

National Rural Health Alliance E-forum – 26 October 2001

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FEDERAL ELECTION

The NRHA's Election Charter for the election that has been called for 10 November 2001 was released on 17 September 2001. The full text of the Charter is available at <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au/charter.htm>

The Alliance has released three statements this week on the major parties' policy announcements. These are

- \* ALP's Regional Development Launch: Important New Directions, Revised Use of Money, released on 22 October, and available at <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au/221001.htm>
- \* Coalition's Aged Care Capital Funding to Rural Areas, released on 24 October 2001, and available at <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au/241001.htm>
- \* Health and the Election: Nursing, hospitals and the big-ticket items, released on 24 October 2001, and available at <http://www.ruralhealth.org.au/2410012.htm>

Each Party has an active website providing information on policies. For example

- \* Election statements by the Prime Minister, including a statement on A Healthier Australia released on 25 October 2001, are available at <http://www.liberal.org.au/MEDIA/campaign/HOWARD/howard.HTM>
- \* Labor's website at <http://www.alp.org.au> lists policy statements including "Labor's \$545 million Medicare bonus for public hospitals."
- \* the National Party's policies are posted at <http://www.nationalparty.org/policies/index.htm>, including the Coalition's health policy and John Anderson's campaign launch speech entitled "Leadership and Certainty for Regional Australia".

Democrat policies are listed at <http://www.democrats.org.au/policies/>, including its rural health policy.

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From: HAWA [sgray@hawa.asn.au]  
Subject: HR Conference 2001 – Navigating the Course

ESPLANADE HOTEL, FREMANTLE, 8 & 9 NOVEMBER 2001

The HR Conference 2001 will be held at the Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle, the theme is "HR Conference 2001 - Navigating the Course" and topics are:

- Managing Aggression
- Flexible and Innovative Work Arrangements
- Government Industrial Relations Policies & The Impact on Health
- Workforce Planning - Keeping the Services Running
- Knowledge Management - What does this Buzz Word Mean?
- Reforming the System
- The Effect of Media Reporting on the Workforce

A maximum of 200 delegates can be accommodated at the conference, with registration at 1.15pm for a 1.45pm start on Thursday 8 November 2001 and closing at 3.30pm on Friday 9 November 2001.

The conference website at <http://www.health.wa.gov.au/hrconference/hrconf2001/> will provide a registration form, the program (which will be updated as final speakers are confirmed), a nomination form for the Peter Baldwin Memorial Award, accommodation details and other relevant information you may require. Please register early to avoid disappointment.

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From: Cynthia Langley <c.langley@latrobe.edu.au>  
Subject: E-Healthcare workshop for Health Professionals, La Trobe University, 23 November 2001

The e-Health Education & Research Group at La Trobe University is offering an opportunity to health professionals to catch up on the latest developments and issues in e-health/telehealth including some guided hands-on experience in accessing and evaluating online e-health resources. Some of the issues to be covered include an update on e-health/telehealth policy developments, Pharmaceutical Decision Support and the consumer perspective. Speakers include Dr Ken Harvey (Therapeutic Guidelines Limited), Prof Teng Liaw (University of Melbourne's Department of Medicine) and Dr Christine Walker (Chronic Illness Alliance). The practical session will be presented by experienced online e-health educators. The workshop is on Friday 23 November 2001 9.30am-12.30pm at La Trobe's Bundoora Campus. Places are limited to 25. The workshop flyer and registration

form can be downloaded at <http://www-sph.health.latrobe.edu.au/Telehealth>.

For more details please contact Cynthia Langley by email ([c.langley@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:c.langley@latrobe.edu.au)) or telephone 9479 1734 or call Dr Chris Peterson on 0438 948628.

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Health Online Reports Progress and 7,000 Doctors Sign Up For Net Service  
(Extract from The 2001 Update 21 October 2001. To subscribe to this newsletter, send one e-mail to [acreed@netspace.net.au](mailto:acreed@netspace.net.au) with the words "Subscribe Update" in the subject line.)

The Federal government's Health Online second edition was launched last month. The publication reports on the progress made in key activity areas and outlines new strategies and projects planned for the next five years. Web: <http://www.health.gov.au/healthonline>

Meanwhile, Melbourne-based Pro Medicus on Friday said it has signed up over 7,000 GPs - a claimed 33% of all Aussie GPs - to its online service Promedicus.net. The company describes Promedicus.net as a way for doctors to receive encrypted patient diagnostic results via the Internet. Pro Medicus says 85,000 diagnostic reports are now being sent through the service each month. The high sign-up rate is paying dividends for ASX-listed Pro Medicus, which reported a before tax profit of over \$1 million for the financial year ending June 2001. Web: <http://www.promedicus.com.au> .

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#### CONTRIBUTION AND SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION AND DISCLAIMER

The NRHA e-forum is a forum for the expression of YOUR views. Contributions are sought on any topic relevant to rural health concerns. Please send contributions to the moderator, Jim Groves, at [grovesc@winshop.com.au](mailto:grovesc@winshop.com.au).

The NRHA e-forum is edited by a third party moderator, Jim Groves. As such, the Alliance does not control postings and the contents do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Alliance. Nor do postings necessarily reflect the view of Jim Groves or any organisation he is associated with. Jim Groves can be contacted at [grovesc@winshop.com.au](mailto:grovesc@winshop.com.au).

The e-forum is sent to a mailing list of the Alliance and those have indicated interest through the subscription box at the NRHA Web site (<http://www.ruralhealth.org.au>). This issue is going to 1,168 recipients. Please forward a copy to any colleague you think may be interested.

To subscribe, send a message saying "subscribe NRHA eforum" to [grovesc@winshop.com.au](mailto:grovesc@winshop.com.au). To unsubscribe, send a message saying "unsubscribe NRHA eforum" to [grovesc@winshop.com.au](mailto:grovesc@winshop.com.au).