

## Media Release

### Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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## Tasmanian Clinical Redesign improvements recognised internationally

The work of the University of Tasmania's clinical redesign program, Health Services Innovation Tasmania (HSI Tas), has been recognised with two short listings for the prestigious Ko Awatea International Excellence in Health Improvement Awards 2016.

The awards are part of the Asia Pacific Forum, an internationally recognised health improvement conference known as the APAC Forum, which will be held in Sydney from 12-14 September.

The awards announcement coincides with the release of HSI Tas' publication, *Working Together to Improve Healthcare* (see attached), outlining the many positive improvements shown in Tasmania's health system since clinical redesign began two years ago.

Shorter waiting lists and improved bed availability in key treatment areas at the Royal Hobart Hospital (RHH), improvements in operating theatre start times at the North West Regional Hospital and reduced length of stay for General Medicine Unit patients at the Launceston General Hospital, are just some of the benefits recorded since the clinical redesign program began.

More than 2,000 health professionals in Tasmania have been engaged in redesign education over the last two years, as part of the program.

HSI Tas Co-Director Associate Professor Craig Quarmby said the shortlisting for the prestigious Ko Awatea awards was testament to the reputation HSI Tas had developed working with Tasmanian healthcare staff to improve the health system.

"Our nominations are a tribute to the collective efforts of the many people across our health system and the University who have worked tirelessly to improve how we deliver health services, on the frontline and through professional development of Tasmania's health workforce," he said.

"Evidence supports improved health outcomes when universities and health organisations work closely together and I am delighted for all who have worked with us that our collective achievements have been recognised."

Associate Professor Quarmby said the clinical redesign improvements would continue to have ongoing benefits for patients, staff and the Tasmanian health system.

"Tasmania's health system has begun the journey, on a previously unexperienced scale, to reach the consistent, high-quality care of every patient that all clinicians wish to deliver. And patients and our community are beginning to experience the benefits."

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