Investigation into AHPRA

Semmelweis

Australian Scenarios

Springborg

98 cases scenarios + 2

AHPRA and VCAT

Solutions
Hungarian physician who discovered, in 1847, that the incidence of puerperal fever could be drastically cut by hand washing.

*Etiology, Concept and Prophylaxis of Childbed Fever - 1861*

July 1, 1818 – August 13, 1865
Investigation into AHPRA

Hand washing evidence

Ignaz Semmelweis - *Etiology, Concept and Prophylaxis of Childbed Fever* - 1861
Investigation into AHPRA

Autopsy to Delivery = Death

Ignaz Semmelweis - *Etiology, Concept and Prophylaxis of Childbed Fever* - 1861
Reflection on Ignaz Semmelweis

“The appearance of the body .. severely beaten by asylum personnel trying to restrain him after admission in 1865”

“fired off memorandum after memorandum to the administration, without avail”

Published 2003
Hand Washing is appropriate

Investigation into AHPRA

Louis Pasteur (1822-1895)
Pasteurization - 1862

Strept Pyogenes = Puerperal Sepsis
Rosenbach 1884
Canberra, King Edward Memorial and “Cam” Hospitals

Three Australian whistleblowing sagas: lessons for internal and external regulation

Professions of whistleblowers differed:

- Staff specialist - The Canberra Hospital
- Nurses - “Cam” hospitals
- Administrator - King Edward Memorial Hospital
Investigation into AHPRA

Australian Questioned Investigations

Canberra Neurosurgery
Camden and Campbelltown
King Edward Memorial Hospital
Dr Patel – Bundaberg
Paediatric Cardiac Medicine
Neurosurgery - Melbourne
Thomas Kossmann – Alfred Hospital
James Peters – Croydon Hepatitis
In 2003, appointed Director of Surgery at the Bundaberg Base Hospital, Queensland Health under an "area of need" program.

Without due diligence regarding his qualifications and experience.

He was appointed despite having no specialist surgical qualifications.
In **June 2010**, Patel was convicted of 3 counts of *manslaughter* and one case of *grievous bodily harm*, and sentenced to *seven years in jail*.

In **August 2012**, the conviction was rescinded by the full bench of the high court and a retrial was ordered due to tainting of the jury by *highly emotive and prejudicial evidence* that was irrelevant to the case.”
Dr Jayant Patel – Bundaberg Hospital, Qld

1984 - Buffalo, 3 years probation
1998 - Kaiser Permanente restricted
2000 - Oregon Board restricted
2001 - New York State withdrew license
Hepatitis contracted by 55 Women

DR JAMES LATHAM PETERS

1973 Registered as a medical practitioner
1979 Qualified as anaesthetist
1991 Married second wife, a drug addict
1994 Started issuing fake prescriptions to feed his and his wife’s drug problems
1995 Wrote to the medical board to declare his drug problem.
1996 Registration suspended for a year. Given six month suspended jail term forged and false prescriptions, possessing and using a drug of dependence.
1997 Health department told of his Hep C status, but not medical board. Re-registered to practice.
2003 Drug relapse after death of his wife
2008 Infects first patients at the clinic.
2010 Police and Health Department investigations begin
Investigation into AHPRA

Semmelweis

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Springborg - Queensland

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AHPRA and VCAT

Solutions
Mr Springborg said he had formed the "preliminary view" that board members had placed the public at risk after a review that examined 596 cases concluded 60 per cent had not been properly handled.

Investigation into AHPRA

Semmelweis

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AHPRA and VCAT

Solutions
98 Cases presented to Victorian Medical Board

Presented August 2004

Falsification of a document by the CEO

Only willing to deal with individual cases: over 25 related to one surgeon
Investigation into AHPRA

98 Cases presented to Victorian Medical Board

Prenatal Hydronephrosis

Day 90 – Repeat MCU

http://www.independentaustralia.net/2012/life/health/the-3-ring-medical-circus/
Investigation into AHPRA

Hepatitis contracted by 55 Women

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
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Investigation into AHPRA

Professor Paddy Dewan – Megarectum – 1 case

Operated on - 2004

Referred by Western Hospital Admin - 2006

Suspended from on-call roster - 2006

Sacked from Sunshine - 2009

Guilty – Victorian Penal – retraining - 2009

VCAT – Suspended - 2011

Supreme Court (13th chime of crazy clock) - 2011

VCAT – must audit - 2012
Severe Constipation Surgery

Rectal Surgery
ANZAPS – ASM FIJI 2009

15 cases

Age : 8 months-12 years

Follow up : 6 months – 4 years
Congenital Rectal Ectasia

The Case - 2004

A Case - 2011
Investigation into AHPRA

Professor Paddy Dewan – Megarectum – 1 case

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VCAT – PAD to audit - 2012
Investigation into AHPRA

Professor Paddy Dewan – Megarectum – 1 case

NO EFFECTIVE SUPERVISION SINCE
Professor Paddy Dewan – CP case of Megarectum

“A danger to the Australian public”

- Notification: August 2012
- Notified: Sept 2012
- Immediate action committee: January 2013
- Surgery Royal Children’s: March 2013
- No further effective action: August 2013

Complaint BY PARENTS National Ombudsman
Investigation into AHPRA

Semmelweis

Australian Scenarios

Springborg - Queensland

98 cases scenarios + 2

AHPRA and VCAT

Solutions


**LC AHPRA investigation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Julie Phillips</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jenny Morris</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Barnett</td>
<td>47</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gwen Woodford</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Stanley-Clarke</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stawell community</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Lindsay</td>
<td>– skin surgeon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leong Fook Ng</td>
<td>- Oncologist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Tsigounis</td>
<td>- junior doctor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ong Ooi</td>
<td>- General Surgeon</td>
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<tr>
<td>DS</td>
<td>- Anaesthetist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr A K</td>
<td>- GP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malcolm Traill</td>
<td>- panel appointments</td>
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Solutions

Default to mediation at all levels of dispute

Accountability of “judges” in review processes!

Accountability of complainant

Accountability of “witnesses” in review processes!

Appropriate rules of evidence

Transparency
Investigate Range of AHPRA notifications

Legal costs

Outcomes - for patients and professionals

Process steps for handling complaints

Records of variations in process between cases
Reengineer AHPRA

State Boards accountable to State Minister

Separate the powers of

Accreditation..............Medical Council
Registration..............AHPRA..............
Regulation..............State Boards