

# MEDIA ALERT

17 November 2004



## HEALTH AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: EXPERTS ADDRESS WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS

The Australian Health Information Council (AHIC) invites you to attend the National Health Information Summit, where local and international experts will discuss how information technology can improve the Australian healthcare industry.

**National Health Information Summit**  
**6 - 7 December 2004**  
**Sofitel, Melbourne**  
(Program Attached)

"This is a pivotal time in the Australian health sector. Health information management and information and communication technology (IM&ICT) is transforming the ways in which health care is managed and delivered."

*Professor Andrew Coats, Dean of Medicine University of Sydney, Australian Health Information Council Chair.*

"We have a significant opportunity to realise the benefits of health IM&ICT. National collaboration is critical to delivering the fundamental standards and building blocks required to provide the foundation for interoperability and connectivity across the health sector."

*Ms Patricia Faulkner, Secretary, Department of Human Services Victoria, National Health Information Group Chair.*

Specifically, the Summit will explore how information technology can:

- improve patient safety, the quality of health care and the patient-clinician relationship;
- support electronic health records and subsequent improvements in the quality of public health services and population research; and
- empower consumers and transform the patient-clinician relationship.

Key Speakers include:

- **Dr William Glasson** – President, Australian Medical Association.
- **Ms Karen Curtis** – Federal Privacy Commissioner.
- **Professor Fiona Stanley, AC** – CEO, Australian Research Alliance for Children and Youth.
- **Dr Ian Reinecke** – CEO, National E-Health Transition Authority.
- **Ms Nicola Ballenden** – Senior Policy Officer, Australian Consumers' Association.

### ENDS

**Media Access:** Limited media passes are available to attend the Summit by contacting Bronwyn Morgan, Buchan Consulting: +61 3 9866 4722.

The Summit is an initiative of AHIC and the National Health Information Group in collaboration with the Australian Council for Safety and Quality in Health Care.