



Dear team

We had some exciting news last Friday night, with Dr George Javorsky receiving the Leadership Award at the 10th annual Metro North Staff Excellence Awards.

Dr Javorsky is well known across Metro North Health and at TPCH, and recently made the decision to step down from his role as Chair of the TPCH Staff Council and the Metro North Clinical Council after many years of dedicated service.

We're grateful to Dr Javorsky for his leadership of our Staff Council and for his continuing role within the TPCH community.

Regrettably, Dr Javorsky wasn't able to be there to receive his award in person, but we'll make sure he receives his award when he's back with us.

If you were among the 600 staff members who attended the gala, photos of the night have been uploaded to the [Metro North Staff Community Facebook Group](#).



### ***Allied Health Symposium***

The inaugural TPCH Allied Health Research Symposium was a great success, showcasing 14 allied health projects across a diverse range of clinical conditions, clinical teams, services and specialty areas.

The Symposium was the culmination of the hard work and dedication of our clinician researchers pursuing projects that enable people to live healthier and happier lives.

Our Allied Health clinicians at TPCH are a powerhouse of clinical research, participating in more than 100 active research projects and having secured 46 research and project grants valued at over \$8.2 million, including prestigious MRFF and NMHRC grants.

Congratulations also to award recipients presented at the Symposium, including:

- Angela Matson from Nutrition and Dietetics (right) with the People's Choice Award
- Kylie Bebel (Occupational Therapy) receiving the Clinical Impact Award and



- Kelly Costa and Isabella Sandstrom from Physiotherapy awarded the Novice Researcher Award.

### ***Health Equity Showcase***

A highlight for me this week was being one of 300+ participants at Metro North's second Health Equity Showcase for 2024. Thanks again to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Team for arranging the event.

I was particularly moved by the patient stories - especially the reflections of one patient about how health professionals often focus on a diagnosis, prescribing medication or arranging surgery - without looking at the whole picture of what is happening in that patient's world. It was a poignant reminder that we don't treat a condition or disease; we treat a person who knows best what is important to them.

### ***Shout out to the HIU team***



I spent some time this week with the Health Information Services (HIS) team, which includes the Medical Records and Mail Service, Health Information Management and Clinical Coding, Health Informatics, and the Information Access Unit.

HIS work hard to support TPCH in activity counting and optimisation, data quality and reporting, system management, provision of patient information to support ongoing care, upholding privacy and confidentiality, and ensuring appropriate release of information.

They all do a great job, and we're proud to have them part of the TPCH team.

### ***Christmas Decoration Competition***



Entries are now open for this year's TPCH Christmas Decoration Competition.

Wards and work units are encouraged to [register](#) for any of the three award categories - including Traditional Christmas, Aussie Christmas, and a unique display category for those inspired to do something extraordinary.

Photos of last year's winners are on the [QHEPS page](#) if you need some inspiration.

Among the wards and areas already entered are the Paediatric ward, Ward 1C, the Paediatric Emergency Department, and the transit lounge.

Christmas decorations are one way we can help share joy with our patients during a time of year when it can be particularly difficult to be away from home.

As enthusiastic as we are about sharing our Christmas spirit, all the usual rules around infection prevention, electrical and fire safety, and workplace health and safety continue to apply - read more and [register for the competition on QHEPS](#).

### ***Unacceptable Behaviour – Discharge from Care Procedure***

Occupational Violence (OV) is one of the leading work-related incidents reported by Metro North staff. Nobody should accept OV as 'part of the job'.

Metro North has an *Unacceptable Behaviour – Discharge from Care Procedure* that provides a structured framework for staff to work with senior clinicians to discharge a patient from care when there is an immediate risk of harm to themselves or others. The procedure includes a rapid assessment, employing de-escalation strategies and a critical risk assessment before a patient is discharged.

I encourage everyone to find out more and [watch the new video](#) to familiarise themselves with the procedure.

### ***Planned non-essential power shutdown***

As part of planned electrical works, there will need to be another planned non-essential power shutdown in early December. It won't be as extensive as the last one but will involve services in Building 01 and Building 15.



These works will enable power to be connected to Building 50, the new office accommodation for staff decanting from Building 14.

We have yet to confirm the exact date for the planned shutdown, but we'll make sure everyone has plenty of notice. Like last time, it will likely be early morning on the weekend to minimise disruption.

When the planned power shutdown occurs, parts of buildings 01 and 15 will lose non-essential power (white power points) for approximately two hours.

More details about what's planned and how everyone impacted can help prepare will be coming soon.

### ***Ministerial priorities***

Queensland's new Health Minister, Hon. Tim Nicholls, has started visiting Metro North Health facilities, and we look forward to welcoming him at TPCH soon.

In last week's message, you will have read about the consultation currently underway to support a new name for Queensland's satellite hospitals. The commitment to consulting clinicians on a new name for these facilities is a part of the Queensland Government's 100-day plan, and all hospital staff are invited to have their say using the [online survey](#).

Renaming satellite hospitals is one of the new government's priorities in the health portfolio. Others include:

- Real-time reporting of health data
- Reducing ambulance ramping
- Stabilising the elective surgery waitlist
- New models of care between Emergency Departments and Mental Health Units
- Expanded access to transit lounges to free up acute bed capacity
- Improvements in outcomes and access for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

There's a lot more detail about these and other priorities set out in the [Minister's Charter Letter](#), which I encourage everyone to read. As part of Queensland's public health system, we'll be playing an important role in supporting these priorities for the benefit of all Queenslanders.

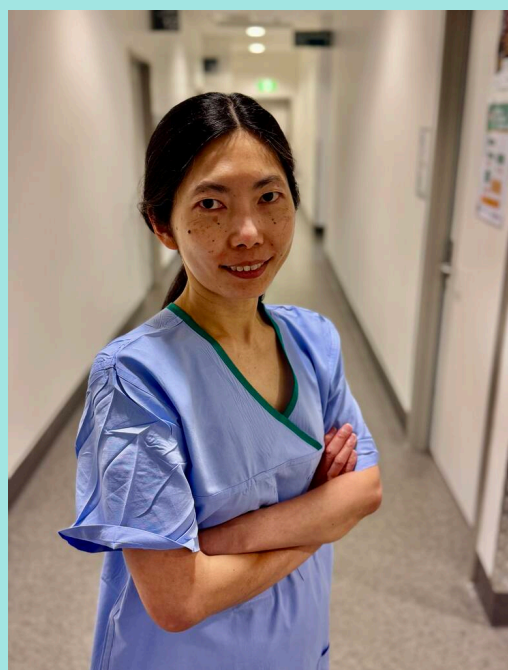
### **Staff profile - Wandy Chan**

This week, we're profiling Dr Wandy Chan, our new Acting Clinical Director of the Advanced Heart Failure and Cardiac Transplant Unit.

Dr Chan now leads the state's referral centre for patients needing advanced heart failure care, including those needing heart transplants and mechanical circulatory support.

Joining the unit in 2013, Dr Chan is passionate about innovative ways to improve care for heart failure.

Dr Chan is also very proud to be a founding member of the Queensland Women in Cardiology Group, a mentoring group that connects cardiology clinicians, trainees and junior doctors with an interest in cardiology.



I'll be acting as Executive Director until Monday, 23 December, with Keith Von Dohren (right) acting Director of Operations, EPIC. Keith comes to TPCCH from Redcliffe Hospital, where he's been a Nursing Director for more than ten years. I worked closely with Keith during my time at Redcliffe, and I know he'll be an excellent fit for both TPCCH and the EPIC team.

Another temporary executive change: Miranda Bartlett is filling in as Allied Health Director for a couple of weeks while Perry Judd is away, winding his way up to (and back from) Everest Base Camp.

Please wish us all well in our latest adventures.

Kind regards,

**Geoff Grima**

Acting Executive Director  
The Prince Charles 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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Health



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