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MEDIA RELEASE



ACHS International Medal now open for nominations

Nominations for the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS) International Medal 2015, which acknowledges the input of an individual working at an international level in health, are now open for entries.

The medal – first offered in 2014 when ACHS celebrated its 40th birthday anniversary - will be awarded to recognise a valuable contribution to ACHS' growing success.

The ACHS International Medal follows the tradition of the long-time ACHS Medal and also seeks to recognise an outstanding contribution by a person to improving quality and safety in health services, but at an international level. The ACHS International Medal will be awarded to a non-Australian working in a country where ACHS International continues the work of ACHS.

ACHS Chief Executive Officer Dr Christine Dennis said that ACHS realised that there was an expectation overseas that the ACHS International Medal would continue beyond 2014, and that it was important for ACHS to recognise those contributions that had helped to shape ACHS' broader success internationally.

“Through our subsidiary ACHSI we have extended an extensive footprint throughout 18 countries where the ACHS model of accreditation – and our accreditation program - EQUiP5 – has been adopted and recognised as a highly successful way of delivering healthcare accreditation,” she said.

“We are fortunate to be working with many, many talented and influential people in a range of health jurisdictions overseas who recognise the value of accreditation and continue to fly the ACHS flag. There have been some significant contributions made to improving the development of quality in health care overseas and we wish to honour this by awarding the ACHS International Medal to ensure suitable recognition.

Nominees for the ACHSI Medal will need to demonstrate any or all of the following commitments to quality and safety in an international context:-

- Substantial achievement on research into quality and safety of health systems;
- Distinguished leadership in quality practices sustained;
- Outstanding achievement in maintaining a continuous quality improvement focus in health care delivery systems; or
- Outstanding achievement in the promotion of quality in health care.

The closing date for nominations and completed forms is Friday 18 September, 2015. Details about eligibility and the nomination enrolment form are on the ACHS website at www.achs.org.au/about-us/honours-and-awards/achs-medal/. The ACHSI Medal will be presented on Thursday 29 October at the ACHS/ACHSM Joint Asia Pacific Congress to be held in Melbourne, where the ACHS Medal will also be announced.

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