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MEDIA RELEASE

ACHS partners with IHI-BMJ for International Forum on Quality & Safety in Healthcare

Connect. Co-Create. Communicate.

The Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS) is delighted to partner with international health leaders the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) and the British Medical Journal (BMJ) to co-present Australia's largest international health conference in September 2018.

With a strong focus on improving patient care, the theme of '*Connect. Co-Create. Communicate.*' will energise those working to improve the quality and safety of health care.

To be held at the Melbourne Conference and Exhibition Centre from 10-12 September, the Forum will bring together more than 1,000 healthcare practitioners to listen to industry leaders from over 35 countries.

"We are proud to be partnering with IHI – BMJ who both individually have rich histories of leading quality improvements in health, and who together have a strong reputation internationally for some of the most progressive health conferences," said Dr Christine Dennis, ACHS CEO.

"The International Forum on Quality & Safety in Healthcare conference is recognised as *the* Forum to attend in 2018 and it will be the largest global gathering of healthcare improvers in Australia," she said.

The program will focus on how supporting connections between patients, frontline staff and management leads to a culture of collaboration where everyone in a workforce is empowered to make a difference. Another area that will be explored is how, through the use of effective communication, ideas can be translated into global improvements in patient care.

Key highlights include:

- Keynotes from influential figures in the quality improvement landscape as well as perspectives from other industries
- More than 40 sessions with presenters from across the world
- Skill-based training workshops with internationally-renowned experts in quality improvement
- Networking: make new connections and begin work on future collaborations with delegates.

Keynote speakers include:

Donald M Berwick MD, MPP, President Emeritus and Senior Fellow, Institute for Healthcare Improvement; Former Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; USA. Recognised as a global authority on health care quality and improvement, he is the author/co-author of 160+ scientific articles and five books, and lecturer at Harvard Medical School.

Derek Feeley is IHI's Executive Vice President and drives strategy across core focus areas; Patient Safety; Patient and Family Centred Care; Quality, Cost and Value; Population Health; and Improvement Capability.

Gary Kaplan, Chairman and CEO, Virginia Mason Health System; USA. His leadership at Virginia Mason has been recognised by Harvard Business School as a standard-setting approach to improving cost and quality; and is one of the most influential physician executives in health care.

Visit: <https://internationalforum.bmj.com/melbourne/> for more information

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