



## Media release

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## Leadership in health: joint congress announced with call for abstracts

Empowering health managers with the right skills and tools is our best bet to achieve much-needed change. This is reflected in the theme for one of Australia's largest joint healthcare conferences in 2015.

'Health leadership: odds-on favourite' is the theme for this year's congress jointly organised by the Australasian College of Health Service Management (ACHSM) and Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS). It will run from 28 to 30 October in Melbourne in the lead-up to Derby Day and the Melbourne Cup.

This event is the peak annual health management professional meeting offered across the Australasian health sector. It brings together health leaders from across Australia and the Asia-Pacific region.

The program will include the following confirmed headline speakers (and more):

- Eric de Rodenbeke (Director General of the International Hospital Federation)
- Chris Ham (CEO King's Fund)
- Associate Prof Munjed Al Muedris (Sydney orthopaedic surgeon and author of *Walking Free*)
- Christopher Rex (CEO of one of Australia's largest private healthcare companies, Ramsay Health)

ACHSM Chief Executive Officer Catherine Chaffey said the chosen theme challenged everyone in health today.

'Health has to lead from the front and invest in one of its strongest resources – its leaders and managers – to be able to face its many hurdles,' Mrs Chaffey said.

'Strong leadership is a must to control any race, and it is vital that our leaders in health get the support they need. Health is not an either-way bet.'

ACHS CEO Dr Christine Dennis reinforced the message while praising the new ACHSM/ACHS collaboration.

'We are delighted that the ACHS, Australia's largest healthcare accreditation provider, can partner with the ACHSM to make this year's congress an even larger event in attendance,' Dr Dennis said.

'Together, we have chosen a theme that challenges everyone in healthcare today.'

The ACHSM and ACHS are now inviting abstract submissions, and successful abstract authors will be notified by 30 June 2015. Abstracts can be submitted through the following link:

<https://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=achsm2015>

Last year's Congress attracted nearly 400 delegates from across the Asia-Pacific region and high-profile speakers and panellists such as Q&A journalist Tony Jones, The Impossible Institute President and CEO Dan Gregory, Senator Nick Xenophon.

To know more about the Congress, visit [achsm.org.au/congress](http://achsm.org.au/congress).

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