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MEDIA RELEASE

Nominations now open for the first ever ACHS Group Medal

For the first time in its history, the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS) will be awarding its ACHS Medal to a group in 2014, as part of its 40th birthday anniversary celebrations.

The ACHS Group Medal seeks to recognise an outstanding contribution by a group to improving quality and safety in Australian health services, in recognition of the importance of group work in health care.

ACHS President Adjunct Associate Professor Karen Linegar said that ACHS is delighted to extend the award to capture the many group projects and undertakings that are performed both locally and internationally which previously have not been eligible to enter.

“The ACHS Board were keen to include the many group efforts which take place in health care and recognise the strong contribution groups make,” she said.

“The honour, which is now in its 21st year, means that the ACHS Group Medal 2014 will acknowledge the contemporary excellence in quality and performance that is achieved through group efforts.”

“Our surveyors tell us they are acutely aware of the number of high quality standards safety and quality projects they come across while on survey and that many would be suitable for higher recognition.” Adjunct Associate Prof Linegar said.

The ACHS Group Medal Winners will demonstrate any or all of the following commitments to quality and safety;-

- Substantial achievement on research into quality and safety of health systems;
- Distinguished leadership in quality practices sustained;
- Outstanding achievement in maintaining a continuous quality improvement focus in health care delivery systems; or
- Outstanding achievement in the promotion of quality in health care.

The closing date for nominations and completed forms is Thursday 31 July, 2014. To find out more about eligibility and to fill out a nomination enrolment form, go to the ACHS website at www.achs.org.au/about-us/honours-and-awards/achs-medal/

The ACHS Group Medal will be presented on Tuesday 9 September at ACHS' annual conference in Sydney.

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