PAYING FOR TOMORROW'S HEALTH

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Dr Ian McPherson, CEO Southern Cross

Dr. Ian McPherson is Group Chief Executive of Southern Cross Healthcare. He holds a medical degree from Otago University and started his career in medicine with the Waikato Hospital Board in 1973 before establishing his own general practice in Thames in 1976. Early in his career he was a GP and also practiced in anaesthetics and obstetrics. From 1982 to 1985, he worked for the International Red Cross and was the first non-Swiss to be appointed as Medical Coordinator. He served in war zones during the Russian occupation of Afghanistan and worked with refugees on the Thai/Cambodian border and boat people in Malaysia. He has been CEO of several hospital boards and worked in the Prime Minister's Department and the Ministry of Health, advising on NZ health reform. He became Executive Chairman of Aetna International (NZ), and worked extensively in Asia. Prior to joining Southern Cross he was a regional general manager for Allianz Asia Pacific Ltd, overseeing health insurance operations in Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia.