



Jillian Skinner
Minister for Health

MEDIA RELEASE

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HONOURS FOR STATE'S TOP NURSES AND MIDWIVES

Some of the state's most outstanding nurses and midwives were recognised today at the fifth annual NSW Health Excellence in Nursing & Midwifery Awards.

Eleven award winners - selected from 32 finalists chosen from 244 nominees - were congratulated today by Health Minister Jillian Skinner during a ceremony at Parliament House.

"Nurses and midwives are often the unsung heroes of the hospital system, working skilfully and tirelessly to ensure their patients receive the best care," Mrs Skinner said.

"When patients reflect on their experience in the NSW health system, many remember the kind words and comfort provided by a nurse or midwife."

Chief Nursing & Midwifery Officer Jacqui Cross said the record number of nominations shows the high regard in which the annual awards are held.

"Our nurses and midwives do an outstanding job caring for the more than two million patients who are admitted to our public hospitals each year," Ms Cross said.

"Today we honour a select few but each day we should give thanks for the 49,900 nurses and midwives who work in the NSW public health system."

The Judith Meppem Lifetime Achievement Award - which honours the state's first Chief Nurse, who served from 1990 to 2002 - was awarded to Irene Mitchelhill, who has worked at Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick for 37 years.

2016 Excellence in Nursing & Midwifery Awards – Winner & Finalist List

EXCELLENCE IN NURSING/MIDWIFERY – ASSISTANT IN NURSING/MIDWIFERY			
Winner	Shannon Richards	Coonabarabran Multi-Purpose Service	Western NSW LHD
Finalists	Tiana Smart	Wollongong Hospital	Illawarra Shoalhaven LHD
Finalist	Alexis Lenton	Broken Hill	Far West NSW LHD
EXCELLENCE IN NURSING – ENROLLED NURSE			
Winner	Amy Power	South East Regional Hospital, Bega	Southern NSW LHD Mental Health
Winner	Glenys Dayman	Broken Hill	Far West NSW LHD
Finalist	Samantha Hooker	Nepean Hospital	Nepean Blue Mountains LHD
Finalist	Yvette O'Reilly	Nepean Hospital	Nepean Blue Mountains LHD
EXCELLENCE IN Nursing/Midwifery Graduate Award			
Winner	Gavan Pinne	South East Regional Hospital	Southern NSW LHD
EXCELLENCE IN NURSING – REGISTERED NURSE			
Winner	Leanne Holwell	Gosford Hospital	Central Coast LHD
Finalist	Carrie Barlow	Dareton Primary Health Care	Far West LHD
Finalist	Lois Aguanta	Westmead Children's Hospital	Sydney Children's Hospital Network
Finalist	Resmi Skariah	Wagga Wagga Hospital	Murrumbidgee LHD
EXCELLENCE IN MIDWIFERY – REGISTERED MIDWIFE			
Winner	Justine Elliott	Nepean Hospital	Nepean Blue Mountains LHD
Finalist	Jemma Linkenbagh	Bankstown Hospital	South Western Sydney LHD
Finalist	Michelle Stedman	Queanbeyan Hospital	Southern NSW LHD
EXCELLENCE IN NURSING/MIDWIFERY – LEADERSHIP			
Winner	Kevin Baron	Forensic Hospital	Justice Health Forensic Mental Health
Finalist	Suzu Russell	Royal North Shore Hospital	Northern Sydney LHD
Finalist	Sheemol Barrett	Prince of Wales Hospital	South Eastern Sydney LHD
EXCELLENCE IN INNOVATION - Education			
Winner	Allison Jeffers	Prince of Wales Hospital	South Eastern Sydney LHD
Finalist	Robyn Galway	Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick	Sydney Children's Hospital Network
Finalist	Andrew Strong	Nepean Hospital	Nepean Blue Mountains LHD
EXCELLENCE IN INNOVATION – RESEARCH			
Winner	Evan Alexandrou	Liverpool Hospital	South Western Sydney
EXCELLENCE IN ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HEALTHCARE			
Winner	Callie Noakes	St Vincent's Hospital	St Vincent's Hospital Network
Finalist	Laurel Moore	Grafton Hospital	Northern NSW LHD
Finalist	Leanne Morris	John Hunter Hospital	Hunter New England LHD
CONSUMER APPRECIATION AWARD			
Winner	Lucy Keatley	Westmead Hospital	Western Sydney LHD
Finalist	Phillipa Smith	Bear Cottage	Sydney Children's Hospital Network
Finalist	Phil Smith	Royal Hospital for Women	South Eastern Sydney
Finalist	Sarah Hayes	Prince of Wales	South Eastern Sydney
JUDITH MEPPM LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD			
Winner	Irene Mitchelhill	Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick	Sydney Children's Hospital Network
Finalist	Anne Moehead	Lismore Hospital	Northern NSW LHD
Finalist	Jan-Maree Tweedie	Director of Nursing	Central Coast LHD