



Dear colleagues,

I'm very pleased to announce we have a successful candidate for the new role of **Director Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health**. Roslyn Boland will be taking up this exciting role. Roslyn is a Mardigan and Kooma woman from south-west Queensland. She has over 20 years' experience with Queensland Health in community, inpatient, workforce and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health, as a Registered Nurse, Aboriginal Health Worker, and Hospital Liaison Officer. Roslyn has held Nurse Unit Manager roles in Southwest, Metro South and Central Queensland. The Cultural Capability Officer will operate under this role, while Roslyn will report to the ED.

Her strong community connections will ensure this is a very positive appointment for RBWH. She will commence the role on Monday.

NAIDOC Week



This week is NAIDOC Week, a time to honour the ancient traditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and to learn more about and celebrate their cultures. On Monday, RBWH Cultural Capability Officer Geoff Binge led a flag-raising ceremony at the Main Entrance. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island flags were raised by proud Kalkadoon man Robert Ah Wing and proud Badu Island man Henry Nona respectively. Afterwards both spoke about the significance of the flag designs and colours and spoke in detail about the significance of NAIDOC Week, both on a cultural and personal level. It was clear listening to them how much they value this week as a time to come together with family and community.

On Thursday we were treated to the incredibly moving NAIDOC Week event guest speaker presentation, 'A Healing Journey – an Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Experience', in which brothers Uncle David and Uncle Michael Wragge told of their experiences growing up as 'Domo Boys', when they were removed from their family and sent to live in a dormitory.



From left: David Wragge, RBWH Executive Director Louise Oriti, Michael Wragge, RBWH Cultural Capability Officer Geoff Binge.

It was a privilege to hear these men so bravely speak about a terribly sad part of their personal histories and their subsequent healing journeys. It starkly demonstrates how much these past government policies have impacted on people's lives for generations.

Another reminder of why we strive to ['keep the fire burning'](#) for Health Equity.

First NanoKnife procedure at a public hospital performed at RBWH

Yesterday, Thursday 11 July, an Australian first was achieved at RBWH, with the first NanoKnife Irreversible Electroporation (IRE) procedure carried at a public hospital. IRE is a prostate cancer treatment that uses focal ablation with pulsed electricity to treat the cancer at the cellular level. It aims to preserve non-cancerous tissue. Once the cancer cells are destroyed it relies on the body's natural healing ability to replace cancer cells.

The procedure was performed at under general anaesthetic by Dr John Yaxley and Associate Professor Matthew Roberts, with the assistance of a representative from Getz Healthcare to run the NanoKnife system.

Funding for the project, led by A/Prof Roberts has been provided by Queensland Technology Future Fund, part of the Office of Research and Innovation.

I am pleased to report that the procedure went ahead successfully, with the patient happy and pain free afterwards.

Congratulations to everyone involved in integrating this exciting technology into our patient care.

Bed access and staffing

Metro North Incident Management Team meetings around bed availability and staffing have now ceased, but we are continuing to invest time and effort on new ways to address capacity issues.

At this time of year there are a lot of staff taking sick leave due to respiratory illnesses such as COVID and influenza.

The Executive is working on a range of strategies in this area. For example, there are currently 20 medical beds available to RBWH and TPCH at the Wesley Hospital, and we are looking at the possibility of some short-term arrangements with STARS.

Five Year Outlook Plan progress

We are coming to the end of Phase 3 of 5 of formulating our Five Year Outlook Plan for RBWH. Phase 3 has involved a large amount of consultation with various groups and professions, testing and gathering feedback and are looking to have a final plan ready by the end of July, early August.

In other exciting news Metro North is investing in the development of a Herston Health Precinct Masterplan. This relates to having a good understanding on the future growth demand and requirements and infrastructure on campus that will support the service we provide now and in the years to come. This work is proposed to commence in the next few weeks and will continue to the end of the year.

Personal security on campus

I would like to remind staff to be aware of your personal safety while at work and while travelling to and from work. Always be observant of your environment and, if you have any concerns, please notify police or security.

In the event of suspicious activity off campus please contact **Police Link on 131444** or for urgent assistance please call **triple-0**.

In the event of suspicious activity on campus call the **Security Central Monitoring Room on 3646 5188 (ext. 65188)**.

If urgent assistance is required on campus please call **55** or alternately, if on a mobile phone, please call **3646 8200 or 3647 8111** for an urgent line to the RBWH switchboard.

It's recommended to save these numbers into your mobile device for quick access.

Chinese Delegation visit

On Tuesday we welcomed 27 visitors from Chinese hospitals as part of the Digital Hospitals Training Program at the Queensland Digital Health Centre, supported by Mindray. Made up of executive staff and high-ranking clinicians, the group were keenly interested in learning about our hospital and its processes.

After receiving an overview of the hospital, the group visited the Wattlebrae Infectious Diseases Ward and the ETC. Some of the delegates' own hospitals somewhat dwarf our own, with over 5,000 beds, but they were impressed by the efficiency of the way we operate, and particularly our use of digital technologies to bolster the care we give patients. Thank you for those on the wards for accommodating the visit.



Thank you to all staff for the kindness and compassion you provide to our patients.

Kind regards,

Louise Oriti

Executive Director

Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital

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



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