



Stat Report 2017/15

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Update on Public Sector bargaining

Despite much of the work being completed the Union is still waiting to have the draft agreement considered by the government and approved to be put out to vote.

While it's incredibly frustrating that we are still waiting, the good news is that we're closer to getting the agreement finalised. It also means that it won't be long before we'll be asking you to vote for the new agreement but we will make sure a detailed explanation of all of the changes in the new agreement is distributed.

Until then, we're keen to continue to share with members the details of the agreement and what we've been negotiating. Please get in touch with us and let us know when it's a good time to meet with members in your workplace by calling 9623 9623 or via email at enquiry@msav.org.au

Paying lip service to professional supervision

Professional supervision is an essential element for every member of the VPA Inc. And while professional supervision is essential, far too many health services seem to pay it lip service, declaring its importance while denying access to it.

There have been many examples where health services have flatly refused to ensure that psychologists have access to professional supervision. It gives members the opportunity to debrief with senior colleagues, seek guidance on complex issues and ensure that they're able to maintain the highest professional standards. It's not something that is done for the sake of doing it; there are recognised professional and clinical benefits to having professional supervision.

In fact our public sector agreement even makes mention of professional supervision.

Under our agreement psychologists are entitled to be provided with regular professional

supervision by a psychologist on a higher grade. But if there is no-one in the organisation on a higher grade to provide professional supervision, then the organisation will provide external professional supervision.

We know how important professional supervision is to you so if you're having problems accessing it please contact the VPA Inc. on 9623 9625 or via email at enquiry@msav.org.au

No more pathology at Alexandra Hospital as Clinical Labs cuts and runs

The Union fears that Alexandra Hospital will have to cease offering its full range of clinical services as Clinical Labs announces it is walking away from its contract with Alexandra Hospital to deliver pathology services.

Clinical Labs notified the Union that it will close the pathology laboratory at Alexandra Hospital and walk away from the hospital stating that a stagnant case load at the hospital was the reason for the decision.

This decision by Clinical Labs means that Alexandra Hospital will not be able to safely perform surgeries, including ear, nose throat surgeries, paediatric surgery or obstetrics and general surgery without medical scientists in a fully functioning pathology laboratory in the hospital. It also means that without an onsite blood bank the hospital's full range of acute care services are unlikely to continue or at the very least will be severely impacted.

A fully functioning pathology laboratory is as important to maintaining a hospital's key clinical services as an ambulance is to maintaining accident and emergency department services.

If a pathology laboratory is essential to being able to deliver safe, high quality clinical services to patients this week, how can the same services be delivered safely next week with no pathology? The government needs to resolve this critical question.

It's simply not good enough that patients at Alexandra Hospital are not being given the highest quality of care because a private pathology provider has now walked away from delivering vital pathology services.

Essentially the business decisions of Clinical Labs, a for-profit pathology provider, are dictating the safety of patients and the quality and range of care at Alexandra Hospital. There is every chance that, without a pathology laboratory, local patients will now have to travel large distances to receive medical treatment currently delivered in their local public hospital.

The Union is calling on Alexandra Hospital and Health Minister, Jill Hennessy, to assure the community that vital pathology services will continue and that private pathology providers like Clinical Labs are barred from being awarded pathology contracts at any public hospital in the future when this is the how they treat Victorians.

Help save microbiology at Bendigo Health

Please join in solidarity with members at Bendigo Health and [call the local Members of Parliament and Jill Hennessy, Minister for Health](#) to tell them to keep the microbiology laboratory in Bendigo to protect patient safety.

It's up to us to keep the pressure on the Minister for Health, Jill Hennessy and local Bendigo Members of Parliament to ensure that the microbiology pathology laboratory isn't closed and patient safety remains a top priority. [Please make your voice heard and call the local Bendigo MPs and Minister for Health, Jill Hennessy today.](#)

Together we can take a stand to restore the microbiology pathology laboratory at Bendigo Health. And below are Here are the contact details for local Members of Parliament and the Minister for Health, Jill Hennessy:

Member and Electorate	Electorate Phone	Other Phone Number
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	Number	
Jill Hennessy (State Minister for Health)	(03) 9395 0221	(03) 9096 8561
Maree Edwards (Bendigo West)	(03) 5444 4125	
Jacinta Allan (Bendigo East)	(03) 5443 2144	(03) 8392 6100
Jaclyn Symes (Northern Victoria Region)	(03) 5783 2000	

You can also help keep the pressure on by sharing this graphic with your networks on Facebook:



Visit msav.org.au for more information

Check out some of the recent media:

- [Pathology staff to refuse to perform urgent tests](#)
- [Medical staff group joins calls to reverse pathology changes](#)
- [Government to review safety at hospital](#)
- [Lab closure 'ludicrous', doctors say](#)
- [Bendigo Health to lose microbiology lab](#)

PI for AHP Members

As of this month your membership includes Professional Indemnity insurance if you're working in any Victorian hospital.

Our policy, which meets Pharmacy Board requirements, means you're covered for up to \$20 million in any one claim and up to \$80 million in total in any one policy period. And since it is the right insurance for hospital pharmacists, it's the only insurance policy you'll need.

To be covered you don't need to do anything else other than being a financial member or joining the Union. And if you need proof that you are insured, we're able to send you a letter outlining

that you're covered with Pharmacy Board approved insurance.

It pays to belong to the AHP to protect and advance your rights at work. And now we've got your Professional Indemnity insurance covered too.

If you need more information contact the Union on 9623 9624

Bargaining at Monash IVF

The latest offer from Monash IVF's management found enough support to be confirmed. It's worth highlighting that the result was very close and not a clear victory for management.

While it might be a disappointing outcome for many members, it's worth remembering that without your work and preparedness to stand up for a better deal, you'd have a pretty bad deal right now. There are still problems with the new agreement but now is the time to start enforcing it and making sure you know how to enforce your rights at work.

We'll be going over the agreement to make sure you're fully informed about how the agreement can be used to enforce your rights.

If you have any questions regarding the new agreement at Monash IVF call the Union on 9623 9623 or email at enquiry@msav.org.au

Bargaining at Australian Clinical Labs

The Union is about to begin negotiations for a new agreement with Clinical Labs with your existing Enterprise Agreement about to expire; so it's time to discuss the process for a new agreement.

Things are different this time, with ACL having purchased St John of God Pathology. Staff there will also be covered by a new agreement.

MSAV has produced a survey to help us gather your thoughts and ideas about what a new agreement should include. We strongly encourage all members at Australian Clinical Labs to fill out the survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ClinicalLabs2017>

Many people have already completed the survey but we'd like to hear from a lot more.

We'll also begin holding members' meetings to discuss the process, what claims will be made and how we can secure a great new agreement together.

So keep your eyes peeled for more details about the next steps in bargaining at Australian Clinical Labs.

Public Holiday Entitlements

Our Enterprise Agreement provides public holiday benefits whenever one occurs, whether it's for the Grand Final, Melbourne Cup Day, New Year's Day or over Easter and Christmas.

With a public holiday coming up it's important that check your public holiday entitlement and the easiest way to check is to use our handy flow-chart below.

PUBLIC HOLIDAY PAYMENTS



** For Easter you are paid at ordinary time with a specific clause covering public holidays over Easter

If you have any queries about your entitlement or you believe you haven't been paid your public holiday entitlement please contact the Union on 9623 9623 or via email at enquiry@msav.org.au

Union closed over long weekend

It's a long weekend this weekend and the Union's office will be closed on Monday 12 June but we will reopen on Tuesday 13 June.

Conference: No More Harm National Conference

Many young people and their families do not have the strategies to deal with the dangers which exist in the digital world. This can have profound impacts on their health, wellbeing and personal safety.

The Queensland Family and Child Commission has partnered with youth and leaders in the world of online safety to explore how we can better respond and protect young people from harm. Principal Commissioner Chery Vardon will share insights from this journey and the road ahead at the No More Harm National Conference being held in Brisbane in 3 weeks.

Seemingly innocent forays online, whether through social media, online gaming or internet searches, expose children and young people to a variety of individuals who do not have their best interests at heart. Predators use a variety of methods to manipulate and intimidate young people into seeing, sharing or participating in producing inappropriate content.

Principal Commissioner Chery Vardons' presentation is one of over 40 included in the conference program on the 26 - 27 June 2017. Presentations will address the challenges and solutions in a range of contexts such as workplaces, schools, families, and cyberspace.

No More Harm National Conference
26 – 27 June 2017
Hotel Grand Chancellor Brisbane

Find out more and register at <https://nomoreharm.com.au/>

Support Family Violence Leave for all workers

Survivors have suffered for too long behind closed doors. We all have a part to play in ending violence: it's time that employers played theirs. Tell employers that everyone has the right to paid days away from work if they are subjected to family violence.

Make your voice heard: <http://bit.ly/FDVLeave>

Stopping Gendered Violence at Work

Far too often women are attacked, harassed and threatened in their workplaces. And it needs to stop. That's why the Union is fighting back against gendered violence in the workplace – it's a very serious occupational health and safety issue.

Gendered violence is like a disease in our workplaces. Working women's experience of violence at work indicates that the problem of gendered violence is endemic in our workplaces.

Sign up to support the campaign at: <http://www.unionwomen.org.au/stopgv>

Support the Healthy Futures campaign



The Union strongly believes that climate change is union business. We know that climate change threatens our health by increasing the risks of heatwaves, bushfires, droughts and storms, displacing people and straining our health systems.

And right now HESTA and First State Super (FSS), Australia's biggest health industry super funds, are investing our money in fossil fuels - coal, oil and gas.

Join us in asking HESTA and FSS to divest from fossil fuels at www.healthyfutures.net.au/divest.

Do you need access to Domestic Violence services?

If you're experiencing domestic violence and need help, here is a list of Victorian services which may be able to assist you.

[Safe Steps \(formerly Women's Domestic Violence Crisis Service of Victoria\)](#)

[Aboriginal Family Violence Prevention and Legal Service Victoria \(FVPLS\)](#)

[Centre Against Sexual Assault \(CASA\) Forum](#)

[Community Legal Centres](#)

[Court Network](#)

[Domestic Violence Victoria](#)

[Elder Rights Advocacy \(ERA\)](#)

[Elizabeth Morgan House Aboriginal Women's Service](#)

[inTouch Multicultural Centre Against Family Violence](#)

[Men's Referral Service](#)

[No To Violence](#)

[QLife Australia](#)

[Seniors Rights Victoria \(SRV\)](#)

[The Jewish Taskforce Against Family Violence](#)

[Victoria Legal Aid \(VLA\)](#)

[Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency](#)

[Women with Disabilities Victoria \(WDV\)](#)

[Women's Housing Ltd](#)

[Women's Information Referral Exchange \(WIRE\)](#)

[Women's Legal Service](#)

[Women's refuges](#)

Worth Reading: Six ways to improve meal times with your children

"Meal times with young children can be stressful, especially after a day at work or a day caring for them. And if they refuse to eat the nutritious dinner you've cooked, this can easily lead to frustration.

Here are six things you could do to make meal times a bit less stressful.

Tip 1: Get them involved

Avoid doing it all yourself, because kids can help in the kitchen too. Get them involved in food preparation and they may become more interested in food and willing to taste new things.

Most often, adults prepare meals for children to eat. But involving children in preparing, cooking and even growing food can be an opportunity to teach them about healthy eating. Research shows [involving children in this way can influence](#) their food preferences, attitudes and behaviours."

Read the entire article by Carly Moores, Jacqueline Miller and Lucinda Bell in The Conversation at: <https://theconversation.com/six-ways-to-improve-meal-times-with-your-children-76575>

Worth Reading: After Mabo: Koiki's Vision For A New Great Society

"As we celebrate the courage and the achievements of Eddie Koiki Mabo we all walk in his

determined footsteps in our hope for a brighter future. The Mabo family asked me to paint you a picture of how Australia can offer an example to the world, if we achieve what that passionate man dreamed of, if we do it with reason and common sense, and if we show the care and respect that will create here in the 21st Century a Great Society like none the world has ever seen.

Bonita, Gail and all the Mabo children and grandchildren, thank you for inviting me to your family celebration. Linda Burney and other elders here in Townsville, you know you have my respect.

In the Welcome to Country this evening, our acknowledgment that the Bindal and Wulgurukaba people have cared for this land on which we gather for longer than anyone really knows, we have the foundations for a brilliant future. The wonder of the human story here in this land for over 60,000 years truly makes the eyes gleam. As a world-wanderer myself for almost 70 years I know that nothing comes close to the extraordinary human chain of life and history of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples."

Read the entire article by Jeff McMullen in the New Matilda at:

<https://newmatilda.com/2017/06/04/after-mabo-koikis-vision-for-a-new-great-society/>

Worth Reading: Naracoorte, where half a million years of biodiversity and climate history are trapped in caves

"In 1857, guided by the flickering light of a candle deep in a cave at Naracoorte in South Australia, the [Reverend Julian Tenison-Woods](#) stumbled across thousands of tiny bones of rodents and small marsupials buried at the base of crystal columns.

Without knowing it, Woods had found a time machine of sorts – a record of biodiversity and environment spanning more than half a million years.

Now Naracoorte Caves are known as one of the world's best fossil sites, a place where marsupial lions, enormous kangaroos and giant monitor lizards met their deaths and were preserved by layers of sand.

But the caves captured more than just giants. Clues to Naracoorte's past environment are also preserved in plant fossils, sediments and calcite formations."

Read the entire article by Liz Reed and Lee Arnold in The Conversation at:

<https://theconversation.com/naracoorte-where-half-a-million-years-of-biodiversity-and-climate-history-are-trapped-in-caves-78603>

Join the Union

Are your workloads increasing? Are your stress levels increasing? Are you doing longer hours at work? Join the Union for work pain relief!

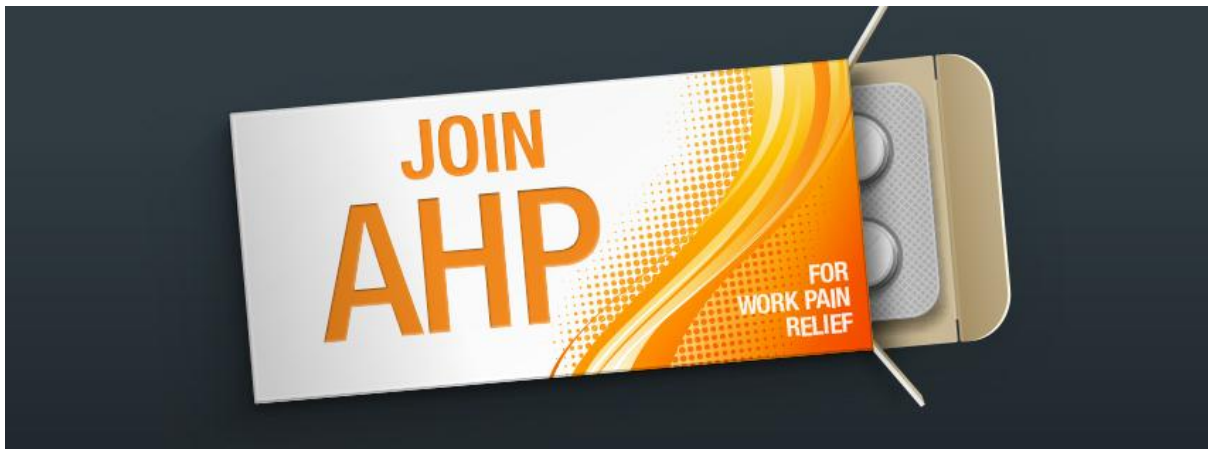
To protect our professions and stand up for our rights at work we must strengthen our collective voice and strengthen our bargaining position by increasing our membership. And you can help right now by sharing one of the images below through Facebook.



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Your Union is on Facebook

Keep up to date with what's happening by liking us on Facebook

[Medical Scientists Association of Victoria](#) | [Victorian Psychologists Association Inc](#) | [Association of Hospital Pharmacists](#)

Get the most out of the Union's website

The Union's website has a number of special features for members. These features, like the Members section and the Forums, require you to have a log-in and password.

But to ensure that your privacy is protected we have created the website in such a way that you will need a separate log-in and password for the Members section and the Forums section. It might seem to be inconvenient but it does better protect you and your private information. It also means that we can be more certain about the source of a hack if such an event is ever to arise.

Australian Unions Member Benefits app

Over the last month Australian Unions launched some new and exclusive Member Benefits - did you see our recent email telling you about this? If not, check your inbox! Search for "Lifestyle Rewards" for your login code.

Our program has expanded to include:

- Discounted movie tickets for Village, Hoyts, Palace and Event cinemas.
- Discounted electronic gift cards including major theme parks, zoos and aquariums.
- A discounted accommodation booking site.
- A new secure member only website and smart phone app.

All this is free to all members of affiliated unions. If you have not got a login and would like join in [register for Member Benefits now.](#)



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