



Dear colleagues,

Unprecedented success of Giving Day

Chief Executive Officer of the RBWH Foundation Simone Garske attended the Executive Committee meeting this week to give us an update on Foundation activities.

She confirmed what we already knew – this year's Giving Day was an unprecedented success, with the \$750,000 raised far exceeding the \$600,000 target.

Simone highlighted that while raising money and the hospital's profile are key elements of the day, perhaps even more important now is raising spirits among patients, staff and the community.

The Foundation is exploring ways of taking those many moments of joy experienced on the day and continuing them through the year, into wards and directly to patients and staff.

Simone and her team are already thinking about next year's Giving Day, which will be a 40-year celebration of the RBWH Foundation.

I look forward to seeing what our friends at the Foundation bring to RBWH over the next 12 months.

Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Services update

Surgery and Perioperative Services are commencing a body of work on service modelling for Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery Services. Here's a summary of what's happening in that space:

The team see more than 7,000 cases per year, the majority for cancer. Demand exceeds provision and capacity, which can mean long waits in outpatients and elective surgery.

A clinically recommended approach to reducing patient wait times resulted in an additional 300+ new patients seen (Super Saturday Clinics).

For the Financial Year 2024-2025, the future of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery Services at RBWH will be defined and created through actions that will build and refine the structure, services, and processes to provide excellence, research and safety.

The team, under the leadership of Dr Cameron Mackay, has a strong focus on building foundations that support:

- The identity of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery within both RBWH and Queensland, supported by a strong reputation and branding.
- A strong understanding of service demand, both current and 5-10-year projections, outlining capability requirements to deliver the appropriate levels of service.
- Establishing a strong research strategy supported by actions to implement research into practice, including links to quality improvement and excellence.

Ward refurbishment update

I'd like to provide an update on the work that is being done to upgrade wards, focusing particularly on level 7 of the Ned Hanlon Building at present.

- 7AS has now completed the mini refurbishment including carpet replacement with vinyl, painting and full mould remediation. This was a six-week project while the ward remained open.
- 7BNWS are now progressing a mini refurbishment including carpet replacement with vinyl, painting and full mould remediation. This is a 12-week project, while the ward remains open.
- Wattlebrae is undergoing a 16-bed bay upgrade. Bed Bays 1-5 are complete with Bay 6 expected to be finished by 6 August and project timeline for completion is by 13 September.

OT trio celebrate 20 years of service together



L-R: Sue Laracy, Tennille Rowland, Michelle Donovan, Cherie Aceto.

Three members of the Royal's Occupational Therapy team recently received their 20-year Length of Service Awards, highlighting the depth of experience available to patients in OT.

Michelle Donovan, Tennille Rowland and Cherie Aceto all attributed a sense of camaraderie in the team and strong support from peers as the reasons for their longevity.

Occupational Therapist Director Sue Laracy said:

"Tennille, Cherie and Michelle have provided 20 years of dedicated service as advanced specialists in occupational therapy in the areas of acute stroke management, hand therapy and plastics (respectively). They are highly regarded by their colleagues and a valued asset of our team," said Sue.

"They reflect the values of Metro North every day in their daily practice and are great team players."

Staff profile: First Nations Clinical Nurse Consultant Cancer Care Coordinator Amy Windisch

A warm welcome to Amy Windisch to the new role of First Nations Clinical Nurse Consultant

Cancer Care Coordinator at RBWH.

The role focuses on improving service access for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander patients with cancer and/or complex healthcare needs, by reducing fragmentation, mitigating barriers through listening, educating, advocacy, empowering, improving health literacy and supporting coordinated care through the creation of partnerships with care providers including local and primary care and non-government providers.

Amy is a proud Kamilaroi woman, raised on Dharawal Country on the South Coast of NSW with family ties to the Coonabarabran and Gunnedah region of NSW.

She is a registered nurse with over nine years of Oncology/Haematology and Radiation experience.

Please contact the First Nations Clinical Nurse Consultant Cancer Care Coordinator via email amy.windisch@health.qld.gov.au or mobile 0439 968 981 if you identify any Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander patients with cancer requiring support.



Acute Respiratory Illness - Tier 2

I'd like to remind staff that 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.

On a personal note

I will be taking four days recreation leave next week, 23-26 July. My mother will be visiting so many family events are organised. I so value having four generations of family meeting and enjoying each other's company.

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

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.



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