

## Australian Health Review: Caring for the workforce who cares for us

03 October 2024

'In recent years, our healthcare workforce has faced unprecedented challenges and working conditions, which understandably, are starting to take their toll on all levels of the system,' says Dr Sonĵ Hall, Editor in Chief of the <u>Australian Health Review</u>, AHHA's peer-reviewed journal.

'This includes not only those on the front lines dealing with the repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic, understaffing, our aging population, and the increasing impacts of climate change on community health and wellbeing, but also the upper levels of management who are relied upon to provide leadership and guidance.'

'The October issue of the Australian Health Review examines the key factors behind Australian hospital CEO turnover and how effective retention strategies can be implemented in order to strengthen leadership continuity and enhance organisational performance.'

'It is also vital that a positive working culture is supported and exemplified by all staff, but critically those in positions of power,' continued Dr Hall.

'An evaluation of anti-bullying training in surgery conducted by La Trobe University found that while full-day anti-bullying training does have some effect in reducing these harmful behaviours, to implement a full shift in culture, a sustained, multi-faceted strategy is needed to foster a more respectful workplace environment.'

This issue also dives into the workforce concerns of staffing ratios. Articles featured have a particular focus on allied health clinical care ratios in Australia and New Zealand and the implications this has for future workforce planning.

'A healthy workforce is crucial for the sustainability of the entire health system. It's important to use all resources, including our workforce, effectively to meet the health needs of people and communities, while also prioritising the wellbeing of our workforce.'

An article from the researchers at the University of Sydney and AHHA's Executive Director, Knowledge Exchange, Adj AProf Rebecca Haddock, examines the current state of sustainable healthcare in Australia, and the importance of considering the decarbonisation of clinical practices, in addition to broader system approaches that target power consumption and transport.

'Health funding, like sustainability, requires consideration at all levels, not just at the macro but also the micro, to gain valuable insights.'

'The October issue of the Australian Health Review also highlights a collection of articles that focus on funding and cost efficiency for very specific areas of health, such as deep brain stimulation for Parkinson's disease, multi-parametric magnetic resonance imaging of the prostate and peripheral intravenous catheter use.'

The online version of this <u>media release</u> and links to the <u>Australian Health Review</u> can be found on the AHHA website. The Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association (AHHA) is the independent peak membership body and advocate for the Australian healthcare system and a national voice for universally accessible, high-quality healthcare in Australia.





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The <u>Australian Health Review</u> is the Australian Healthcare and Hospital Association's peer-reviewed journal. It explores major national and international health issues and questions. Topics include all aspects of health policy and management, healthcare delivery systems, clinical programs, health financing and other matters of interest to those working in health care.

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