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St George Hospital doctor lauded for his contribution to renal medicine

Professor Mark Brown, Director, St George and Sutherland Hospitals Renal Units has been recognised for his outstanding work with patients and exemplary contribution to renal medicine.

Professor Brown was recently presented the *John Edmonds Award for the Compleat Doctor*.

This Award was established by the St George Hospital Medical Staff Council in 2010 and recognises publically the exceptional service that St George and Sutherland Hospital clinicians provide to the local community.

Associate Professor Allan Sturgess, Chair of the St George Hospital Medical Staff Council, said Professor Brown's many contributions to St George Hospital included his work as Director of Physician Training, a vitally important position in the training of medical registrars – the future specialist physicians.

"An interest in medical education led Professor Brown into the role of the first Director of the Institute for Medical Education and Training (now the Health Education Training Institute) – a statutory NSW body charged with the professional development of all clinicians in NSW," Associate Professor Sturgess said.

"Professor Brown's special contributions to Renal Medicine include improving the understanding and treatment of high blood pressure, and the importance of palliative medicine in patients with renal disease," he said.

St George Hospital is the leading Australian Renal Unit in incorporating palliative medicine into the multidisciplinary care of patients with renal disease.

Associate Professor Sturgess said his most enjoyable task each year at the Medical Staff Council dinner is to announce the winner of the *John Edmonds Award for the Compleat Doctor*.

"I was lucky enough to work with Professor John Edmonds for many years in the Rheumatology Department at St George Hospital. He was and still is the model for what a doctor should be.

"Clinicians who win this award are those who most remind me of John Edmonds' approach to medicine," he said.

"The Medical Staff Council wanted to recognise a colleague, from any branch of medicine at St George and Sutherland Hospitals, who provides quality health care and who represents the best elements of doctoring.

"Being skilful at diagnosis and treatment, showing compassion for patients, contributing to teaching and research and being committed to serving their community are all qualities that Professor Mark Brown displays in his everyday work practices," Associate Professor Sturgess said.

South Eastern Sydney Local Health District
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Background

The *John Edmonds Award for the Compleat Doctor* was named after Professor John Edmonds, Rheumatologist and Chairman of the St George and Sutherland Medical Research Foundation.

The archaic spelling of 'compleat' in the Award title is a reference to Izaak Walton's classic book, *The Compleat Angler*, (published in 1650), which describes not only the techniques of fishing, but the character and mental state required to be a good fisherman.

Professor Brown joins two of his colleagues who have previously received the *John Edmonds Award for the Compleat Doctor*.

In 2010, Dr Robert Leitner, paediatrician and Director of the Developmental and Assessment Service in Kogarah was recognised for his work with children with intellectual disabilities; and in 2011, Dr Adam Chan, senior staff specialist and former Director, Emergency Department, St George Hospital, was lauded for his exceptional work in emergency medicine.

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