

4 November 2014

Best in Australasia - Prince of Wales Hospital Emergency Department awarded Australasian Emergency Department and Emergency Nurse of the Year

The high standards of care, dedication, leadership and innovation of the staff at the Prince of Wales Hospital's Emergency Department (POWH ED) was recently recognised by being awarded the Emergency Department of the Year and the Emergency Nurse of the Year, at the prestigious College of Emergency Nursing Australasia (CENA) annual awards.

In a double-win for POWH ED, the awards recognise the great work and acknowledge emergency care teams that are making a notable contribution across Australasia, through substantial improvement to their service, implementing innovative solutions to improve patient care and their contribution to emergency care as leaders.

Prince of Wales Hospital is one of Sydney's major tertiary referral hospitals with an emergency department that cares for more than 54,000 adult patients each year.

Mr Jon Roberts, Director of Operations, Prince of Wales Hospital, attributed the accolades to POWH ED's strategy of continuously striving to remodel, redesign and advance the delivery of timely emergency care by our staff, to meet the increasing needs of patients presenting through its doors.

"I highly commend our Emergency Department for this terrific achievement. One of the busiest departments in our 500-bed hospital, they have championed the improvement of patient care and clinical outcomes, which have been supported by a strong commitment to inter-professional education and leadership by the entire department," Mr Roberts said.

"The POWH ED team have a lot to be proud of, and receiving these internationally-recognised awards certainly demonstrates this.

Dr Michael Golding, Director, Emergency Department, Prince of Wales Hospital, said receiving the CENA award for Australasian Emergency Department of the Year, is a huge morale boost for the POWH ED team.

"Our department has recently addressed several key issues to improve patient care, service delivery and team development, in collaboration with the local community, hospital service providers and administrators, and through national and international networking," Dr Golding said.

"We are very proud of receiving this award and being recognised by emergency care colleagues both nationally and internationally."

Wayne Varndell, Clinical Nurse Consultant, Emergency Department, Prince of Wales Hospital, received the prestigious CENA Australasian Emergency Nurse of the Year Award, in recognition of his exceptional standard of nursing practice, advocating for patients and leadership in educating his nursing colleagues.

Since he started at the POWH ED six years ago, Wayne has demonstrated outstanding clinical skills and has actively supported, encouraged and mentored registered nurses.

Ms Elizabeth Ryan, Nurse Manager, Emergency Department, Prince of Wales Hospital, said Wayne is highly regarded and respected by his nursing and medical colleagues and has been instrumental in implementing new models of care in POWH ED.

"Wayne is passionate about nursing education and has been pivotal in developing the scope of clinical practice and mobilising multi-disciplinary support for initiatives both within the POWH ED as well as across the hospital," Ms Ryan said.