



Media release

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Out of the barriers: health leadership congress early bird registrations now open

Strong, supported leadership is critical for healthcare managers and executives to meet their many deliverables and ensure patient safety. With this in mind, one of Australia's largest joint healthcare conferences in 2015 has chosen leadership in health as its theme.

Early bird registrations are now open for the joint Asia-Pacific Health leadership: odds-on favourite congress organised by the Australasian College of Health Service Management (ACHSM) and the Australian Council of Healthcare Standards (ACHS), to run from 28 to 30 October in Melbourne in the lead-up to Derby Day and the Melbourne Cup.

There are only 200 early bird registrations available.

ACHSM Chief Executive Officer Catherine Chaffey said the congress would examine the vital role of leadership in underpinning the delivery of excellent healthcare.

'The stakes are high as there is so much invested in having the right leadership focusing on the right objectives, that we can't afford to get it wrong,' Mrs Chaffey said.

ACHS CEO Dr Christine Dennis said there are often no second chances at getting things right.

'Whether it is leadership styles, characteristics or competencies, there are incredibly high expectations on today's leaders with an inexhaustible supply of constant demands to test every facet of leadership,' Dr Dennis said.

Confirmed conference speakers who have much to say on leadership and where it needs to go in the future include:

- Professor Chris Ham CBE (CEO King's Fund)
- Prof Fiona Wood, world-leading plastic surgery pioneer
- Dr Eric de Roodenbeke (Director General of the International Hospital Federation)
- Assoc Prof Munjed Al Muderis (Sydney osseointegration surgeon and author of *Walking Free*)
- Mr Christopher Rex (CEO of one of Australia's largest private healthcare companies, Ramsay Health)

- Ms Diane Smith-Gander, Chairman of Transfield Services

There will be 35 concurrent sessions on a range of leadership, performance and engagement topics, as well as a number of plenary sessions, with diverse topics covering a CEO Masterclass and a workshop on managing conflict in the workplace.

'The topics we are covering are directly relevant to how a manager or executive needs to approach their responsibilities with leadership to ensure they are well prepared and have knowledge across arrange of areas,' Mrs Chaffey said.

To know more about the Congress and register, visit achsm.org.au/congress.

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