

METRO NORTH EXECUTIVE MESSAGE

We uphold our commitment to health equity through our Values in Action

Respect • Integrity • Compassion • High performance • Teamwork



Chief Executive Adjunct Prof Jackie Hanson

Dear colleagues,

We are still seeing a sustained increase in demand. Thank you for everything you are doing to support timely patient care. We have activated some of our private hospital contracts and some lower acuity patients are in those beds. To help alleviate some of the pressure, we are currently using billboards and social media advertising to promote other healthcare options such as the Minor Injury and Illness Clinics at the satellite hospitals, the Virtual Emergency Care Service (previously Virtual ED), and Medicare urgent care clinics.



This week the Director-General Dr Michael Walsh and I visited RBWH Emergency and Trauma Centre, along with Deputy DG Melissa Carter and QAS Commissioner Craig Emery. We were joined by Louise Oriti, Kesh Baboolal, John Burke and Lisa Harvey. The DG and Mel also visited Caboolture ED to talk to staff on Tuesday. The visits were to thank staff and see firsthand how the departments operate.

Redcliffe ieMR go-live

This week Redcliffe Hospital went live with ieMR. There has been a huge amount of work done by the teams at Redcliffe and Digital Metro North to reach this milestone. Congratulations to all involved. I was at Redcliffe on Wednesday to talk to staff about how it was going. Thank you everyone for your work.

Caboolture and Kilcoy Hospitals will be next up for ieMR implementation.



Research Excellence Awards

We have extended the Metro North Research Excellence Awards until Monday 5pm. If you haven't yet nominated your research project, colleague or team, please take a few minutes over the weekend to share the great achievements. You don't need to be on a Queensland Health computer to access the nomination website.

[Nominate now](#)

TPCH junior doctor takes out 30 under 30 title

Orthopaedic surgery Principal House Officer Helena Franco has been named in Forbes magazine's 30 under 30 list.

The 29-year-old The Prince Charles Hospital junior doctor is currently vying for a place on the orthopaedics program, having honed her passion for the area after many great placements around Brisbane as well as completing her Masters in Medical Sciences in global health delivery at Harvard University.

During her time at Harvard, she was further inspired to look at innovative new ways of working, something she hopes to take through her career and further cemented her love of orthopaedics.



[Read Newsroom article](#)

Health Equity Showcase

Yesterday we held a Health Equity Showcase. As part of ensuring our Health Equity Strategy is a living document, we hold two community engagement events and two showcases each year.

It was excellent to see the presentations of programs and services which are doing innovative work to close the gap in health outcomes and provide more equitable services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



Thank you to all the teams who presented and to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Team for another excellent community health equity event.

[Health Equity strategy](#)

Gender self-identification law change

The new *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 2023* came into effect this week, which introduces a new framework allowing trans and gender diverse people to obtain legal recognition of their gender identity.

People born in Queensland can apply to update the sex recorded on their birth certificate, while people living in Queensland and born elsewhere can apply for a 'recognised details certificate' giving legal recognition to their identified sex/gender.

For children under 16, a developmentally informed practitioner needs to complete part of the application. These may be doctors, registered nurses, midwives, or specific allied health professions.

[Find out more](#)

Bribie Island Satellite Hospital

We are only a few weeks out from commencing services at Bribie Island Satellite Hospital (Yarun) on 17 July. We will be holding a community open day on Thursday 11 July. As the cancer care service is still being constructed, onsite parking will be limited to people with disabled parking permits. We will have minibuses picking up people from nearby locations for tours and to hear about the services on offer.

Bribie Island Satellite Hospital will open in two stages. The first stage includes the Minor Injury and Illness Clinic, Day Medical and Haemodialysis Unit, Mental Health service, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Hub including community midwifery service and perinatal mental health. The second stage, including the cancer care service, will open in 2025.

Kind regards,
Jackie



Chief Operating Officer
Adj. Prof. Jane Hancock

In the context of dealing with high demand for Mental Health, I hosted a vidcast with Acting ED Metro North Mental Health Liam Wishart and Mental Health project leads Louise Durant and Becci Mann about exciting enhancements across our Mental Health services. Many of these enhancements are aimed at looking at evidence based models of care to identify and support consumers in crisis with a focus on early intervention.

The Acute Mobile Crisis Assessment and Response Team (AMCART) is a new model of care to support people in the community in mental health crisis. AMCART is a pilot program for adults in the RBWH catchment. Unlike the QAS Mental Health co-responder model, consumers will not need to call Triple 0 to access the service. People can contact 1300 MHCALL, our 24-hour mental health support line, and will be referred to AMCART if suitable. The program is currently funded for 12 months with the aim to expand across Metro North.

Mental Health is also introducing a Hospital in the Home service for people in the community and expanding the number of Mental Health ICU (MHICU) beds across Metro North. MHICU beds are adjacent to Mental Health inpatient wards and provide care for acutely unwell patients. We are in the process of recommissioning four MHICU beds at Caboolture. TPCH currently has 3 MHICU beds which can flex up to 5. We are looking at ways to reconfigure the space to increase capacity.

Also at TPCH is the new Crisis Stabilisation Facility which will open in September. The unit has been built off-site as modules which have recently been dropped into place. The unit is now being commissioned and will have capacity for up to 12 patients, 6 in short stay and 6 in the lounge.

Mental Health has worked with consumers, carers and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to co-design the services, including presenting at yesterday's Health Equity Showcase. They are working closely with the Brisbane North Primary Health Network to communicate with GPs about how to refer to these new models of care.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the work of the Mental Health staff and directorates who

support this work to ensure that those who access our mental health services receive the most appropriate care at the right time.

There is a big challenge ahead to create and strengthen mental health services, strengthening the services and offerings in general healthcare, community mental health services and beyond the health sector.

Warm regards,
Jane



Follow Metro North on social media

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which our facilities are built. We also pay respect and acknowledge Elders past, present and the future.



Metro North
Health



Queensland
Government

Produced by the Metro North Communication Directorate

If you have received this email and do not work for Metro North please follow this link to be removed from the mailing list.
[Email us](#)