



**MEDIA RELEASE
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Infection Prevention Everyone's Business at Bethesda

Bethesda Hospital once again participated in *International Infection Prevention Week* and *Safe Work Australia Week* which were held in the week of 16 to 22 October 2011. 2011 is a significant year as *International Infection Prevention Week* celebrated 25 years promoting the importance of infection prevention around the globe.

Helen Bucknell, Infection Prevention and Control Manager together with Melody Miles, Occupational Safety and Health Manager, launched the week with a staff lunch held on Monday 17 October 2011. The staff education focused on hand hygiene, sharps safety and the use of personal protective equipment.

Helen said that 'infection prevention and control is vital to achieve high quality care for patients and a safe working environment for those working in health care facilities. We were delighted to share the hospital's initiatives and education with our community throughout International Infection Prevention Week'.

During the week Bethesda held a number of activities to highlight the importance of each of these events, which this year included activities that involved patients, visitors and staff.

At various locations around the hospital there were display boards and tables providing information brochures and posters aimed at highlighting the importance of infection prevention.

A number of competitions were also conducted such as the composition of a Poem on 'Infection Prevention' and a colouring in competition. The colouring in competition proved very popular with the children visiting the hospital during that week.

Helen and Melody noted 'how fortunate we were that a variety of hospital suppliers had supported our participation in these events, by generously donating some amazing prizes'. Winners of each of the competitions were delighted with their prize.

Bethesda Hospital is an independent 88-bed award-winning hospital in Claremont which has been providing care and service to the Western Australian community for nearly 70 years.

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Media Contact :

Naomi Quinlivan
0408 598 977

nquinlivan@bethesda.asn.au