

# Executive Message

## Metro North Health



### Chief Executive Adj. Prof. Jackie Hanson



Dear colleagues

With so many talented staff working across our hospital and health service, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you the Metro North Staff Excellence Awards nominations will close on Monday 21 October at 7:00pm. The deadline has been extended to allow for the weekend to get in any last-minute nominations. Whether you are clinical, operational, professional or admin – you are all eligible for the awards and I would love to see as many people recognised this year as possible! Nominate a colleague [here](#).

#### Executive Director of Clinical Services EOI

I am pleased to share that following a successful EOI process, Dr Jason Jenkins will be taking up the role of Executive Director of Clinical Services for 12 months. During this time, Dr Jenkins will also continue with his clinical duties as the Director of Vascular Surgery. I'd like to thank and acknowledge the work of Professor Glen Kennedy who has been in this role and has provided strong leadership and direction while also juggling his role in cancer care. Professor Kennedy will now be focussing on his role of Executive Director Cancer Care Services in line with the ramping up of the Queensland Cancer Centre which will be coming to our Herston Health Precinct. Thank you Glen and congratulations Jason.

#### The Prince Charles Hospital Expansion Project celebrates start of construction

This week I attended a smoking ceremony at The Prince Charles Hospital as we marked the start of construction for a new six storey Acute Services Building.

The traditional smoking ceremony was performed by Elder Aunty Kathryn Fisher on behalf of the Turrbal People of Brisbane and

provided opportunity to cleanse the building site and pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging. It was wonderful to see so many Elders and patients in attendance and to hear the great feedback from them about our culturally safe and inclusive building design.



A group of clinicians from STARS and RBWH attended a five-day course this week to learn more about spinal cord injury management. The team attended training in Sydney to allow us to have a more skilled workforce in this specific area, where they were able to network and learn from other experts across Australia.

#### Safe Work Month reminder: week four - musculoskeletal injuries

It's been exciting to see so many of our facilities focussing on Safe Work Month activities over the past few weeks. At Redcliffe Hospital, the team had a staff BBQ to increase awareness of the month – with staff taking part in fun challenges and competitions to encourage learning about health and safety. This coming week focusses on musculoskeletal injuries, which is specifically relevant to manual tasks such as lifting, lowering, pushing, carrying or holding any item or person. There are plenty more activities for the week to share knowledge in this area, so check them out [here](#).



#### Caretaker conventions

A reminder we are in caretaker period with the state election coming up on 26 October. Business as usual continues through this time, however, it is vital as public servants we know our responsibilities. We must also remain apolitical and avoid using state resources in a way that may advantage a particular political party.

More information is available in the [Cabinet Handbook](#) and the [2024 State Election caretaker guidelines](#).

Regards,  
Jackie

Chief Operating Officer  
**Adj. Prof. Jane Hancock**



### Protecting privacy and confidentiality

As a Hospital and Health Service we collect and use huge amounts of personal information every day. To deliver excellent clinical care, we need patients to be comfortable sharing their personal health information and be confident that we will handle and store their information with care. We all have a responsibility to uphold privacy rights and protect and respect personal information.

I highly recommend watching the short video on the [Information access and privacy QHEPS page](#) for a quick refresher on when you're allowed to access patient records (including your own), rules around discussing patients with other people, disposing of patient lists and other confidential information, and requesting access to patient records.

Metro North has also developed privacy and confidentiality training which outlines your responsibilities when handling personal information and confidential patient information. All staff should complete the training in TMS to ensure you understand your responsibilities, regardless of your role.

It is also a requirement under the [Use of Email Standard](#) to use only your Queensland Health email address for any work related emails. Forwarding potentially sensitive information to a private email address, such as Gmail, is not allowed.

You can find out more about everyone's privacy and confidentiality requirements and safeguarding information on our [cyber security](#) and [information privacy](#) QHEPS pages.

Warm regards,  
Jane

**Metro North Health**





We uphold our commitment to health equity through our Values in Action  
Respect | Integrity | Compassion | High performance | Teamwork

Metro North Health acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the Land upon which we live, work and walk, and pay our respects to Elders both past and present.



Queensland  
Government

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