



## **ACHS Medal Citation**

### ***Adrian Pennington - ACHS Medal – 2018***

Adrian is the Chief Executive for the Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service in South East Queensland and, has almost 40 years' healthcare experience, more than half of which has been at executive and senior management levels – both within acute hospitals and leading national programs within the UK's National Health Service (NHS).

Prior to joining Wide Bay, he worked in several large hospitals leading turnaround programs, addressing significant quality issues and delivering on key programs to produce minimum waiting times in surgical centres.

He was previously Chief Executive Officer of the James Paget University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust and Chief Executive of NHS Heart Improvement. This role saw him head up a national heart disease program for seven years, during which time mortality figures reduced from 130,000 to 68,000 per year. He also led clinical redesign work, including the introduction of clinical microsystems, using the Lean and Six Sigma methodology.

Adrian published “How to avoid a CDiff outbreak in healthcare”, which became a national reference guide for all hospitals in England and helped win the “cleanest hospital of the year award” in 2008.

He has previously acted as an advisor to the Minister of Health in British Columbia to develop a strategy for health redesign for the province.

His last role prior to joining Wide Bay in 2012 was as National Director of the NHS's Quality Accounts division. During this time, he led the introduction of the legislative requirement for all health providers in England, including in the independent sector, to produce an annual quality account – a critical clinical governance tool reporting on standards of care and safety.

Adrian has more than 60 published documents recognised internationally and has presented in many countries. In May 2018, he presented to the joint meeting of the International Hospital Federation and World Health Organisation in Geneva on the value of international accreditation systems and the national short-notice hospital accreditation pilot WBHHS has been leading.

Adrian was appointed in 2016 as the Queensland representative to the Board of the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association, and the Australian representative to the Council of the International Hospital Federation.

In March 2018, he was named the national Healthcare CEO of the Year, as part of the Australian Healthcare Week Excellence Awards in Sydney.

The awarding of the ACH Medal recognises the stand-alone contributions an individual has made to improving quality and safety over a period of time that are also consistent with the goals of the ACHS. The ACHS is delighted to award the 2018 Medal to Mr Adrian Pennington.

**22 November 2018**