



# Australian Day Hospital Association

.....Supporting Day Hospitals

## **‘A New and Challenging Environment for the Perioperative Nurse’**

**Jane Griffiths**

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The Women’s Clinic (Balcatta, WA)



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## ADHA is:

- Membership comprising of stand-alone day hospitals and industry members.
- All members of the Board of Directors and the Committees are volunteers.



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## Procedures performed currently in day hospitals:

- Endoscopy
- Ophthalmology
- Plastic Surgery
- Cosmetic Surgery
- Orthopaedic
- Ear, Nose & Throat
- Dermatology
- Gynaecology
- In Vitro Fertilisation
- Paediatric Surgery
- Urology
- Oral, Dental & Maxillofacial
- Haematology & Oncology





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## History of Day Surgery

- In 1982 the first purpose built Australian day surgery opened.
- Today, there are currently 273 day hospitals Australia-wide of all shapes and sizes!



Jane Griffiths



ACORN 2010 Conference



## Survey of nurses currently working in ADHA WA Member day hospitals:

- 73% of nurses had perioperative backgrounds
- Problem free transition from large hospitals to day hospitals
- Enjoy the increased patient contact in day hospitals
- Loved the working conditions (reduced on call, no weekends, fits in well with family and close down at Christmas.



## Comments on transition from perioperative area to same day setting:

- ❑ "Skills are transferable".
- ❑ "More patient involvement, rotate through all areas, multi-skilling".
- ❑ "Easy transition as skills are the same".
- ❑ "You are a person, respected, not just somebody in theatre".



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## % of time survey respondents have worked in a day hospital setting?

1 – 2 years	2 - 4 years	4 – 6 years	6-8 years	8 or more years
20%	13%	13%	3%	<b>47%</b>

Indicates the level of job satisfaction of nurses working in the day hospital setting.



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## Comments on what nurses enjoyed about working in a day hospital setting:

- ❑ "Less pressure, more team orientated."
- ❑ "No night duties, on call, public holidays and weekends, no shift work."
- ❑ "Completing care on a daily basis. Variety of work and good working conditions."
- ❑ "Smaller and friendlier environment compared to the larger hospitals."
- ❑ "The fast pace – never a boring moment."



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**Would perioperative nurses be encouraged to look for opportunities in the day hospitals. The survey response was:**

**Yes - 100%**



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**In comparison, UK  
Procedures  
undertaken in the  
day surgery  
setting**



Current % day case rate vs. inpatient	
Inguinal Hernia	47.5
Varicose Veins	54.4
Termination of Pregnancy	89.0
Cataract	90.6
Gastroscopy	72.0
Extraction of wisdom teeth	87.9
Cystoscopy	19.1
E/o Dupuytren's contracture	41.7
Myringotomy/Grommets	85.0



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## Why Day Hospitals – benefits to the patient:



- Rapid admission process
- Quicker return to the comfort of their own home and normal activities generally.
- Patient-centred treatment.
- Less disorientation risk for the elderly.
- Reduced risk of infections.
- Reduced risk of cancellations.



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## Why Day Hospitals – **benefits to the Clinician:**



- Less risk of major adverse patient outcomes.
- Surgery session availability is increased.
- Turnaround time between cases is faster.
- Less risk of cancellation of patients due to pre-admission procedures flagging at risk patients.



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## Why Day Hospitals – **benefits to:**

### Governments

- Public money can be channelled into public hospitals.
- Simple elective procedures can be directed away from public sector.
- Number of inpatient beds required is reduced.

### Health Funds

- High patient satisfaction ensuring their product and contracted hospitals are of a high standard.
- Savings in 'hotel' element (ie, catering), less nursing staff required as no inpatients.



## Benefits to the Day Hospital:

### ● Service Delivery

- Resource utilisation is optimised.
- Hotel element reduced or removed.
- High standard of care (facilities are approved and registered)

### ● Staff

- More flexible working hours, generally no night and weekends, clear start and finish times.
- Improved training opportunities with rotation through areas.
- Involved in all aspects of patient pathway.
- Improved job satisfaction.



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## Today's Day Hospital Facilities



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## What the future holds in day hospitals:

- Additional roles for the nurse - venous blood sampling, Insertion of IV lines, give IV drugs, refer patients for further investigation, writing of discharge letters (all in line with standing orders.)
- Increased minimally invasive surgical techniques and procedures will be performed in day hospitals with advances in medical technology.
- Advances in pain relief practice will lead to increases in procedures undertaken in day hospitals.



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Highly skilled nurse doesn't even need to look!!

**Thank you for your time.**