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NSW HEALTH AWARD WINNERS – ACKNOWLEDGING HEALTH EXCELLENCE

NSW Minister for Health Reba Meagher today congratulated staff from Area Health Services across the state who have been recognised in the 2007 NSW Health Awards held last night.

Ms Meagher said the annual NSW Health Awards acknowledge doctors, nurses, allied health professionals, ambulance officers and other health service staff who have worked to achieve excellence and innovation in health care.

“The NSW Health Awards provide a valuable opportunity each year to recognise outstanding contributions of health care workers from across the state,” Ms Meagher said.

“There was a record number of entries in this year’s awards, reflecting the innovation, ingenuity and energy of a wide range of staff in the NSW health system.

“Each initiative was designed by an individual or team of health professionals committed to improving the care patients receive and the way in which it is delivered,” Ms Meagher said.

Awards were presented in categories aligned to the seven strategic directions of the NSW health system.

In addition to the individual category winners, the Minister’s Award for Excellence was presented for an individual project which demonstrates the excellence and commitment within the health system.

“This year, the Minister’s Award for Excellence was presented to Hunter New England Health for its project Australian Medical Council Graduates – Setting them up to succeed,” Ms Meagher said.

“The project provides Australian Medical Council graduates with a professional development program designed to better support their transition into the Australian clinical setting, resulting in increased retention rates.

“It is projects like this which show the commitment and willingness of staff across the state to look for better ways to meet the challenges the health system faces.

“The NSW Government is making record investment in health services - delivering \$12.5 billion in this year’s health budget, an increase of 7.1 per cent.

“We are working with our doctors, nurses, allied health professionals, ambulance officers and other health staff to provide world-class health services to the people of NSW.”

For more details on the 2007 NSW Health Awards and to view abstracts on finalist projects go to the NSW Health website at www.health.nsw.gov.au

Media contact: Darrin Barnett 9228 3555 or 0411104339

2007 NSW Health Awards		
Area Health Service	Award Category	Winning Project
Hunter New England	Minister's Award for Excellence also Build a Sustainable Health Workforce	Australian Medical Council Graduates – Setting the up to Succeed
	Director-General's Encouragement Awards	Advanced liver disease: A new system for supporting patients
	Hospital Performance Award – Smaller Rural District Hospitals – Best Performance for 2006-07	Narrabri Hospital
	Clinical Excellence Commission Award for Improvement in Patient Safety	PAST: Pre-hospital Acute Stroke Triage (in conjunction with Ambulance Service of NSW)
Sydney South West	Best Overall Performance by an Area Health Service	
	To Keep People Healthy – Most Improved Performance 2006-07	
	To provide the Health Care People Need – Most Improved Performance 2006-07	
	To Manage Health Services Well – Best Performance for 2006-07	
	Make smart choices about the costs and benefits of health services	Land versus water-based exercise following total knee replacement
	Hospital Performance Award – Principal Referral and Specialist Hospitals – Most Improved Performance 2006-07	Liverpool Hospital
	Hospital Performance Award – Major Metropolitan Hospitals – Most Improved Performance 2006-07	Fairfield Hospital
South Eastern Sydney Illawarra	To Deliver High Quality Health Services – Best Performance 2006-07	
	Hospital Performance Award – Major Rural District Hospitals – Most Improved Performance 2006-07	Shellharbour Hospital
	Hospital Performance Award – Principal Referral and Specialist Hospitals – Best Performance for 2006-07	Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick
	Create Better Experiences for People Using Health Services	D.A.N.G.E.R.S – Doctors and Nurses General Emergency Response Sydney
Sydney West	Hospital Performance Award – Smaller Rural District Hospitals – Most Improved Performance 2006-07	Lithgow Hospital
	Build Regional and Other Partnerships for Health	In Partnership – Promoting health through strategic partnerships in Local Government in SWAHS
	Be ready for new risks and opportunities	Introduction of 24-hour call centre to improve access to services
	Hospital Performance Award – Major Metropolitan Hospitals – Best Performance for 2006-07	Auburn Hospital

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Greater Southern	Hospital Performance Award – Major Non-Metropolitan Hospitals – Most Improved Performance for 2006-07	Wagga Wagga Base Hospital
	Hospital Performance Award – Major Non-Metropolitan Hospitals – Best Performance for 2006-07	Albury Base Hospital
	Hospital Performance Award – Major Rural District Hospitals – Best Performance for 2006-07	Goulburn Hospital
The Children's Hospital at Westmead	Manage Health Services Well – Most Improved Performance 2006-07	
Justice Health	Strengthen Primary health and continuing care in the community	The Juvenile Justice Centre Release Treatment Scheme
Ambulance Service of NSW	Clinical Excellence Commission Award for Improvement in Patient Safety	PAST: Pre-hospital Acute Stroke Triage (in conjunction with Hunter New England Area Health Service)
North Coast	Deliver High Quality Health Services – Most Improved Performance 2006-07	
Northern Sydney Central Coast	To Keep People Healthy – Best Performance for 2006-07	
Greater Western	Provide the Health Care People Need – Best Performance 2006-07	
	To Make Prevention Everybody's Business	Adult Health Check Events – comprehensive early detection for disease in Aboriginal people (in partnership with Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation)