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Safety Quality Performance

MEDIA RELEASE

Australasian Clinical Indicator Report for 2006 – 2013 released

Australia's most statistically-detailed national Clinical Indicator report with expert commentary analysis on the overall performance of 731 healthcare organisations (HCOs) for the last eight years has been released in Sydney today.

The *Australasian Clinical Indicator Report 2006 – 2013 (15th edition)*, published by the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS), presents a rich analysis of healthcare performance in Australia.

ACHS President, Adjunct Associate Professor Karen Linegar said this report presents an overview of the ongoing changes in levels of performance in 2013 for the 415 public and 316 private HCOs who contributed almost 30,500 data submissions to present an overview on their performance.

"With the improved level of contributing HCOs from 690 in 2012 to 731 in 2013, this has ensured we have an even stronger statistical base," she said.

"ACHS are delighted with the strong responses from over 40 medical colleges, specialist societies and health associations who have demonstrated their support for the ACHS' Clinical Indicator Program that builds an aggregate picture to illustrate where improvement has occurred, and most importantly, where the potential for future improvement lies."

"Developed by clinicians, for clinicians, the 22 sets of Clinical Indicators (CIs) that contain nearly 300 rate-based indicators are an invaluable tool to encourage the recording of current individual performance and from this build an aggregate view of where the entire group of HCOs stands, to reveal where the different performance levels lie."

Notable improving trends over the eight year period include:

- Hospital Infection Control - major attempts to reduce infections are working with the significant decline in infection rates over the last eight years,
- Emergency Department triage goals. The proportion of patients seen within the recommended time in all Triage categories has improved over the last eight years, with categories 2 – 5 reaching their highest level in 2013,
- A strong increase in the proportion of pregnant women receiving an appropriate prophylactic antibiotic when delivering going from 64% in 2008 (start of data collection) to 92.5% in 2013,
- Radiation Oncology waiting times exceeding 14 days have improved from 36% to 28%.

Notable deteriorations, where the potential to make improvements exist are:

- The rate of mental health admitted patients whose total ED exceeded 4 hours increased from 44% to 55%.
- Seclusion of mental health patients deteriorates further with inpatients having seclusion for more than four hours is now 50%, an increase from 40% in 2006,
- The rate for inpatients admitted with pressure injuries has increased substantially from 0.8% in 2007 to 0.49% in 2013.

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