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MEDIA RELEASE

Prestigious ISQua accreditation for ACHS

Following an independent assessment by The International Society for Quality in Health Care (ISQua) in October last year, ACHS received the exciting news this week we have maintained our ISQua accreditation for another four years.

ACHS has achieved an outstanding result in the ISQua International Accreditation Programme according to the ISQua surveyors. Only two formal recommendations were made in the surveyor's assessment of ACHS against the International Standards for Healthcare External Evaluation Organisations, 3rd Edition.

Addressing ACHS staff at the summation conference back in October, ISQua accreditor Tricia Doré said at the time that "It is highly unusual for an organisation such as ACHS to receive only minimal recommendations, with a small number of improvements to consider, and this is a commendable reflection on the organisation."

"We have been very impressed with the level of improving quality across the six Standards, and the number of improvements that have been made in the organisation since the last survey."

Ms Doré also praised ACHS staff commitment to quality improvement, stating that the results of the survey were a reflection of the organisation's approach to teamwork.

To be an approved accreditor for the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care's (ACSQHC) National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Standards, ACHS is required to be accredited with an international accreditor.

"As Australia's largest healthcare accreditor, it is important for us to set a high standard when it comes to accreditation, and a lot of work has been undertaken over the last four years to ensure there has been continuous quality improvement in what we provide to our members," ACHS Acting Chief Executive Dr Lena Low said.

"We were delighted with the early advice given by the surveyors and then having this recently confirmed with the full report from ISQua, written and approved by the ISQua Board."

The organisational assessment to the ISQua standards takes place every four years. ACHS will now address the actions it will undertake to meet the two recommendations.

Media information: Ian McManus, Communications Manager on 02 8218 2743