



# AMA

## TASMANIA

**MEDIA RELEASE – WEDNESDAY 4<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2010**

### Three Local Hospital Networks

The Australian Medical Association Tasmania (AMA) calls for the creation of three Local Hospital Networks (LHNs) based on the current boundaries of the three Area Health Services.

The spirit of the agreement of the Council of Australian Governments may be put at risk by attempts by some State Governments and their health bureaucracies and other organizations.

Dr. Michael Aizen, President of AMA Tasmania, expressed concern that control of the delivery of health care services by local communities will not eventuate and that central control will continue instead.

"Local communities, led by local doctors, are in the best position to make decisions about their health care and will spend more money on beds and less on desks."

Dr. Aizen calls on all candidates and all political parties to campaign for three autonomous LHN's. We cannot allow the loss of a once in a generation opportunity to improve access of care to all of our patients.

Dr. Aizen can be contacted on 0408 339 351 for additional comment.

END