



Stat Report 2015/12

Annual Conference 2015

Annual Conference will be a day-long event featuring a number of plenaries covering the current and future industrial landscape, our *No Pay? No Way!* campaign, keeping the State Government accountable and growing our Union.

And in order to have an ongoing dialogue with the State Government about workloads, public health funding and workforce planning we have invited the new Victorian Minister for Health, Jill Hennessy, to address conference.

Annual Conference provides an excellent opportunity for members of the MSAV, VPA Inc and AHP to come together and share their experiences, contribute to discussions about public health policy and develop a better understanding of the industrial and political landscape. With talk of further cuts to health budgets, and the need to have a 'sustainable and affordable' healthcare system, it's vital that you're part of discussion on the future of the Victorian public health system.

The Annual Conference is free and open to all members and we [strongly encourage you to register](#) to help us finalise preparations.

Conference details:

Date: 29 May

Time: 9:30am to 4pm (registration starts at 9am)

Venue: DownTowner on Lygon at 66 Lygon St Carlton

[Register for Annual Conference here](#)

Save the date – Friday 29 May – for Annual Conference

Easter Entitlements and Health Services

It's disappointing and frustrating that health services across Victoria have been unwilling to pay members their entitlements for the Easter weekend. Unfortunately some health services seem to be under the false understanding that they don't have to honour your entitlements. And it's even more disappointing that health services are unwilling to accept our advice about the matter.

But rest assured that we are following up with each health service to ensure this happens but if you have any concerns please contact the Union on 9623 9623.

What happened to ANZAC Day?

This year ANZAC Day falls on a Saturday and strangely there is no substitute day. This is an

unusual circumstance but what does this mean to you?

Working Part-time? Not Rostered to Work on ANZAC Day?

Public sector members who work part-time the following applies for ANZAC Day.

If it's a day you would normally work, you get the day off and are paid for the day – simple as that.

If it's a day where you're not normally required to work, you get paid on a pro rata basis. How this works is outlined in clause 69.5.2 of the Public Sector EBA as follows:

Average weekly hours over the previous six months are to be determined and a pro-rata payment made, regardless of whether the employee would ever work on that day of the week.
Example:

Average Hours	Shift Length	Base Payment	Penalty	Payment
24/38 hours	X 8 hours (Where the ordinary shift length is 8 hours)	5.05 hours	T 1.0	5.05
20/38 hours	X 10 hours (Where the ordinary shift length is 10 hours)	5.26	T1.0	5.26 hours

Working Full-time? Not rostered to work?

Public sector members who work full-time, the following applies.

If you ordinarily work Monday to Friday and don't work on Saturdays, you are entitled to one day's pay or, by agreement with your employer, you may take one day off in lieu within four weeks following the date, or have one day added to your annual leave.

If you are a full-time shift worker and are not required to work on Easter Saturday (and Easter Saturday falls on your Rostered Day Off) you are entitled to receive one and half day's pay in addition to the weekly wage, or one and half days off at a time convenient to the Employer without loss of pay in lieu.

If you have any concerns or questions please contact the Union on 9623 9623

Professional Development Seminar for VPA Members

The VPA is holding its next Professional Development seminar on **Wednesday 13 May 2015, at the Treacy Centre Parkville**. For venue information click [here](#).

The afternoon will begin at 12:30pm with light refreshments before the first session commences at 1pm.

The topic for the Professional Development seminar is "What every psychologists can do to help clients with substance abuse issues", which will be presented by Dr Nigel Alexander from 1pm.

Dr Nigel Alexander is a Clinical Psychologist who works with the Substance Use Mental Illness Treatment Team (SUMITT) from NorthWestern Mental Health. SUMITT is also part of the Victorian Dual Diagnosis Initiative. Nigel has worked in the AOD treatment sector for the last

fifteen years and also runs a private psychology practice.

Seminar Title:

What Every Psychologist Can Do to Help Client with Substance Use Issues

Seminar Abstract:

Alcohol and Other Drug Use is common in our society. Not everyone who uses substances experiences problems, however significant numbers of people do. Approximately 50% of people suffering from a mental disorder also have a co-occurring substance use disorder. Despite this the rates of screening and assessment for substance use problems in health services are low, and interventions provided are even lower.

This workshop will discuss the substances of concern in our community and what treatment options are available. Participants will be introduced to a screening tool to assist them in ascertaining if their clients have a substance use issue and learn how to provide a brief intervention.

Seminar Program:

Time	Program
12:30pm to 1pm	Light Lunch
1pm to 2:30pm	First Session
2:30pm to 2:45pm	Afternoon Tea
2:45pm to 4pm	Second Session
4pm to 4:20pm	Plenary

Make sure you save your place by sending us your RSVP by 5pm on 6 May to alexs@msav.org.au.

Note that sessions times may vary slightly upon confirmation. If you have any questions regarding this Seminar please contact VPA Inc on 9623 9625.

Join the campaign – No Pay? No Way!

Show your support for the campaign by downloading & using one of our graphics for your email signature.



Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA 2015 Raffle

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The Union Aid Abroad-APHEDA 2015 Raffle is kindly sponsored by Turner Freeman Lawyers.

Worth Reading: Health service advocates back

Medicare rebate overhaul but say it's no budget fix

“Medical groups have cautiously welcomed the overhaul of the Medicare rebate system announced on Wednesday morning, but have warned against making the review a “hitlist of savings”.

The health minister, Sussan Ley, announced an audit of all tests, treatments and procedures that fall under the Medicare benefits system (MBS) to make sure the government is getting value for money.

The review will try to identify any over-testing, outdated procedures and unnecessary referrals that cost money with little benefit to patients.”

Read the entire article by Shalailah Medhora in The Guardian at:

http://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2015/apr/22/health-service-advocates-back-medicare-rebate-overhaul-but-say-its-no-budget-fix?CMP=soc_568

Worth Reading: Ley prescribes more talks on reform for ‘sluggish’ and ‘bloated’ Medicare

“After an extensive round of consultations with health professionals and patients, Health Minister Sussan Ley has announced that yet more work needs to be done to find solutions to Medicare’s problems.

Rather than immediate changes or budget savings, the minister said there would be a taskforce to examine the Medicare Benefits Schedule, an advisory group on primary health care, and an initiative to develop clearer rules for Medicare compliance.

The government’s proposed reforms would be “an ongoing process”, she said, with taskforces expected to report back “with key priority areas for action in late 2015”.

Read the entire article by Michelle Grattan in The Conversation at:

<http://theconversation.com/ley-prescribes-more-talks-on-reform-for-sluggish-and-bloated-medicare-40581>

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