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## MEDIA RELEASE

### ACHS's 21<sup>st</sup> Quality Improvement Award Winners Announced

Two submissions were the tied winners in one of the three categories in the 21<sup>st</sup> annual ACHS Quality Improvement Awards announced in Sydney last night.

Melbourne Health VIC and Hunter New England Local Health District (HNELHD), NSW both tied, and along with Marie Stopes Australia and South Western Sydney Local Health District, NSW each took out an award, demonstrating their leadership status as innovators in different aspects of healthcare.

ACHS Executive Director of Customer Services and Development Ms Linda O'Connor presented the awards in three categories – Clinical Excellence and Patient Safety, Non-Clinical Service Delivery and Healthcare Measurement.

Melbourne Health VIC and Hunter New England Local Health District (HNELHD), NSW both won the **Clinical Excellence and Patient Safety Award** for their *"Think sepsis. Act fast"* and *'Police Ambulance Early Access to Mental Health Assessment VIA Tele health (PAEAMHATH)'* submissions, respectively.

The **Non-Clinical Service Delivery Award** was won by Marie Stopes Australia for their *'Improving the patient experience'*.

South Western Sydney Local Health District, NSW took out the **Healthcare Measurement Award** for their *'PROMPT-Care: eHealth facilitating timely person-centred care to every cancer patient'* submission created by the Liverpool Cancer Therapy Centre, Centre for Oncology Education and research Translation (CONCERT) Psycho-oncology Research Group.

Ms O'Connor said the record number of entries this year demonstrated the widespread value attached to developing patient safety and quality projects in healthcare. "The judges were very impressed both with the volume and quality of entries," she said.

"Each of the winners has demonstrated an area of improvement in health and delivered a valuable project which shows measurable results that are already impacting on patients or staff."

"It is fitting that in the 21<sup>st</sup> year the challenges being undertaken are in mostly highly complex environments where the issue of safety could easily run second to getting outcomes and results," Ms O'Connor said.

"It is very satisfying to see the effort being made to bring about workable and effective solutions that will ultimately benefit patient care," she said.

The QI Awards were presented last night at the Park Royal Hotel, Sydney.

**For further information, please contact: Ian McManus, Marketing and Communications Manager on (02) 8218 2743 or 04111 59951 for more information. To obtain a copy of the [Quality Initiatives – Entries in the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual ACHS Quality Improvement Awards 2018](#) publication, contact Dr Mark Burgess on +61 2 8218 2776 or [mburgess@achs.org.au](mailto:mburgess@achs.org.au)**

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