

# Monthly Update

06 August 2013



## Millions saved through Support Services collaboration

The five South Island DHBs saved \$14.4 million in the 2012/13 financial year as a result of working collectively to reduce costs of purchasing a range of supplies. Through the Support Services SLA, DHBs are working to make savings through joint procurement items such as medical gases, haemodialysis supplies and patient warming technology, through to more mundane items such as postage-paid envelopes and plastic bags. Each DHB is now able to put the savings back into providing more health services for their community.

## E-Prescribing from operating theatre and more wards

In late July e-prescribing began rolling out to surgical areas of Dunedin Hospital, including the introduction of e-prescribing access in operating theatre for the first time. Having access in operating theatres enables anaesthetists to electronically review the chart and prescribe post-operative medications in accordance with patient care plans.

The e-prescribing programme is gathering momentum with 13 wards at Dunedin Hospital now using the system and planning well underway at Christchurch Hospital to introduce it later in the year.

## Electives workstream

The new Elective Services Workstream gathered for the first time in early July to discuss taking a regional approach to elective services. The meeting was very productive and work is now underway to identify which service may be a good starting point to implement clinically-lead South Island-wide criteria, thresholds and waiting lists.