



Comprehensive Diagnostic Breast Clinic

In June, we proudly opened the **Comprehensive Diagnostic Breast Clinic (CDBC)** in partnership with BreastScreen Qld, RBWH, Redcliffe Hospital and the Department of Health. The Clinic is transforming care for patients with symptomatic breast concerns. Patients consistently highlight the professionalism of the clinical team, the empathy shown throughout their journey, and the efficiency of the service. The clinic is making a meaningful difference in the lives of our community, reinforcing our commitment to delivering high-quality, patient-centred care.



TESTIMONIALS

"The service ran so brilliantly, from the moment I walked in the door I felt safe."

"I am so appreciative of the service provided. Finding the lump in my breast gave me a wake-up call - I am so grateful to have this concern resolved."

"I really enjoyed the one-stop-shop. I was put at ease knowing everything was going to be done in one appointment. All my concerns were considered by the clinical staff."

"Greatly appreciative for an incredible service."

"From the moment I spoke to the appointment booking lady, the receptionist, nurse and doctor - I knew I was going to be okay."

"I really would like to express my sincere thanks to the team that helped me; my experience was very positive."

"Everything was done in a timely manner; from the moment of seeing my GP, I was contacted for an appointment and was informed what would happen. I didn't have to worry about coming in multiple times for different appointments. I would have been worried sick if I had to come back several times."

COMPREHENSIVE BREAST CANCER INSTITUTE

IMPACT SNAPSHOT 2025

ADVOCATE. COLLABORATE. EDUCATE. INNOVATE.



Scan the QR code to read all the articles from 2025 or visit metronorth.health.qld.gov.au/cbci

Foreword

We are pleased to share the Comprehensive Breast Cancer Institute's (CBCI) 2025 Impact

Snapshot. This report highlights the Institute's ongoing commitment to facilitating high quality, comprehensive, and accessible care for people with breast cancer and other breast conditions across Metro North Health. We hope to inspire our stakeholders, dedicated care teams, and broader community to continue partnering with us in advancing this important mission.

Professor Owen Ung

Director, Comprehensive Breast Cancer Institute
Metro North Health



Royal Australasian College Of Surgeons (RACS) Presidency

CBCI's Clinical Director, Professor Owen Ung, was elected President of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) in May 2025, following two years as Vice President.

His appointment marked an historic first as the College's inaugural President of Asian Australian heritage, reflecting the diversity shaping surgery across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. Professor Ung said, "It is a tremendous honour to serve as RACS President. After my term, I look forward to continuing on the Board, strengthening membership, and supporting excellence in surgical education and care, while dedicating more time to research, my role as Mayne Professor of Surgery at the University of Queensland, and CBCI's ongoing work."



Improvements

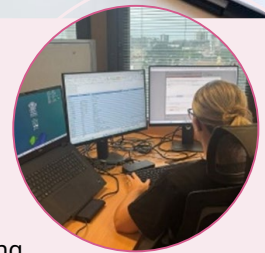
Breast Cancer Clinical Protocols

Developing comprehensive, evidence-based clinical protocols for breast cancer care remains a key priority for CBCI. In 2025 we engaged **Dr Sandy Minck** for a short period to lead the development of protocols for Metro North and the Comprehensive Breast Diagnostic Clinic, supporting clinical decision-making and standardising care in line with best practice. This work is ongoing as we continue to build on the strong foundations established. Dr Minck's expertise, passion and dedication have been an invaluable contribution to CBCI.



Clinical Cohort Data Collection

CBCI is progressing the development of Metro North's first comprehensive breast clinical data collection tool, enabling all facilities to consolidate data in a single repository. This will support real-time access to information, improve clinical decision-making and care coordination, and enhance patient outcomes. The tool will also provide a strong foundation for future research, with data readily available and appropriately structured.



Westmead Hospital Visit

During the year, we visited the **Westmead Breast Cancer Institute**, a leading Australian centre for diagnosis and treatment. The team gained valuable insights into clinic workflows, service coordination and multidisciplinary care, observing its integrated model in practice. The seamless delivery of screening, treatment and support set a strong benchmark for patient-centred excellence, informing improvements across Metro North.



Community Engagement



Breast Cancer Awareness Month Community Forum

In October we hosted our annual community forum during **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**. This year's event, "Living Well with Lymphoedema – From Evidence to Action" was presented by Professor John Boyages AM, an internationally recognised radiation oncologist, researcher, and author who has dedicated his career to improving the outcomes for people living with breast cancer and lymphoedema.

TESTIMONIALS

"All presenters were excellent. Very engaging of the audience."
"The presentation was wonderful. Such a great way to learn about breast care and the people experiencing treatment being able to smile and take time out to network with others in the same boat."



RBWH Foundation Giving Day

CBCI staff joined the **RBWH Foundation Giving Day** phone room to answer calls from generous donors. World-class patient care initiatives and life-saving research will benefit from funds raised.



NAIDOC Week

We attended the **NAIDOC Flag Raising Event** in Caboolture and the **Northside NAIDOC Family Fun Day** in Zillmere with the Metro North Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander team, reinforcing our commitment to culturally safe, appropriate, and equitable breast care services.



Community Presentation

CBCI were invited to be guest presenters at a breast cancer fund raising event. We shared information on current breast cancer research, innovations, and community education events. The event was a success, raising many thousands of dollars for breast cancer.



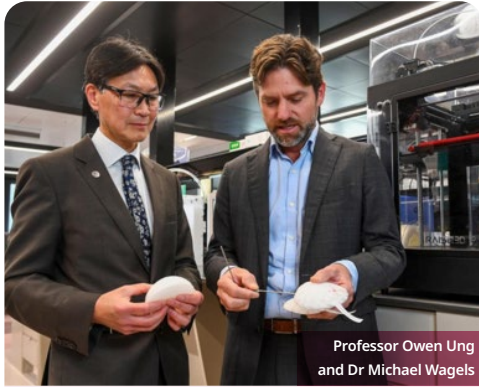
GP Education Event

We hosted our annual **GP Breast Education** event in June. It was a successful morning with many community GPs attending, deepening their knowledge on the latest clinical breast practices. The event covered topics such as breast cancer genetics, contrast enhanced mammography, lymphoedema management, and neoadjuvant chemotherapy.

TESTIMONIAL

"The speakers were all excellent and I thoroughly enjoyed the morning and was very glad I had given up my morning to attend. Thank you for organising."

Research



3D Scaffold Trial

Marking a global first, the scaffold guided breast reconstruction surgery clinical trial successfully completed its one year follow up of 19 patients with no major complications, demonstrating both the safety and promise of this pioneering approach. The landmark outcomes and detailed surgical methodology were recently published by Professor Owen Ung and colleagues in the leading international peer reviewed journal BMJ Open (Cheng et al., 2025), reinforcing our position to be at the forefront of surgical innovation and clinical translation.

Advancing Breast Cancer Research

Translating innovation into patient care

CBCI delivers best-practice breast care through innovation, education and research, guided by a shared commitment to excellence. We support a broad spectrum of research - from basic and implementation science to clinical trials and qualitative studies - and work closely with Metro North staff, providing advice on study design, funding and ethics, access to research networks, and coordination support to enable high-quality research and higher degree training.



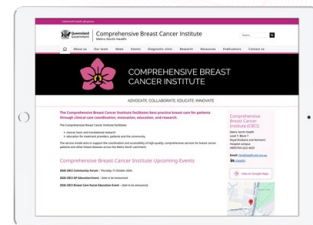
Our Research Students

- **PhD candidate:** "Clinical, psychological and health economics aspects of Intraoperative Radiation Therapy (IORT) compared to External Beam Radiation Therapy (EBRT)"
- **MPhil candidate:** "Patient Reported Outcomes (PROs) in scaffold guided breast reconstruction surgery"
- **Undergraduate student:** "Scaffold volume to surface area ratio"

Communication

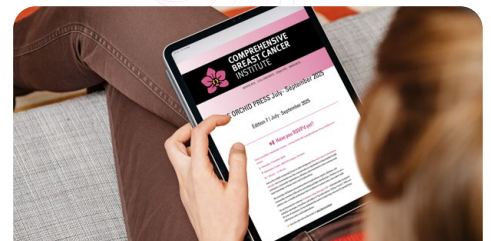
CBCI LinkedIn

We expanded our professional reach through LinkedIn, sharing regular updates on events, research, achievements, community engagement, and sector news. The platform has strengthened stakeholder engagement and our community awareness.



Our Website

Our website is a central and reliable source of timely, up-to-date information for the community. The site showcases upcoming events, news, team profiles, research initiatives, resources, and publications, while also serving as an important channel for managing public enquiries and supporting responsive, accessible communication.



The Orchid Press

We have continued to strengthen our community connection through the quarterly **Orchid Press** with a growing readership. Each edition delivers timely updates on breast cancer support, screening, community forums, patient stories, research, and wellbeing - enhancing awareness, engagement, and connection.

Thank You To Our Supporters

CBCI sincerely thanks everyone who supported our work this year. The generosity and dedication of our partners, clinicians, researchers, volunteers, and community members drive all that we do. Your support enables us to advance research, strengthen care, and better meet the needs of those affected by breast cancer.