



## Don Walker Awards 2006

### CALLING FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE HISA DON WALKER AWARDS

Dr Don Walker was a pioneer in the application of computers in Australian health care. Working with machine code, at a time when the hardware took up an entire room in his offices, Don made an invaluable contribution to Australian Health Informatics, particularly in the area of terminology.

It's in this spirit of innovation that the Health Informatics Society of Australia (HISA) is calling for submissions to the 2006 DON WALKER AWARDS. The 2006 Awards have been generously sponsored by Intel.

Nominees for the award, either individual or group, can come from any sector of the direct healthcare and associated industries and must have demonstrated that their work has improved patient outcomes through the use of innovative technological solutions.

Selection criteria for the award are shown below. The awards will be presented at the annual HISA HIC 2006 Gala dinner event.

The recipient(s) of the 2006 Don Walker Awards will have demonstrated a quantifiable impact on the improvement of patient outcomes through the use of innovative IT solutions, in any of the following categories:

- **Award 1: Efficiency**
  - Objectives
    - Reducing the unit cost of diagnostics and treatment
    - Improving the effectiveness of care delivery
    - Improving administrative processes
    - Improving throughput
  
- **Award 2: Quality**
  - Objectives
    - Preventing unnecessary hospital admissions
    - Avoiding medical errors
    - Improving health outcomes
    - Reducing waiting times
  
- **Award 3: Access to Care within:**
  - Objectives:
    - The successful application of health informatics in:
      - Emerging and underdeveloped economies
      - Underserved social and economic groups
      - Remote / rural communities

## **Nominations:**

Nominations can come from any sector of the direct healthcare industry (public, private, not for profit, community health, allied health, aged care, GPs, academia, science and technology etc) and associated industries (device manufactures, pharmaceuticals, IT industry, ISVs etc).

### **The timeline for the 2006 Awards are:**

#### **Announcement:**

July 17<sup>th</sup>

#### **Call for Submissions**

July 17<sup>th</sup> to August 9<sup>th</sup>

#### **Judging:**

10 – 17 August

#### **Award notification to successful applicants:**

18 -19 August

## **Award Submission:**

A proposal for a Don Walker Award will need to include the following detail:

- Names of those applying for the award
- Their organisational affiliations
- The award category that they are applying under
- How the applicants have met the objectives and criteria of the award category they are applying under
  - It is anticipated that this section will be up to a 4 page abstract with references

Award submissions should be sent to the HISA office at the following address, by the August 9 closing date

413 Lygon Street  
East Brunswick  
Vic 3057  
Australia

Or emailed to

[hisa@hisa.org.au](mailto:hisa@hisa.org.au)

## **Award Process:**

The Don Walker Awards will be conducted according to the HISA Award Process. This process is public and copies may be obtained by emailing [hisa@hisa.org.au](mailto:hisa@hisa.org.au), or calling the HISA office on 03-9388-0555

## **Award Criteria**

For each of the Award areas (Efficiency, Quality and Access to Care Within), the applicant, or nominee, for a Don Walker Award in health informatics must substantiate that the nominated work is significant, measured, sustained, and can be shared.

- To be **significant**, the nominee's work must have a demonstrated impact on the target organisations' health informatics processes. Although the works' focus will be upon the target organisations' informatics development and maintenance processes, it should also consider, as pertinent, the impact on the target organizations' management, workforce, and system development and maintenance processes.
- To be **measured**, the work must include the data used to guide the work and clearly demonstrate its impact. Improvement goals, factors, and metrics must be defined in a concrete manner. The work must involve assessment of the cause-and-effect relationship between changes and their impact.
- To be **sustained**, the work must lead to a continuing impact on the target organisations' health informatics projects. In particular, the work should result in well-documented support for effective, efficient, accurate process performance and continuous or processional improvement.
- To be **shared**, the insights, experiences, and proven practices stemming from the work must have been made available beyond the target organisations. I.e. – the winners' work must be reported in the following year's Australian HIC conference.

### **Award Presentation**

The Don Walker Awards will be presented at the HIC Gala Dinner 21<sup>st</sup> August 2006

### **Contact Details**

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Conference Web: <http://www.hic.org.au>