

MEDIA RELEASE

ACHS Medal awarded to Surveyor Stalwart Rosemary Snodgrass

The Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS) has today awarded its prestigious ACHS Medal 2017 to longstanding ACHS surveyor and highly experienced nurse Ms Rosemary Snodgrass.

In presenting the award, ACHS President Professor Len Notaras, AM said “The Board of ACHS are delighted to present this award to Rosemary Snodgrass who is highly-regarded for her enormous achievements in improving quality and safety in healthcare.”

“With nearly a lifetime’s works as a nurse, and as a lead ACHS accreditation surveyor for 24 years, Rosemary has generously shared her passion for continuous quality improvement across all states and territories of Australia. Numerous healthcare organisations have experienced Rosemary’s quietly-spoken but determined influence in ensuring staff are given concrete educational examples to improve both theirs, and their patient’s experiences.”

“By imparting her knowledge gained firsthand from around the country she has shared a wealth of wisdom and practical knowledge that can’t just can’t be ascribed to learning from a textbook.” Professor Notaras said.

Rosemary’s nomination was based on meeting three of the Award’s criteria, namely: 1) distinguished leadership in quality practices, 2) outstanding achievement in maintaining a continuous improvement focus and 3) achievements in the promotion of quality in healthcare.

“Rosemary’s calmness and friendliness has been her trademark tool, and it is testament to the esteem she is held in by the number of people who will quote something she said from years ago, as an invaluable piece of advice,” said ACHS CEO Dr Christine Dennis.

“As a ‘quiet achiever’ Rosemary’s successful career can be measured not only in the high-profile positions she has held (including the Director of Nursing for Royal North Shore Hospital in the 1990s, and more recently as ACHS Surveyor Workforce Manager), but the lasting impact she has had in driving quality and safety improvements that have made a real difference.”

“The awarding of the ACHS Medal recognises the outstanding contribution from an individual and Rosemary Snodgrass’s career achievements personify a professional-team approach that is genuinely an inspiration to many,” said Dr Dennis.

The ACHS Medal 2017 was presented at the ACHS – ACHSM Joint Asia-Pacific Health Leadership Congress at the Hilton Sydney.

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