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MEDIA RELEASE

Dr Karen Luxford appointed new ACHS CEO

The Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS) is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Karen Luxford as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Dr Luxford joins the ACHS from the Royal Australasian College of Dental Surgeons where as CEO she has led a new strategic direction, improved member benefits, governance changes, new partnerships, hospital training, site accreditation and international partnerships.

Formerly at the Clinical Excellence Commission as Acting CEO and Executive Director, Dr Luxford led strategic approaches to improving quality and safety in healthcare.

Dr Luxford comes to the role with 20+ years of experience in senior executive leadership in health, strategic planning, governance, stakeholder and government relations, safety and quality, professional standards, research, communication strategies and media.

She has worked closely with a broad range of health professionals, health service executives, governments and consumers throughout her career, led nation-wide programs and held leadership roles resulting in business growth.

Dr Luxford has held a range of senior executive leadership roles in health including GM of the National Breast and Ovarian Cancer Centre. Dr Luxford is a Graduate of the AICD, a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management and of ISQua. She was a Harkness Fellow in 2008/2009.

ACHS President Prof. Len Notaras AM said “Dr Luxford’s appointment follows an extensive and impressive competitive search process,” he said.

“Karen’s strong leadership ‘track record’ will further energise ACHS and contribute to the ongoing growth of the organisation which for more than four decades has asserted its importance in the local healthcare arena.”

“I would further take this opportunity to acknowledge the professionalism, innovation and tireless commitment of our retiring CEO Dr Christine Dennis, and thank her for her invaluable contribution over the last five years”.

Dr Luxford said “I am greatly looking forward to progressing the strategic direction of the ACHS as it reassures the public of safety and quality in healthcare. I am delighted to be working with all stakeholders, members and staff to ensure the ACHS delivers services of the highest quality in Australia and globally through ACHS International.”

Dr Luxford will take up the CEO role on 22 July 2019.

For further information, please contact Ian McManus on (02) 8218 2743 or m 04111 59941.