







HMSA is on WhatsApp!



Includes:

- Medical news
- COVID and medical updates
- · Articles of Interest
- Hellas and Hellenism
- And more...

We welcome you to join us in the conversation.

Reply to: info@hmsa.org.au

INTRODUCING THE HMSA DOCTORS DIRECTORY

Search doctors by:



Specialty



Location

Find a Doctor 9

hmsa.org.au/directory





THE HELLENIC MEDICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA



INTRODUCING THE HMSA DOCTORS DIRECTORY

HMSA is proud to announce that the Doctors Directory is now available for members to join

Be visible on our 24/7 directory and allow patients & professionals to find you with ease.

Search by **location**, **specialty** and **interest area/subspecialty**

www.hmsa.org.au/directory

Click here to register your listing

A MESSAGE FROM HMSA PRESIDENT DR MARINIS PIRPIRIS



A/ Prof Marinis Pirpiris MBBS, BMedSci, MEpi, PhD, FRACS (Orth), DipEprdBiostat

I would like to express my gratitude to you all, for your understanding and support of the HMSA during the last couple of years. It has been a challenging time for all of us with the frequently changing restrictions, lock-downs and the continual challenges to the physical and psychological wellbeing of both our patients and ourselves.

In the 4th century BC, Epicurus stated: "You do not develop courage by being happy in your relationships everyday. You develop it by surviving difficult times and challenging adversity." In the spirit of his message, we have moved towards not only building resilience in our economies, but also in our societies and our personal relationships. Love, commitment and sacrifice have helped many of us to overcome the many obstacles of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the post-COVID world, it is on a daily basis we continue to resist the erosion of

social ties and community life and help our friends, patients and colleagues experiencing social isolation, economic uncertainty and psychological distress.

2022 has seen the return of our in-person lectures. We were pleased to present the prostate cancer series of lectures by John Kourambas, Peter Liodakis and George Koufogiannis on the 16 March 2022 at the Berth restaurant.

The HMSA attended the long-awaited 2022 Grecian Ball, which demonstrated the unity which is developing within the broader paroikia. This relaunch of this event had been scheduled for 2021, in celebration of the 200 year anniversary of the commencement of the Hellenic War of Independence in 1821 will now be an annual event celebrating the success and diversity within all our community groups.

I was honoured to represent the HMSA at the Flag raising ceremony at Federation Square on the 25th March 2022, commemorating the commencement of the Hellenic War of Independence in 1821. We also paid our respects as I laid a wreath at the Hellenic Australian Memorial later that morning. I also represented the HMSA at the memorial service held by the Ex Servicemen's Group at Axion Esti on the 27th March 2022 and attended their remembrance lunch.

Over the coming week the HMSA will be involved in the visit of the Evzones – the presidential ceremonial guard – to Victoria. We will be laying a wreath at the Hellenic Australian Memorial commemorating the battle in Kalamata on the 23 March 1821. We will also be involved in a number of events surrounding the ANZAC memorial services.

The HMSA will also be involved in the Aristotle Medical Forum 2022, where we have been invited to speak at the International Conference of Hellenic Medical Diaspora to be held between 15-17 July 2022.

After many years in the planning, I am happy to announce that HMSA will be hosting the First Global Hippocratic Doctors Institute Congress, at the Crown Casino to be held between 16-20 November 2022. Please save the date. This will include a series of Ethics, Medicolegal, and GP talks as well as our inaugural Gala Ball.

On behalf of the Board, we hope that love may fill your hearts and home during Easter. We hope that this time be filled with the love of your family and friends and a renewed sense of hope inspired by the story of the resurrection.

Marinis Pirpiris President

The content of this newsletter is provided for information purposes only. No claim is made as to the currency, accuracy or completeness of the content at any time and readers are advised to exercise their own due diligence.

EDUCATIONAL DINNER HELD TO RAISE AWARENESS ON PROSTATE CANCER



Members of the Hellenic Medical Society of Australia (HMSA) met recently for an educational dinner event on Prostate Cancer.

Held at Berth Restaurant Docklands, surgeons, physicians, GPs and doctors of various specialties were able to enjoy a night of sharing knowledge, experience and networking.

The dinner, offering city skyline views over food and wine focused on the silent, but leading cause of morbidity and mortality in the male population. According to World Health Organization reports, at least 513,000 cases and 255,000 deaths are attributed to prostate cancer annually which accounts for the second highest number of male cancer deaths in Australia. Nearly all of these cases are treatable or preventable.

Read the complete article on the Neos Kosmos website <u>here</u>



Mr Peter Liodakis, Mr John Kourambas, Mr George Koufogiannis and A/ Prof Marinis Pirpiris

2022 GRECIAN BALL.. SAYS IT ALL

Strength and benefits of synergy more important now than ever

Dr George Stabelos, HMSA Vice President



HMSA Drs Arthur Kokkinias, George Proimos, Con Giannelis, Marinis Pirpiris & George Stabelos

When people and communities unite and work together, they can achieve great things. In celebration of the 201st anniversary of the Greek people's Freedom from the Ottoman Turks in 1821, a successful event at Melbourne's Grand Hyatt was attended by many on Friday 25th of March. Attendees were witness to an extraordinary happening. Australians of Greek heritage, a number of their organisations and others including the HMSA, were united and came out in full force to celebrate and show their support at the inaugural Grecian Ball, which was organised by the Greek Community of Melbourne (GCM), the Greek National Day Council of Victoria and the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia.

Synergy is, "an interaction or cooperation giving rise to a whole that is greater (sometimes much greater) than the simple sum of its parts". The term synergy comes from the Attic Greek word συνεργία, synergia from

synergos, συνεργός, meaning "working together" and sources state that the English version of the word was apparently coined in the 16th or mid 19th centuries. Synergistic efforts can be a significant effort or outcome multiplier. If those of Greek heritage have something to do with the source or invention of the word, then should they be relative "experts" at practicing it?..

Read the complete article on our website <u>here</u>

THALASSAEMIA AND SICKLE CELL AUSTRALIA



Thalassaemia and Sickle Cell Australia (TASCA) is a support and advocacy organisation for Australians living with genetic haemoglobin disorders. As a not-for-profit organisation, TASCA is overseen by a voluntary management committee and funded

through donations and support from the Victorian Government. We put great effort towards raising public awareness of genetic haemoglobin disorders. One way in which we do this is through our free education program for high schools and community groups. This is to help increase awareness and understanding of: the more common haemoglobin disorders, the value of carrier testing to to assist with family planning decisions, the role of genetic counselling prior to starting a family and the importance of blood donations.

TASCA aims to empower those with a genetic haemoglobin disorder to live their best lives and to provide them with support each step of the way. This is done by connecting people in similar circumstances, raising donations to purchase infusion pumps and providing amenities at treatment centres to improve mental and social wellbeing.

To learn more about TASCA, visit https://www.tasca.org.au/

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY - 25th March at the Australian Hellenic Memorial



Greek Independence Day, an important and significant day on the Greek Calendar is celebrated annually around the world. The president of the Hellenic Medical Society of Australia, Associate Professor Marinis Pirpiris proudly attended the ceremony and laid a wreath at the Australian Hellenic Memorial on Friday 25th March to pay respect for all those who fought in the war. Organised by the Hellenic RSL Sub Branch committee who hosts this event each year on 25th March to commemorate what the country and its people went through to win its freedoms.

The laying of floral wreaths is to honour those that sacrificed and for the liberation of the Ottoman rule on that day. The day is celebrated with parades of school children in traditional dress, speeches and military demonstrations. Other guests included the General Consul of Greece Mr Emmanuel Kakavelakis, the Minister for Health, Mr Martin Foley, Alphington Grammar, St Johns College and numerous Greek societies and organisations.

Read the complete article on our website <u>here</u>



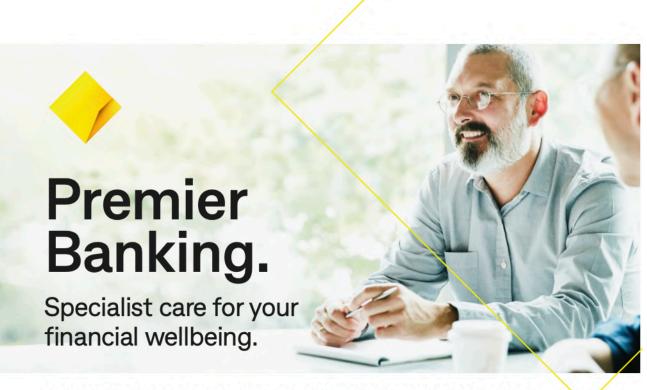
GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY AT HOLY MONASTERY AXION ESTIN, NORTHCOTE



Sunday 27th March the Australian Greek Ex-Servicemen's Association hosted a ceremony at Holy Monastery Axion Estin in Northcote to commemorate Greek Independence Day celebrated annually on 25th March. The Association was established in 1937 to honour the Hellenic-Australian Ex-Servicemen, to stand united and to preserve our culture and history for future generations. Following the Sunday service various Greek organisations gathered at the onsite memorial to commemorate the day with the laying of floral wreaths in memory of ex-servicemen past and present.

The ceremony is to keep the memory alive and to recognise and acknowledge what they did for their country. The president of the Hellenic Medical Society of Australia, Associate Professor Marinis Pirpiris proudly attended and laid a wreath to pay respects along with other key representatives of the Greek community including the General Consul of Greece Mr Emmanuel Kakavelakis and President of the Greek Community Mr Bill Papastergiadis.





At CommBank, we understand how busy life can be for medical professionals. Between your patients and everyday life, looking after your finances may not always be at the top of your list. That's where we can help.

With Premier Banking, you'll enjoy one-to-one support from your dedicated Relationship Manager. They'll work in partnership with you to help build a better financial future. You'll get proactive support and access to specialists and opportunities across CommBank.

Healthy finances start with personalised service.

We provide personalised one-on-one service, including:

- A dedicated local Relationship Manager
- · Access to the right specialists
- · Assistance with day-to-day banking and enquiries
- Market insights to help develop a tailored strategy for your financial goals
- Regular financial reviews to help you achieve your financial goals

Additional benefits for medical professionals.

Eligible medical professionals can also enjoy an annual fee waiver for the first year on a new Home Loan Wealth Package¹.

To find out more or to arrange an appointment with a Premier Banking Relationship Manager please visit commbank.com.au/premier

Things you should know:

Premier Banking is available for selected clients only and is a specialist service within the Retail Banking Services division of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia ABN 48 123 123 124 AFSL and Australian credit licence 234945 (the 'Bank') and its services are provided by Premier Banking Relationship Managers who are representatives of the Bank. Applications for finance are subject to credit approval. Fees and charges are payable. Terms and conditions or Product Disclosure Statements for our products are available and should be considered before making any decisions. Financial advice on life insurance, wealth needs and super will be provided by AIA Financial Wellbeing, which is operated by AIA Financial Services Pty Limited ABN 68 008 540 252 AFSL 231109 (AIA Financial Services), a subsidiary of AIA Australia Limited ABN 79 004 837 861 AFSL 230043 (AIA Australia). Commonwealth Bank has a referral arrangement with AIA Financial Wellbeing to provide advice to Commonwealth Bank customers. AIA Financial Wellbeing, AIA Financial Services and AIA Australia are not part of the Commonwealth Bank Group and Commonwealth Bank does not guarantee and is not responsible for the financial device provided by AIA Financial Wellbeing, the performance of products recommended by AIA Financial Wellbeing or the obligations of AIA Financial Wellbeing, AIA Financial Vellbeing or Services and AIA Australia. Your enquiries on any share trading products or services will be referred to a specialist in Commonwealth Securities Limited ABN 60 067 254 399 AFSL 238814 (CommSec). CommSec is a wholly owned but non-guaranteed subsidiary of Commonwealth

This information has been prepared without considering your objectives, financial situation or needs and you should, before acting on this information, consider its appropriateness to your circumstances. Term and Conditions or Product Disclosure Statements for our products are available and should be considered before making any decisions. The target market for these products will be found within the product's Target Market Determination, available at commbank.com.au/tmd. Applications for finance are subject to credit approval. Fees and charges are payable.

¹The 'Medical & Professionals Offer' allows eligible professionals to apply to have Lenders' Mortgage Insurance (LMI) or Low Deposit Premier (LDP) waived. The loan must meet standard eligibility criteria and home loan eligibility criteria for the 'Medical & Professionals Offer'.

DIG4774 070322



RECENT ATO ANNOUNCEMENTS AFFECTING HMSA MEMBERS

\$120 deduction for every \$100 spent on technology

| From | 7:30pm AEDT, 29 March 2022 until |
|------|----------------------------------|
| | 30 June 2023 |

The Government intends to provide a 120% tax deduction for expenditure incurred by small businesses on business expenses and depreciating assets that support their digital adoption, such as portable payment devices, cyber security systems or subscriptions to cloud based services.

The technology boost will be available to small business with an aggregated annual turnover of less than \$50 million.

An annual expenditure cap of \$100,000 will apply to the boost.

The boost for eligible expenditure incurred by 30 June 2022 will be claimed in tax returns for the following income year. The boost for eligible expenditure incurred between 1 July 2022 and 30 June 2023 will be included in the income year in which the expenditure is incurred. That is, the additional deduction available under this measure is expected to be claimed in the 2023 tax return.

\$120 deduction for every \$100 spent on skills and training

| From | 7:30pm AEDT, 29 March 2022 until |
|------|----------------------------------|
| | 30 June 2024 |

The Government intends to provide a 120% tax deduction for expenditure incurred by small businesses on external training courses provided to employees. The deduction will be available to small business with an aggregated annual turnover of less than \$50 million. External training courses will need to be provided to employees in Australia or online and delivered by entities registered in Australia.

Some exclusions will apply, such as for in-house or on-the-job training and expenditure on external training courses for persons other than employees.

Read the remaining ATO announcements here





- Sharing medical knowledge and experience
- Facilitating connections and synergies between doctors and the community
- Promoting medical education and research
- Supporting medical philanthropy

HMSA Vision Statement:

Enabling doctors to promote better health for all Australians including those of Hellenic descent



HMSA Mission



Unite doctors with the community to achieve better health and inspire lifelong advancement in knowledge

SPONSORSHIPS AND PARTNERSHIPS

DIAMOND SPONSORS









OTHER SPONSORS













COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS













