



Day Hospitals  
AUSTRALIA



# Year in Review 2023

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 2023.

## ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES

- New Membership Class – Associate Member
- New Chapter – Tasmania
- New VIC Member Director – Sarah Walsh
- New TAS Chapter Chair – Fiona Svamvur
- New VIC Chapter Chair – Michelle Bibby
- SAI Global Standards Subscription for members
- Therapeutic Guidelines at discounted rates
- Retained the option for membership fees to be paid in two six monthly instalments
- Virtual AGM – allowing members nationally to attend
- Appointment of Sophie Stokes as Day Hospitals Australia Chief Operating Officer
- PHI Negotiations and Accreditation Member Webinars



[info@dayhospitalsaustralia.net.au](mailto:info@dayhospitalsaustralia.net.au)



1800 752 822



[www.dayhospitalsaustralia.net.au](http://www.dayhospitalsaustralia.net.au)



[linkedin.com/company/day-hospitals-australia/](https://linkedin.com/company/day-hospitals-australia/)

## CLINICAL WORKFORCE PROJECT

The Day Hospitals Australia Clinical Workforce Project continues to engage with university nursing schools across Australia, by providing opportunities for clinical placement of student nurses and graduate nurses in Day Hospitals.

## COMMITTEE REPRESENTATION

- ACHS Council and ACHS Day Surgery Indicators and Standards Committee
- *New Rep!* ACHS Ophthalmic Clinical Indicator Working Group
- ACSQHC Partnering with Consumers
- *New Rep!* ACSQHC Cosmetic Surgery Project Advisory Committee
- 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
- Clinical Categories Review Committee
- Department of Health / EY Focus Group on PHI incentives
- Hospital Case Mix Protocol and Private Hospital Data Bureau Working Group
- International Association of Ambulatory Surgery National Procedure Banding Committee
- National Procedure Banding Committee
- New Private Hospital & DPC Regulations, Victoria Ophthalmology Implementation Liaison Group
- *New Rep!* Private Hospitals Consultation Forum Representative
- POC Complex manufacturing hubs in private health facilities working group on POC Manufacturing of Medical Devices
- Private Hospital Consultation Working Group
- Stakeholders working group on Prostheses List reform
- Standards Australia Committee for AS5369

## EXTERNAL PRESENTATIONS & MEETINGS

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

- Morgan Stanley Discussion on the Pandemic 3 years On - (May 2023)
- SA Perioperative Nurse Conference (September 2023)
- RANZCO Practice Managers Congress (October 2023)

The CEO also attended:

- IAAS General Assembly Meeting (online April 2023)
- AMA Private Health System Reform Workshop (October 2023)
- PHI Reform Consultation and Information Sessions
- Prostheses List Reform meetings with the Department of Health
- Briefings with all 36 speakers and panel members prior to the Day Hospitals Australia Conference

## GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT

The CEO continues to meet with jurisdictional Health Ministers and Health Departments discussing Day Hospitals Australia viability document and the opportunities available in the day hospital sector for outsourcing public work to ease the elective surgery backlog across Australia.

The CEO held meetings with:

- The Hon Mark Butler MP, Minister for Health and Aged Care
- Minister Butler also visited 3 day hospitals members at the Tennyson Centre, SA in June 2023
- Hon Ged Kearny MP, Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care
- ACSQHC meeting re National Standards for Day Hospitals
- Anne Baggoley, Director of Planned Care, SA Health
- Billy Moore, Minister Butler's Private Health Advisor - monthly meetings
- Brian Keller, Assistant Secretary, Department of Health and Aged Care - regular meetings
- Chris Picton, SA Minister for Health
- Dale Leggett, Policy Advisor for the Leader of the Opposition in WA
- Dale Webster, Deputy Secretary, Tasmanian Department of Health
- Department of Health, PHA and peak bodies to discuss proposals on GUs removal from PL
- Health Policy Panel with Libby Mettam, WA Shadow Minister for Health
- Jamie Snashall, PL Reform Advisor, Minister Butler
- Julianne Gilbert, Assistant Minister for Health, Queensland
- Margaret Banks, Director, ACSQHC
- Matthew McLean, NSW Minister for Health's Chief of Staff
- Monique Dyer, Victorian Health Service Facilitation Regulation
- Paul McBride, Acting Deputy Secretary, Strategy Evidence and Research Group, Department of Health and Aged Care
- Peta Tsindos, Project Officer and Cameron Haig, Policy Officer, Child Safety
- SA Health Protection and Licensing Team

## HEALTH FUND ENGAGEMENT

Engagement with major health insurers continued regarding the significant advantages of the day hospital sector. The CEO met with:

- Matthew Koce, CEO, Members Health Fund Alliance
- Luke Cameron, CEO, St Lukes Private Health Insurance
- Dr Daniel Heredia, Executive General Manager Health, HBF
- Andrew Sando, CEO, Australian Health Service Alliance
- David Du Plessis, PHI Industry Expert
- Andrew Roma, Head of Provider Strategy & Proposition, Medibank
- Sharon Nadioo, Head of Healthcare Funding, Medibank
- Milosh Milisavljevic, Group Executive, Customer Portfolios, Medibank
- Dominic de Souza, Medical Engagement Specialist, Medibank
- Judith Day, Director Healthcare Management & Health Partnerships, BUPA
- Chris Carrol, Managing Director - Health Insurance - BUPA

## 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
- Various medical societies have been offered Associate Membership of Day Hospitals Australia
- Engagement has continued with the AMA on many issues, including a presentation at the AMA Summit and discussions relating to the private health insurance reform
- Dialogue has continued with Australian Private Hospitals Association, Catholic Health Australia on issues impacting the private hospital sector
- Communication has continued with consumer groups COTA and CHF, private health insurers including their peak body PHA, Members Health Fund Alliance, BUPA, Medibank Private, HCF and MTAA on PHI reform and more particularly prostheses list reform

The CEO met with:

- Bennie Ng, CEO, WA AMA
- Catherine Luckin, CEO, Australian Health & Science Academy
- Chesney O'Donnell, Manager of Policy and Advocacy, RACS
- Daniel Kildea, Director of Government Affairs and Policy, Alison Crosweller, Senior Director of Government Affairs and Policy, and Will Downey, Customer Solutions Partner, Johnson & Johnson
- Dr Michael Wright, Chief Medical Officer, Avant Law
- Dr Patrick Lo, President, RACS Victoria
- Dr Rachel David and Ben Harris, PHA attended a Board Meeting in July
- Etienne Scheepers, Executive General Manager, Fellowship Engagement, RACS
- Georgie Haysom, General Manager, Avant Law
- Michelle Philips, Relationship Manager University of Tasmania
- Miranda Grace, CEO, Practice Managers Association
- Richard Whitney, President, New Zealand Private Surgical Hospitals Association

## MEDIA

- Day Hospitals Australia's CEO has participated in media interviews and news articles to discuss the day hospital sector
- 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.
- Articles and interviews with the CEO this year included:
  - 6PR Perth – interview
  - Women's Agenda Soap Box - editorial
  - Hospital & Healthcare – editorial
  - The West Australian, Newspaper article
  - Stephen Cenatiempo, 2CC Canberra
  - Kim Napier, Northern Tasmania ABC Radio
  - Steve Price, Sky News
  - Pat Panetta, Australia Overnight 2GB Sydney and 3AW Melbourne
  - Article on day hospital nursing for the ACN Hive magazine
  - The West Australians' Ben O'Shea and Channel Sevens' Matt Tinney on The West Live

## MEMBER SUPPORT

- Ongoing support of members and distribution of critical updates from the various jurisdictions
- Distribution of critical updates through emails, the Day Hospitals Australia website, and 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
- CEO roadshows to meet with members and non-members in TAS, SA and VIC

## MEMBERS ARE KEPT INFORMED THROUGH:

- Chapter meetings held by video conference and face to face
- Critical email updates
- Google Group messages
- LinkedIn and Facebook pages
- Online Surveys
- Group member teleconferences
- Taskforce updates
- Weekly Bulletins
- Websites: [dayhospitalsaustralia.net.au](http://dayhospitalsaustralia.net.au) and [dayhospitalsaustraliaconference.com](http://dayhospitalsaustraliaconference.com)

## MEMBERSHIP

- Day Hospitals Australia is recognised as the national Peak Body for the day hospital sector and continues to represent 77% 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

- The 2023 Day Hospitals Australia National Conference in Brisbane was attended by 465 delegates, sponsors, trade exhibitors, invited guests and speakers and was our largest and most profitable conference
- Delegates enjoyed a fantastic education and networking opportunity and were able to gain insight from speakers including Lisa Curry, Dr Denise Quinlan, Dr Gareth Andrews and Dr Richard Stephenson from The Last Great First Expedition
- International guest Dr Arnie Valedon shared insight into same day surgery in the USA and 25 speakers and panel hosts took part in six Panel Discussions held to explore the conference theme - Strategies to address headwinds

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## **PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS**

### **Corporate Sponsors**

- EBOS Healthcare
- PSC Mediprotect
- SANDOZ
- Air Liquide Healthcare - Medical Gases & Respiratory Care
- Brand's Surgical Supply - Pharmaceutical & Consumables
- Energy Brokers - Energy Broker / New Industry Partner
- Qantas Club - Corporate Membership
- QPS Benchmarking - Benchmarking Services
- SAI-Global - Online Subscriptions Service
- Therapeutic Goods Institutional Subscription
- Turrell Multimedia - Online Staff Training

## **POSITION STATEMENTS**

- Day Hospitals Australia continues to distribute targeted Viability Position Statements which we developed in 2022 for Government, Private Health Insurers, Specialist medical practitioners and 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

## **PROSTHESES LIST REFORMS**

- The key issues for the last 12 months has related to the proposed removal of Part D of the PL which comprises General Use Items. A briefing paper was developed on the GUIs which served as the foundation for discussion for the CEO's meeting with Minister Butler's Private Health Advisor in September 2023
- Day Hospitals Australia has worked on these issues both independently and with CHA and APHA through out the last 12 months
- The peak bodies rejected the IHACPA alternative cost model for GUIs and have been in ongoing discussions demonstrating the concerns that there is no agreed alternative funding model when the GUIs are removed from the PL on 1 July 2024
- There is agreement between the hospital and the insurers peak bodies that there needs to be a list of these items, however the hospitals have not been able to secure a commitment for a regulated list from the department
- There is particular concern around the situation that non-contracted hospitals will face as it appears that currently insurers will negotiate with hospitals where contractual arrangements are in place
- Day Hospitals Australia will keep working with the Federal Minister's Advisor and the DOHA on this matter until a more satisfactory alternative funding arrangement can be reached. Members will be constantly kept up to date on this matter



## REVIEW OF ACCREDITATION PRACTICES

- The current accreditation system does not address the model of care delivered by Day Hospitals. There has been some progress towards the development of a fit for purpose accreditation system that better reflects the quality and specialised care delivered by day hospitals
- Members completed a survey to highlight some of the challenges day hospitals experience in relation to the current accreditation system
- Day Hospitals Australia has continued dialogue with the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC), exploring opportunities and gaining from their extensive experience in the ambulatory health care sector
- ACQSHC released new Primary and Community National Standards, which demonstrate a better fit for the day hospital sector and these have been mapped to the National Safety and Quality Healthcare Standards. This mapping exercise identified the missing key components of the day hospital model of care particularly in relation to preadmission clinical assessment and post discharge follow up and care
- A meeting was held on 9 June 2023 with representatives from the PHI Branch of the Department of Health Canberra, ACQSHC and Day Hospitals Australia to assist in the engagement with the Commission and commence initial discussions around the need for a 'Fit for Purpose' accreditation system for the day hospital sector
- As a result of this initial meeting, it was agreed that Day Hospitals Australia representatives and representatives of the Commission would continue discussions

## 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 to Prostheses List – Bundling of Benefits for General Use Items Part 5 - March 2023
- Response to National Safety and Quality Cosmetic Surgery Standards consultation – May 2023
- Consultation paper on EY Report on Hospital Default Benefit & Finity Report – MLS, rebate and LHC Final Report – August 2023
- Submission to Prostheses List Reforms Consultation No. 7 – Proposed measures for compliance, assurance and information sharing – August 2023
- PL reform - General Use Items Briefing Paper – September 2023
- Response to Victoria DOH Review of Health Services (Health service Establishments) Regulations 2013 consultation – September 2023
- Briefing paper on Definition and terminology for Day Hospitals – October 2023
- Special Commission on Inquiry into Healthcare Funding NSW – October 2023
- Review of Colonoscopy Clinical Care Standard – October 2023
- Briefing paper on Fit for Purpose Accreditation - November 2023

## WEBINARS AND MEMBER EVENTS

- Member Accreditation Information Webinar with ACSQHC
- Implementing My Health Record in Day Hospitals with the Australian Digital Health Agency
- First Tasmanian Chapter Meeting
- First face to face Victorian Meeting held since 2019
- David du Plessis from Aller Consulting provided a webinar for members to discuss strategies when negotiating contractual arrangements with private health insurers.



The Board, CEO and Day Hospitals Australia team thank all members for their ongoing support!