



Day Hospitals
A U S T R A L I A



Year in Review 2022

Day Hospitals Australia continues to provide advocacy, representation and support for members to ensure the relevancy and sustainability of the sector. We are proud to share this summary of activities and achievements from 2022.

CLINICAL WORKFORCE PROJECT

A workforce project was implemented in 2022 to engage with University nursing schools across Australia, by providing an opening for clinical placement of student nurses and opportunities for graduate nurses in Day Hospitals.

COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION


- ACHS Council and ACHS Day Surgery Indicators and Standards Committee
- ACSQHC Partnering with Consumers
- ACSQHC Patient Centred Reporting Steering Committee
- ACSQHC Private Hospitals Sector Committee
- ACSQHC PROMs Expert Advisory Group
- Australian Ethical Health Alliance Steering Committee
- Clinical Categories Review Committee
- Department of Health / Finity Focus Group on PHI incentives
- Hospital Case Mix Protocol and Private Hospital Data Bureau Working Group
- Independent Hospital Pricing Authority (IHPA) committee on PL reform

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COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION (CONTINUED)

- International Association of Ambulatory Surgery
- National Procedure Banding Committee
- New Private Hospital & DPC Regulations, Victoria
- Ophthalmology Implementation Liaison Group
- PLAC Industry Working Group on Benefit Setting & Review Framework Standards Australia committees
- Private Hospitals Consultation Forum and Private Hospital Consultation Working Group
- Protheses List Advisory Committee, PLAC
- Standards Australia Committee for AS 5369

EXTERNAL PRESENTATIONS

The CEO continues to receive invitations to provide information about the sector and its future, and made the following presentations to external groups:

- WA Nursing and Midwifery Expo (February 2022)
- AMA Summit – Panel Discussion and Presentation “What are the features of a sustainable private health system” (June 2022)
- RANZCO Practice Managers Conference - Panel Discussion with the topic “Send the Eagle Home” and presentation titled "Co-Management between Practice and Hospital" (October 2022)

GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT

- Continued discussions with jurisdictional Health Departments to assist members in their understanding of the public hospital contracting process, providing relevant information on the impact of COVID 19 and support where needed
- Brian Kelleher, Assistant Secretary, Private Health Insurance Branch Medical Benefits Division of the Department of Health, has continued regular dialogue with the CEO, attended the June Board meeting and presented at the National Conference in August.
- Prior to the Federal Election in May, CEO met with both the Minister for Health and the Opposition Shadow Minister for Health’s Chief of Staff to ensure that both parties had to hand the latest information on the value proposition of the day hospital sector to the Australian health system
- CEO met with Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care, the Hon Ged Kearney and discussed the targeted position statements, current support and future potential Day Hospitals can provide to the whole of the Australian Health system. The Assistant Minister also closed the National conference in Hobart.
- Several Government Representatives attended and/or presented at the 2022 Conference, including:
 - Kathrine Morgan-Wicks, Secretary for the Tasmanian Department of Health

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GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

- Senator Anne Ruston, Federal Shadow Minister for Health and Aged Care
- The Hon. Ged Kearney, Assistant Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care
- The Hon. Greg Hunt, previous Federal Minister for Health and Aged Care
- Jurisdictional Government Representatives participated in a panel discussion at the 2022 Conference which examined strategies for ways day hospitals can assist in the reduction of the backlog of elective surgery and the role that individual specialised day hospitals and their staff can play
- CEO met with WA Shadow Minister for Health and VIC Shadow Minister for Health to discuss common issues including Ambulance Services, elective surgery back log and COVID response
- Involvement in the Ministry of Health NSW Partnering with Private Hospital Working Group in preparation for any future pandemic outbreaks
- CEO met with Deputy Secretary of Health DOHA re staffing in the Aged Care Sector and SA Health regarding back log of elective Surgery in the public sector
- CEO's continued engagement with the PHI Branch of the Department of Health

HEALTH FUND DISCUSSIONS

- Engagement with major health insurers regarding the significant advantages of the day hospital sector
- Medibank Private engaged with the CEO and Board to discuss strategies to accommodate advanced procedures in the day hospital sector
- A senior executive from BUPA approached the CEO to establish monthly meetings to discuss similar strategies
- Bupa and Medibank Private Health Insurers have met with the Board on a couple of occasions to advance the conversation, with further meetings planned for early 2023

INDUSTRY GROUP ENGAGEMENT

- Day Hospitals Australia continues to work with the Medical Societies and Colleges including, ASO, AOA, ASPS, ACD, and RACS (including some of the state bodies) on issues impacting the private hospital sector
- Engagement has continued with the AMA on many issues, including a presentation at the AMA Summit and discussions relating to the private health insurance reforms.
- Dialogue has continued with Australian Private Hospitals Association, Catholic Health Australia on issues impacting the private hospital sector as a whole, such as workforce, impact of the pandemic, PHI reforms and recently concerns expressed to Minister Butler in regard to the Medibank cyber-attack and future patient data collection.
- PHA, the larger PHIs and MTAA on PHI reform and more particularly prostheses list reform.
- Communication has continued with consumer groups COTA and CHF

MEDIA

- Day Hospitals Australia’s CEO has participated in media interviews and news articles to discuss the day hospital sector including Sunrise, 4BC Brisbane, 94.7FM Geelong, Channel 9 Perth, 6PR882 Perth, ABC Adelaide, 2GB Sydney and 3AW Victoria to name a few
- CEO took part in a “Meet the Media” event which brings the decision-makers/producers of media current affairs and news programs together with the experts and leaders of industry to better understand each other and what the media are looking for from these industry experts.

MEMBER SUPPORT

- Ongoing support for members and distribution of critical updates from the various jurisdictions
- Distribution of critical updates through a dedicated COVID-19 page on our website and the Google Group which allowed direct communication between members and has proved to be an excellent resource on many issues
- Chapters have continued to embrace Zoom technology for Virtual meetings which has enabled the CEO to attend all meetings and provide detailed updates to each State / Territory Chapter
- SAI Global Standards Subscriptions continued to be offered, and new subscription to the Therapeutic Guidelines available for members at discounted rates
- Day Hospitals Australia staff assisted with rostering members’ staff in COVID Vaccination Hubs in South Australia
- CEO roadshows to meet with members and non-members in ACT, QLD and NSW

MEMBERS ARE KEPT INFORMED THROUGH:

- Chapter meetings held by video conference
- Critical email updates
- Google Group messages
- LinkedIn and Facebook pages
- Online Surveys
- Group member teleconferences
- Taskforce updates
- Weekly Bulletins
- Website: dayhospitalsaustralia.net.au

MEMBERSHIP

- Recognised as the national Peak Body for the day hospital sector and continues to represent 72% of the day hospital sector across Australia
- Ongoing key focus on member benefits to offer cost-effective services and solutions to members
- Free Information webinar for members relating to workforce and international recruitment
- Discounted Institutional Therapeutic Guidelines for members.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

- Almost 400 delegates, sponsors, trade exhibitors, invited guests and speakers attended the 2022 Day Hospitals Australia National Conference in Hobart which was our largest ever conference, and enjoyed a fantastic education and networking opportunity
- Delegates were able to gain insight from speakers including Kurt Fearnley, Dr Richard Harris, Michelle Bibby, Simon Coupe, Norman Swan, Adele Creighton, Brian Kelleher, Camille Wilson, and the Hon Greg Hunt
- International guests shared their knowledge of same day surgery in Europe and the USA and 28 speakers and panel hosts took part in five Panel Discussions held to explore Solutions for the Future, Healthcare worker shortages, A collaboration to provide solutions for sustainability, Insights into International Day Surgeries and Accreditation Hacks

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

- Pharmaceutical & Consumables (Brand's Surgical Supply)
- Insurance (Mediprotect)
- Medical Gases & Respiratory Care (Air Liquide Healthcare)
- Energy solutions (Sustainable Energy Solutions)
- Benchmarking Services (QPS Benchmarking)
- Online Staff Training (Turrell Multimedia)
- Workforce and International Recruitment Specialists (EDUmark)
- IT Support (Tecnic Group)
- Online Subscriptions Service (SAI-Global)
- Therapeutic Guidelines Subscription
- Qantas Club Corporate Membership (Qantas)
- New Corporate Sponsorship Agreements signed with Mediprotect and Macquarie Bank
- New initiatives for Industry Members: Virtual Chapter Meeting sponsorship and digital advertising on the Day Hospitals Australia Website and e-bulletin

POSITION STATEMENTS

- Day Hospitals Australia worked with an external consultant to produce targeted Position Statements for Government, Private Health Insurers, Specialist medical practitioners and Day Hospitals Australia members
- These papers outline how day hospitals can reduce private health insurance costs and consequently the need to disrupt the current paradigm to ensure the sustainability of both the private and public health systems
- The CEO continues to meet with Government and Industry representatives to discuss these papers in detail

PROSTHESES LIST REFORMS

- Involved in the ongoing consultation process for Prostheses List Reforms
- CEO met with the Medical Technology Association of Australia and ongoing engagement with CHA, APHA and the Department of Health
- The new contract between MTAA and the Federal Government resulted in improved percentage reduction in prostheses pricing because of collaborative lobbying by the peak industry private hospital bodies, including Day Hospitals Australia
- Submissions to Prostheses List Reforms with responses to all Prostheses List Reforms consultations the most recent being the bundling proposal for general use items to be removed from the prostheses list

STRATEGIC PLAN 2021 - 2024

- Continued work on the Day Hospitals Australia Strategic Plan for 2021 - 2024 to increase awareness of the benefits offered by day hospitals to assist in reducing costs and maintain a strong and viable dual health system.

SUBMISSIONS AND ADVOCACY

- Submission in response to the Ernst and Young consultation paper on Private Health Insurance Default Benefit Arrangements
- A member focus group was established in May 2022 with representatives from various areas of the day hospitals sector. This group met with representatives of Ernst and Young, who were engaged by the DOHA for default benefit reform, to discuss the importance and ongoing issues of the second-tier default benefit to the day hospital sector
- Letter of Support provided to BIENCO Project - Australia Corneal Bioengineering: Novel Therapies to Fight Blindness
- Submission to MBS Review Taskforce on Final report on the review of Ophthalmology MBS items
- Submission to AHPRA to review regulation of medical practitioners who perform cosmetic surgery
- Submission to the Federal Government Health Minister regarding Proposed treatment location for intravitreal injections
- Submissions to both the Federal Minister for Health and the Commonwealth Department of Health on issues such as default benefit and prostheses list reform
- Submission on the draft of AS5369: Reprocessing of reusable medical devices and other devices in health and non-health related facilities
- Feedback provided on ACSQHC Short Notice Assessments
- Correspondence expressing concerns to President of RACS regarding elective surgery restrictions
- ACSQHC public consultation on Sustainable Healthcare Module
- PL Reforms - Consultation paper 4(b) Exposure drafts for legislative amendments

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SUBMISSIONS AND ADVOCACY (CONTINUED)

- PL Publish Discovery Health Products Portal – the CEO and members attended a workshop in relation to the development of a portal.
- Consultation submission re bundling arrangements for general use items on Protheses list.
- Day Hospitals Australia provided feedback on the AMA’s proposed private health system authority.

SURVEYS

- Member Surveys were conducted to ensure that Day Hospitals Australia continues to understand members needs:
 - Our bi-annual member survey in early 2022 aimed to identify challenges being faced in relation to workforce shortages, what type of data facilities require to assist them in the management of their facilities, including their negotiations with health insurers, training and development needs, procurement of prostheses and ability to support in graduate and clinical nurse placements. A similar survey was conducted with delegates at the 2022 Conference
 - The Industry Partner Survey asked members to provide feedback on the services provided by Day Hospitals Australia partnership agreements
 - The Chapter Meeting Survey helped us to understand the things we are doing well, where we can improve and what’s important to members.

WEBINAR FOR MEMBERS

- In November Day Hospitals Australia and our Industry Partner EDUMark hosted a webinar to provide members with information about accessing domestic and international skilled workforce sources, attracting and retaining talent from onshore and offshore sources, developing international and domestic labour pipelines, linking to international talent in Australia and forming links with educators and staff retention

WEBSITE - NEW FEATURES

- Interactive chat allowing users to talk directly to a staff member or leave a message
- Locate your local day hospital by postcode / radius using the ‘Find a Member’ feature
- Chapter meeting agendas and minutes now online
- Regulation & Legislation updates now available for members

Thank you

for your ongoing support!