestyle changes. This resource was designed by the [Chronic Illness Alliance](#) to help people with a chronic illness, their families and advisors, to make informed decisions about the future. To check out the website for more information, follow the link:

<http://www.chronicillness.org.au/workwelfarewills/>

To subscribe or unsubscribe to eNews, contact Souzi Markos:

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