



Jillian Skinner

Minister for Health

Pru Goward

Minister for Mental Health

Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

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INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE CELEBRATED AT 17th ANNUAL NSW HEALTH AWARDS

Health Minister Jillian Skinner tonight presented the state's top health award for innovation to Sydney Local Health District for the electronic medication management system it has implemented at Concord Hospital.

The electronic system replaces paper records, eliminating the risk of a patient receiving the wrong medicine or dosage due to human error.

Mrs Skinner selected it as the winner of the Minister for Health Award for Innovation from 48 finalists represented in 11 categories at tonight's ceremony in Homebush. Seven categories were won by regional Local Health Districts, including Far West, Hunter New England, Illawarra Shoalhaven, Mid North Coast and Northern NSW.

"As I travel the state, I am inspired by nurses, clinicians, allied health professionals, support staff, researchers and volunteers who strive daily to develop and implement innovative models of care for their patients," Mrs Skinner said.

"Many of them are represented at this year's awards - but this medication system is a standout for me. When I visited Concord Hospital to witness it in operation, I was struck by the overwhelmingly positive response of staff. But, more than that, I saw the implications for the whole of health when it is replicated across the state."

Mrs Skinner said another highlight was the Patients As Partners Award, won by South Western Sydney Local Health District for its *Just Peachy: Palliative Care Home Support Group (PEACH)* project.

"It was my great pleasure to meet carers and staff at Casula on Friday when I launched a DVD for the PEACH project. They didn't know they had won but, having seen their passion and commitment as we chatted, I can imagine what joy this award has brought," Mrs Skinner said.

BreastScreen NSW took home the inaugural Arts and Health Award for a program harnessing the power of art to raise breast screening rates in the Chinese and Arabic communities.

"This is an inspiring program which demonstrates how art can reduce isolation and use culturally-appropriate methods to deliver a vital health message - that preventative breast screening saves lives," Mrs Skinner said.

Minister for Mental Health Pru Goward presented the Minister for Mental Health Award for

excellence in the provision of mental health services to Southern NSW Local Health District for its enduring client discharge program.

“This is a great example of modern mental health care striking a better balance between hospital and community care - supporting recovery and integrating treatment so people are empowered to lead a good life in the community,” Ms Goward said.

2015 NSW Health Awards

Patients as Partners

Winner: Just PEACHY - Palliative care home support group (South Western Sydney LHD)

Finalist: MY Recovery - The consumer-led journey (Murrumbidgee LHD)

Finalist: Drain the pain - An innovative liver project (Northern NSW LHD)

Finalist: Strong fathers, strong families - Possum Cloaks (Nepean Blue Mountains LHD)

Integrated Health Care

Winner: Early detection of chronic kidney disease in Aboriginal people (Northern NSW LHD)

Finalist: Southcare outreach service (South Eastern Sydney LHD)

Finalist: A public-private rural physiotherapy service (Murrumbidgee LHD)

Finalist: Nurse Practitioner: Outreach rapid acute care (Mid North Coast LHD)

Finalist: Community Integrated Team - At risk youth mental health (Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network)

Finalist: Introduction of the Missenden short stay unit (Sydney LHD)

Local Solutions

Winner: Conversion of a rural ED to an Urgent Care Centre (Mid North Coast LHD)

Finalist: Enduring client discharge project (Southern NSW LHD)

Finalist: The snap project - Certificate III in aged care (Murrumbidgee LHD)

Finalist: Success story - Ophthalmology outpatient services (South Western Sydney LHD)

Finalist: Prostate Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy in seven mouse clicks (Northern NSW LHD)

Finalist: Paper-Lite - Implementation of anywhere, anytime, electronic medical records at Blacktown Hospital (Health Infrastructure)

Finalist: Electronic medication management at Concord Hospital (Sydney LHD)

Translational Research

Winner: Transforming acute stroke care locally and globally (Hunter New England LHD)

Finalist: Restoration of voice for tracheostomy patients in ICU (Sydney LHD)

Finalist: Health on the inside (Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network)

Arts and Health

Winner: BreastScreen NSW - Culturally and linguistically diverse engagement strategy (Cancer Institute NSW)

Finalist: The many colours of Blacktown and Mount Druitt (Western Sydney LHD)

Finalist: Singing to health: a choir for people with neurological communication disorders (South Eastern Sydney LHD)

Collaborative Team

Winner: Teamwork the Mid North Coast way: From ED to UCC (Mid North Coast LHD)

Finalist: Eating with dignity (Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network)

Finalist: Improving long stay patient management (South Western Sydney LHD)

Finalist: TruNarc: A partnership between police and pathology (NSW Health Pathology)

Finalist: Triple CCC project - Care, communicate, coordinate (Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD)

Finalist: Rapid access colonoscopy: positive faecal occult blood test (Hunter New England LHD)

Harry Collins Award

Joint Winner: Catheter associated urinary tract infection project (Sydney LHD)

Joint Winner: Preventing catheter associated urinary tract infection (Hunter New England LHD)

Finalist: Mighty germ but tight plan can send the baby home (South Eastern Sydney LHD)

Finalist: Healthy mouths in hospital (Southern NSW LHD)

Preventive Health

Winner: Smoke-free commercial outdoor dining for NSW (NSW Ministry of Health)

Finalist: Your Health Link: Health information the right way (Mid North Coast LHD)

Finalist: Aboriginal Quitline: Leading by example (St Vincent's Health Network)

Volunteer of the Year

Winner: Ms Karen Kemp Staff Volunteer, Patient Family Support Team (Far West LHD)

Finalist: Mrs Judy Lavery, Bear Cottage Volunteer (The Sydney Children's Hospitals Network)

Finalist: Aunty Joy Reid, BreastScreen NSW Volunteer (Hunter New England LHD)

Finalist: Mr Brian Rope, Volunteer and Consumer Representative (South Western Sydney LHD)

Finalist: Mrs Louise Stanton, Dorrigo Multipurpose Service Volunteer (Mid North Coast LHD)

Staff Member of the Year

Winner: Dr Greg Barclay, Director Palliative Care Services (Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD)

Finalist: Mr Joe Borgia, Hospital Assistant, Porter and Cleaner (The Sydney Children's

Hospitals Network)

Finalist: Ms Vickie Knight, Clinical Nurse Consultant (South Eastern Sydney LHD)

Finalist: Dr Sarah Wenham, Palliative Care Physician (Far West LHD)

Collaborative Leader of the Year

Winner: Ms Michelle Eason, Acting Head Practice Development (Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network)

Finalist: Professor Jan Potter Director, Division of Aged Care, Rehabilitation and Palliative Services (Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD)

Finalist: Professor Les White AM, NSW Chief Paediatrician (NSW Health)

Minister for Health Award for Innovation

Sydney Local Health District: Electronic medication management at Concord Hospital

Minister for Mental Health Award for Excellence in the Provision of Mental Health Services

Southern Local Health District: Enduring client discharge project

NSW Health Secretary Award for Integrated Care

Murrumbidgee Local Health District: A public-private rural physiotherapy service