

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### DDHHS transfusion nurse to speak at national symposium

A Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service (DDHHS) staff member has been invited to speak at a national symposium.

Susan Kay, DDHHS Transfusion Nurse, is scheduled to present at the 2015 Australian Blood Symposium. The theme for the symposium, to be held over 11-12 June at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, is 'Showcasing Excellence'.

Ms Kay said her presentation will be centred around the DDHHS Blood and Blood Products webpage.

"When there was a request for abstracts to be used at the symposium I contacted the organisers to let them know we have a webpage we thought might be of interest," Ms Kay said.

"Some weeks later I received notification from the National Blood Authority that I was to be a guest speaker.

"There seems to be a lot of interest in our Blood and Blood Products webpage, which is great to see, so I'll be talking about the one-stop-shop approach we took to putting the webpage together and making it user friendly.

"We encourage our staff to let us know if they think there is anything we can do to make our webpage better, so I'll be doing the same at the symposium and looking for feedback from other delegates."

Susan said the webpage had been very well accepted by DDHHS staff since it was launched in October last year.

"I did a presentation to junior doctors recently and they really liked it as well, so it's a useful tool with everything in the one spot," she said.

"My goal is to enable Darling Downs Hospital and Health Service to be renowned for providing excellence in patient blood management, and I think the webpage is a big part of that.

"Other things we do with this goal in mind include helping staff to resolve any issues they have with blood management; helping to train staff; and reinforcing the message that blood is a very precious resource, given by volunteer donors. We need to be very cognisant of that, always, and treat it very respectfully."

**Ends**

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