

Dubbo Hospital: Carbolising of beds

Dear Member,

As you will recall, the HSU was representing members in a dispute about the sanitising or carbolising of beds at Dubbo Hospital by Health and Security Assistants (**HASAs**) and Hospital Assistants Grade II (**HA2s**).

The resolution of that dispute was that the HSU would inform its members who are HASAs and HA2s at Dubbo Hospital that carbolising or sanitising of beds is part of their duties.

However, the HSU considers that there are serious issues around workload. In particular, the HSU remains concerned about the addition of bed sanitising and carbolising duties for HASAs and HA2s in addition to all the other work they perform throughout their shifts.

The HSU has secured significant guarantees from the District, including:

1. The District will undertake a review or audit of the current workload of HASAs and HA2s at Dubbo Hospital;
2. The District will provide the results of that review to the HSU for the purpose of further discussions, at which the HSU will continue to fight for appropriate staffing and workload controls;
3. The District has agreed that HASAs are to give priority to urgent security issues;
4. The District has agreed that disciplinary action will not be taken against HASAs for attending to security incidents in accordance with relevant procedures in priority of cleaning beds;
5. The District will inform nursing staff that IIMS reporting is not the appropriate method for dealing with HASAs and HA2s being unable to attend urgently to cleaning beds because they are undertaking other duties;
6. The District agreed that it will provide training to HASAs and HA2s to clean beds;
7. The District agreed that it will provide training to new HASAs and HA2s and that they will need to be deemed competent.

HSU members who continue to experience workload issues should seek advice from the HSU Members Services Division or their local organiser.

In unity,



Gerard Hayes
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD