



## **AUSTRALIA'S PUBLIC HOSPITALS FACING A FUNDING 'BLACK HOLE' Launch of AMA Public Hospital Report Card 2016**

AMA President, Professor Brian Owler, and AMA Vice President, Dr Stephen Parnis, will tomorrow release the AMA Public Hospital Report Card 2016, an AMA analysis of the performance of Australia's public hospitals.

The AMA Report Card examines public hospital capacity; emergency department waiting and treatment times; and elective surgery waiting and treatment times. It also provides a State-by-State snapshot of performance. Professor Owler said that the latest AMA Report Card reveals a public hospital funding 'black hole' as Commonwealth funding cuts hit the States and Territories. "The cuts are already making it hard for hospitals to meet performance benchmarks, and the situation will only get worse in coming years," Professor Owler said. "Public hospital funding will be the biggest challenge facing State and Territory budgets." Professor Owler and Dr Parnis both work in public hospitals, and know first-hand the pressure faced by hospitals and hospital staff when public hospitals do not have the capacity to provide treatment efficiently and effectively to people needing acute care.

Launch of AMA Public Hospital Report Card 2016 Time: 10.00am Date: Thursday, 28 January 2016 Venue: AMA NSW Conference Centre Ground Floor 69 Christie Street ST LEONARDS

CONTACT:

John Flannery 02 6270 5477 / 0419 494 761

Kirsty Waterford 02 6270 5464 / 0427 209 753

## Is there a need for alternate wax removal in Tasmania?

Michael Segal, an Audiologist with Australian Hearing, is presently conducting an online survey to ascertain the need for an alternate wax removal service in Tasmania that uses the same techniques as ENTs (micro suction and cures) compared with the more common syringing method used by GPs.

Dedicated wax removal clinics offering this service have sprung up all over mainland Australia and have been warmly received by GPs and most ENTs there. The service is being provided by nurses and/or Audiologists trained with the specific skills to administer this safe wax removal procedure.

If such a service were offered in Tasmania, this would give patients who refuse the syringing method with another option for safe wax removal without having to wait in the public system to see an ENT. This will also improve clinical efficiencies for local GPs and surgeries. Participating in the survey will ideally provide Michael with enough data to support this proposal. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/B5NBHCP>

Much appreciated, Michael Segal, BE(ElecEng)(Hons), Bsc(Melb), MCIAud, M.Aud.S.A(CCP) Audiologist – Australian Hearing, Devonport

Shop 1, 39 Steele Street, DEVONPORT

P:03 6421 3200 or [michael.segal@hearing.com.au](mailto:michael.segal@hearing.com.au)

## Have something to say?

AMATAS e-newsletter is compiled and distributed on a fortnightly basis to all AMA Tasmania members. We welcome contributions from members and others to make this newsletter lively, informative and successful.

Contributions can be emailed to [comms@amatas.com.au](mailto:comms@amatas.com.au). All submissions require the authors name and contact details.



Event: **Australian Diabetes Educators Association (ADEA)** – Tasmanian Branch Masterclass: Diabetes and Pregnancy. With a focus on initiatives as well as practical strategies based on research dedicated to identifying, treat and support women with diabetes in pregnancy. Registration is now open. **Date:** Friday 11 March 2016 **Venue:** Best Western Hobart, 156 Bathurst Street, Hobart, **Closing dates:** Early bird registration available until 31 January 2016; registrations close 6 March 2016. A copy of the program for the day is available on the [event webpage](#)

Event: **Medivision** April 23-24, University of Tasmania Medical Sciences Precinct, Menzies Research Institute 17 Liverpool Street, Hobart. **Medivision** is an annual student-run medical research symposium held for two days in Hobart, tailored to both medical students, doctors and medical researchers. Designed to inspire delegates into research, and revolves around the theme "Humanity in research, research in action". The audience will hear from both domestic and international guests who have made an impact through their careers' work. Speakers will talk not only about their research but more importantly what motivated them into research and the paths they took to get involved. We hope for delegates to leave feeling educated, inspired, and with a new-found sense of purpose to their actions. In addition to inspirational talks, Medivision 2016 will play host to two workshops, a rapid-fire thesis session from early-career researchers, and a cocktail evening to provide delegates with an opportunity to meet the speakers. We are excited to announce that 2009 Nobel Prize in Chemistry winner Ada Yonath (Israel) will be delivering a keynote address. Joining her will be, among others, Professor Merlin Thomas (The Baker Institute), Professor Mammen Chandy (India), and Tasmania's

Dr. Joy Rathjen. Tickets on sale from March 1. Any enquiries can be forwarded to [Medivision.Hobart@utas.edu.au](mailto:Medivision.Hobart@utas.edu.au)

Event: **27 & 28 May 2016** – AMA National Conference - Canberra

Event: Saturday 30th July 2016 - **Tasmanian Health Conference**

## Headlines

[REMINDER - Applications for AMA Indigenous Peoples' Medical Scholarship](#)

[Community Rallies Around Baby Infant Born Following Fatal Hobart Crash](#)

[DENTAL CARE IN THE BUSH NEEDS GP UP-SKILLING](#)

[Australia to lose up to 40 junior doctors nationwide as internship crisis worsens](#)

[Therapeutic Drug Safety](#)

[Skin donation shortage leaving bushfire victims at risk](#)

[Greater health woes tipped from pathology cuts](#)

**Australian Medical Association Tasmania**

**147 Davey St Hobart TAS 7000**

**TEL +61 3 6223 2047 · FAX +61 3 6223 6469**

**EMAIL: [ama@amatas.com.au](mailto:ama@amatas.com.au)**

**Follow us on Facebook** 