

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## ACHS Quality Improvement Award Winners Announced

Three hospitals from three different states have been announced as winners of the 20<sup>th</sup> annual ACHS Quality Improvement Awards at the ACHS / ACHSM Joint Congress in Sydney today.

Royal Brisbane Women's Hospital (QLD), North-Eastern Community Hospital (SA) and Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District Service (NSW) each took out one award, demonstrating their leadership status as innovators in different aspects of healthcare.

ACHS Executive Director of Customer Services and Development Ms Linda O'Connor presented the awards in three categories – Clinical Excellence and Patient Safety, Non-Clinical Service Delivery, and Healthcare Measurement.

Royal Brisbane Women's Hospital won the **Clinical Excellence and Patient Safety Award** for their '*Kidney Supportive Care – our patients, our care*' project aimed at patients with advanced kidney disease who experience high symptom burden, requiring complex health care decision-making.

The **Non-Clinical Service Delivery Award** was won by North Eastern Community Hospital, SA for their '*First demonstration in an Australian healthcare setting of an in-line electrochemical water treatment system for optimising potable water.*'

Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District Service won the **Healthcare Measurement Award** for their '*Breathe better at Blue Mountains – a multidisciplinary approach to reducing the length of stay for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease patients*'.

Ms O'Connor said the competition within the three categories had increased in recent years, each two categories each having two 'Highly Commended' submissions as runner-up to the winners. "The judges were impressed by the diversity and the very high level of entries submitted," she said.

"The winners have each identified an area of improvement in health, and delivered a worthwhile project that shows measurable results. The Quality Initiative Awards help showcase practical innovation projects that challenge standard practices through creative problem-solving to provide useful initiatives."

The QI Awards were presented at the Joint ACHS - ACHSM Health Leadership Conference being held at the Hilton Sydney.

**For further information, please contact Communications Manager Ian McManus Ph +61 2 8218 2743 or 04111 59941. To obtain a copy of the *Quality Initiatives – Entries in the 20th Annual ACHS Quality Improvement Awards 2017* publication, contact Dr Mark Burgess on +61 2 8218 2776 or [mburgess@achs.org.au](mailto:mburgess@achs.org.au)**

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