

METRO NORTH EXECUTIVE MESSAGE

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

Respect • Integrity • Compassion • High performance • Teamwork

VALUES
IN ACTION

Chief Executive Adjunct Prof Jackie Hanson

Dear colleagues,

Focus on the First Quarter

On Monday we launched Focus on the First Quarter, our Metro North Year of Children, Adolescents and Young Adult. Unfortunately, I was sick so couldn't attend, but there were around 90 attendees with good representation from our directorates. Thank you to Sherry Holzapfel who stepped in for me to open the event.



Speakers at the launch included Dr Elizabeth Whiting who is leading the Queensland Health reform program including the Putting Queensland Kids First strategy. Liz was also the lead for Metro North's Year of the Frail Older Person in 2017 and talked about the statewide benefits that stemmed from our campaign, such as the expansion of GEDI and Eat Walk Engage, and funding for Advanced Care Planning.

Associate Professor Elisabeth Murphy from the NSW Ministry of Health talked about NSW's Brighter Beginnings: the first 2000 days of life, and the research which has informed the program. Other speakers were child and adolescent psychiatrist Professor James Scott, Queensland Mental Health Commissioner Ivan Frkovic, the Mater's Associate Professor Simon Denny, Debbie Sutherland and Kate Ellis from the Caboolture Young Mothers for Young Women program, and a panel of consumers.

Well done to Professor Leonie Callaway, Laura Stevens and Lisa Dixon from the Women, Children and Families Stream who put the event together. Leonie and I are holding a vidcast next week to talk about why we are focusing on healthcare from conception to 25-year-olds and the developmental origins of health and disease. Please join in at 11am on Wednesday 17 July.

Pictured Lisa Dixon with consumers Bree and Emily; Dr Elizabeth Whiting



NAIDOC Week

We have had a full week of NAIDOC activities. I haven't been able to get to all of them, but I hope you've had the opportunity to attend a local Yarning Circle or take part in cultural activities. *(Pictured: CKW Cultural Capability Officer Janita Adams and Manager Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Health Tracy Grant, Jackie Hanson, ED Clinical Governance Grant Carey-Ide)*



Bribie Island Satellite Hospital

Bribie Island Satellite Hospital opens next Wednesday, 17 July. Yesterday we held the community open day which included facility tours and a Q&A session with staff about the services on offer and how to access them. About 250 people attended through the morning, enjoying a cuppa and a Lions Club sausage sizzle. The tours were very popular and I received positive feedback about the range of services and having more access to healthcare in the community. Thank you to all the staff who were there to help on the day and to the subject matter experts who did the Q&A sessions.

Pictured: Day Therapy Medical Unit/ Kidney Health Service staff; Minor Injuries & Illness Clinic staff; Q&A panel; Mike from Kidney Health Service, Becky from HAART, Leslie from DMTU, and Sarah from Minor Injuries & Illness Clinic.



Sexual Harassment Contact Officers

This year Metro North has done significant work on our [framework](#) to prevent and respond to sexual harassment in the workplace. This month the Director-General also announced new Sexual Harassment Contact Officers across Queensland Health who can be the first point of contact for employees who experience or witness sexual harassment in the workplace. Metro North has nine trained [SHCOs](#).

Trainee of the Year

Congratulations to Ryan Wareham from Northpine Christian College, Dakabin, who has been named School-based Apprentice or Trainee of the Year at the Queensland Training Awards. Ryan was recognised for his work at Caboolture Hospital while completing a Certificate III in Health Services Assistance.

ARI Tier 2

Metro North will make a planned transition to Tier 2 in our Acute Respiratory Illness response plan on 23 July. The main change for staff will be shifting meetings and training to virtual where feasible, except essential face to face training. Staff will continue to be encouraged to wear masks in clinical areas, in line with PPE guidelines. Staff are also reminded to keep COVID and flu vaccinations and fit testing up to date, practice good hand hygiene, and stay home if you're unwell. Visitors will also be encouraged to wear masks, sanitise hands on entry and exit, and avoid visiting if they have respiratory illness symptoms.

Kind regards,
Jackie



Chief Medical Officer
Dr Liz Rushbrook

I hope you've all had a good NAIDOC Week and have taken some time to reflect on and/or learn more about the rich cultures and histories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It's especially timely to recognise the value for our communities and our HHS that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander doctors provide, and the critical importance of each of our roles in creating and supporting cultural safety for staff and patients.

Pacific Region Indigenous Doctors Conference (PRIDoc) 2024: 02-06 December 2024

PriDoc is a congress that brings together the foremost Indigenous doctors' member organisations from across the Pacific. This includes the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA), Ahahui o nā Kauka, Association of American Indian Physicians, Indigenous Physicians Association of Canada (IPAC), Medical Association for Indigenous People of Taiwan (MAIPT), and Te Ohu Rata O Aotearoa (Te ORA).

This week the Department of Health has advised it will sponsor 6 junior doctors (3 PGY1, 3 PGY2/3) from across Queensland Health to attend PRIDoc. This includes airfares, accommodation, and conference registration costs. I encourage any of Metro North PGY1-3 doctors to express an interest in this opportunity. I also ask you to favourably consider any leave applications to attend the conference.

PGY 1: <https://aida.eventsair.com/pridoc-2024/funding-applications>

PGY 2/3: <https://aida.eventsair.com/pridoc-2024/pgy2-pgy3-funding>

The PRIDoc theme this year is *Ngadluku Warra, Ngadluku Tapa Purruna, Ngadluku Purruna (Our Language, Our Culture, Our Health)*. The conference will be held in Kurna Country, Adelaide, from 2-6 December.

Metro North doctors yarning opportunity

Together with the Metro North Executive Director of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, I would like to invite Metro North Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander doctors to a yarning opportunity hosted at The Prince Charles Hospital healing garden on Wednesday 7 August from 0730 – 1000. Come along for as little or as long as you want. Topics for yarning will include cultural safety for doctors, cultural load at work and beyond, and training our people. If you would like to attend (or would like to but can't), please feel free to email CMO-MNHHS@health.qld.gov.au to let us know of your interest.



Chief Allied Health Practitioner
Mark Butterworth

It has been six months since we launched the Metro North Health Disability Services Action Plan and great work is happening across all our services. I would like to let you know that Metro North Health is partnering with Autism Queensland to promote its Digital Workforce Peer Mentoring program.

Autism Queensland is facilitating group sessions with neurodivergent Queenslanders working in the digital sector. As Metro North Health is transitioning towards a digital healthcare system, Autism Queensland is willing to support Metro North staff through this program.

- To find out more, read on and follow the links below. AQ's Digital Mentoring Program is for neurodivergent employees in digital careers looking to:
- Develop their identity within the digital workforce sector
- Connect with other neurodivergent employees in a safe space
- Explore strategies to overcome workplace barriers or challenges
- Develop or improve connectedness with colleagues and/or those in their industry
- Develop strategies to manage their wellbeing and increase self-confidence and self-advocacy skills.

If you are interested, please use the following link to access the enquiry form.

[Enquiry form](#)

If you need any help or have any further questions, please contact:

communityinclusion@autismqld.com.au



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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



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