



Queensland Government  
Queensland Health



Australian College of Health Service Executives (Qld Branch)

# BREAKFAST FORUM



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**DATE:** Wednesday 18 March 2009 (Online bookings at [www.achseqld.org.au](http://www.achseqld.org.au))

**TIME:** 7:00am – 8:30am

**VENUE:** Royal on the Park, Cnr Alice & Albert Streets, Brisbane

## “The Compassion Function in Microsoft Excel - A Sad Reflection on Today’s Healthcare”

**Mohamed Khadra** knows the Australian Healthcare System “inside out” – as a renowned surgeon, administrator, academic and patient! Professor Khadra maintains that the system lacks compassion, empathy and altruism and states that managers and health service executives are best placed to address these issues. He goes on to say that ‘compassion in health has been thought of as an implicit part of the work of doctors and nurses, those directly involved with healing. However, compassion needs to be part of the system; it needs to be part of the entire work of health departments. Increasingly, lower levels of management in the health system are being forced to engage in the macroeconomic view of the excel spreadsheet as a numeric representation of the world of healing’.

Professor Khadra is also passionate about empowering patients to become more involved and better informed about their healthcare choices. Patient outcomes are frequently much better in these circumstances, he postulates.

This presentation will touch a raw nerve with some clinicians, other health professionals and ‘spreadsheet-obsessed administrators’ but will also strengthen the resolve of empathetic health workers across the board to raise the standard of care in Australia’s health facilities.

Author of two books, “Making the Cut” and “The Patient”, Mohamed Khadra will present a ‘warts and all’ expose of the Australian Healthcare System and how it might be improved. [Refer Weekend Australian, 31 January 2009.](#)

*Mohamed Khadra is a renowned surgeon, educator and author, having written his first book, “Making the Cut” and more recently, his second book, “The Patient”. Mohamed is Professor of Surgery at The University of Sydney. He has served as Director of the School of Rural Health for the University of NSW, Pro Vice Chancellor for the University of Canberra and Inaugural Chair of Surgery for the Australian National University. Mohamed and his Michelle are co-founders of the Institute of Technology Australia, an accredited Higher Education Provider with a social justice mission that offers degrees in developing countries. He has degrees in medicine, education, computing and has a doctorate in neurophysiology. He is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. He is a practising urologist.*

### Breakfast Forum Details

**PROGRAM:** Full Hot Breakfast 7AM – 7.30AM followed by presentation at 7.30AM – 8.30AM

**PARKING:** Limited parking available at Royal on the Park - \$6.00 per car, please see Hotel Reception.

**PLEASE BOOK ONLINE AT** [www.achseqld.org.au](http://www.achseqld.org.au)

### COST (inc. GST)

\$40 – Member: ACHSE & RCNA, \$60 – Non-Members, \$500 – Table of 10, \$28 – Student (Full-Time)

**(Last Booking By – Monday 16 March 2009)**



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