



Dear colleagues,

This is our final message of the year and we wanted to sincerely thank you for all of your great work and commitment. This year has had its challenges, with consistently high demands experienced across all of our services. Our teams have done an excellent job in stepping up to meet these challenges to make sure our patients and consumers receive the best possible care when accessing our services.

The strong performances of our teams have also been highlighted through some fantastic achievements throughout the year. During yesterday's vidcast, we shared some of these achievements. You can read more about these in our 2024 Metro North Year in Review [here](#).

This year has seen the introduction of a range of new alternate care options including the Bribie Island (Yarun) Satellite Hospital, Nujum Jawa Crisis Stabilisation Facility, Brisbane Nurse-Led Walk-in Clinic, and expansion of Hospital in the Home for Mental Health. We have displayed our commitment to making Metro North a safer, more equitable and inclusive place to work through initiatives including Occupational Violence (OV) roadshows, Respect@Work, Pride in Metro North and the launch of our Disability Services Action Plan. Our Health Equity strategy has been actively progressed through new services such as the Heart Outreach Program for Health Equity (HOPE) and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurse Navigation service, and we look forward to continuing our health equity journey next year.

With infrastructure, several milestones were marked with our Redcliffe Hospital and TPCCH expansion projects and early design is currently underway on the Queensland Cancer Centre. We have celebrated a wide range of team and individual staff achievements at our Staff and Research Excellence Awards, and all this while delivering care to more than 2.2 million patients. These are just some of the many successes of our health service and we invite you to watch our Metro North Health 2024 video [here](#) to view some of our other significant achievements.

Please know we acknowledge your efforts and appreciate everything you do in supporting the care of patients within Australia's biggest health service.

Looking ahead, we are planning for another eventful year with many more achievements and opportunities to improve the way we care for and support our people. One way we provide this support is through our Metro North Clinical Council which offers leadership and advocacy on behalf of our staff to deliver excellent patient care. We are pleased to announce

Dr Alan Yan as new Chair of the Metro North Clinical Council and Liz Bennett as new Deputy Chair. Dr Yan has been the chair of Redcliffe Hospital Clinical Council for over three years and is the current Clinical Director of the hospital's Emergency Department. Liz Bennett is the current Chair of RBWH Staff Council and is the Team Leader of Perinatal Mental Health. Both bring extensive clinical leadership experience and are strong advocates of modelling the Metro North values and promoting positive staff wellbeing. They will certainly be valuable assets to our Clinical Council. Congratulations Alan and Liz.

On a more solemn note, over the last couple of weeks, we have received some sad news about the unexpected passing of a number of staff members across Metro North. We acknowledge the impact the loss of these staff has on our teams, especially those staff members who knew and worked with them, and also being so close to Christmas. If you are struggling and feel like you need some extra support at this time, please talk to a friend or colleague, or reach out to one of our staff wellbeing services. There are a range of support options accessible via our [Metro North Staff Wellbeing portal](#).

We wish everyone a safe and peaceful Christmas, and hope that you have the chance to spend some valuable time with those dearest to you. For those working through the festive period, thank you for your continued commitment.

Finally, congratulations to last week's winners of the Elf Selfie competition, Samantha Errey from TPCH (below left) and Tracy Carroll from Coinda House (below right).



We look forward to working with you all again in 2025.

Regards,  
Bernard and Jackie

Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer  
**Adj. Prof. Alanna Geary**



Well colleagues,

I cannot believe that we are at the end of the year and Christmas and New Year only a few days away! What a year! From a Nursing and Midwifery perspective we have seen much happen, but we also have much work to do in 2025. As we launch our Prepare to Care strategy for our wonderful professions, I would like you all to throw your minds to how you are going to Prepare to Care in 2025. It goes without saying that every one of us comes to work every day to do the right thing and care for the patients and their families in the best possible way, and with the best possible intent. We also need to remember that Prepare to Care also means looking after self and others. We work in the caring professions of nursing and midwifery, which are the most trusted. What a privilege to do what we do - we make such a significant contribution to the lives of others.

2025 will see the RBWH Foundation celebrate 40 years at the Herston Campus supporting Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, Surgical Treatment and Rehabilitation Services (STARS) and Redcliffe. There are many events planned but one of the initial events is a Reunion of Staff. What a wonderful way to catch up with colleagues new and old and I know that there are many RBWH staff who may not necessarily work at RBWH anymore but within Metro North. I have attached the flyer below so if you are interested, please come along. I plan to be there and am looking forward to spending quality time with many colleagues from days gone by.



I am also looking forward to a few weeks away with my family. Time with my loved ones is my favourite time and I am excited to have the opportunity to spend it with them all. My husband and I plan to spend our break on our beautiful Queensland beaches. I love the summer and the heat, which is interesting for a girl who was born in Canada! Dave our fabulously spoilt and much-loved Groodle, enjoys the opportunity to frolic on the beaches so he will be coming with us. Warmest wishes for the holiday season from my family to yours. Below is a photo of a freshly Christmas groomed Dave looking decidedly happy with himself!



As we end 2024, I want to thank you all. I have said many times I am incredibly proud to be the Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer of the largest health service in the country. The reason for this pride is that I work every day with the most incredible teams, who create positive outcomes for our patients and their families.

So as we head into 2025, I want to remind you to look after you, and make plans professionally and personally. Stay safe!

Warm regards,  
Alanna

**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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