

Executive Message

Metro North Health



Chief Executive Adj. Prof. Jackie Hanson

Dear colleagues,

In the last couple of weeks, we've commenced our consultation sessions with staff around the Metro North Strategic Plan 2024-28. This has given me the opportunity to speak with staff about what's important to them and what they would like to see happening within Metro North moving forward.

Yesterday, we held a pop-up session at TPCH to provide staff with the opportunity to learn about and provide feedback on the Strategic Plan. Thank you to those staff who took the time to come down and share their views and feedback. It is always good to hear from staff on the ground about how we can improve the way we do things in Metro North to benefit our people.



Our Strategic Plan is a roadmap to help guide the direction of our services and workforce so we can continue to position ourselves as a responsive and responsible health care provider to Australia's largest health care community.

One of our five key focus areas within the Strategic Plan is innovation and research. Making sustainable, high value and evidence-based change in a complex health environment can be challenging and requires considerable planning and consultation as well as opportunities for staff to innovate and trial new ideas. Our Metro North Helix Hub, also known as the Healthcare Excellence through Leading Innovation and Collaboration, is an initiative to support and guide staff across Metro North to help bring ideas to life, from idea inception to completion and improve overall performance. It gives staff access to the necessary tools and resources, education and expert advice.

The Helix Hub is offering a range of activities and programs throughout this year which I encourage staff to get involved in. These include the Helix Academy, Helix Support Program and a Metro North Innovation Showcase. An EOI is also currently open until 21 February for the Diploma of Applied Innovation and Facilitation where participants learn about and apply the fundamentals of applied innovation. For more information and EOI application go [here](#).

For general HELIX enquiries please email: HELIXHUB@health.qld.gov.au



TPCH pop-up session

Strategic Plan pop up session schedule

Please note today's session at **Herston, 1-2 pm**, RBWH Education Centre foyer.

I invite staff to attend the following sessions scheduled across our facilities during February.

Herston

Friday 7 February

1.00pm – 2.00pm

RBWH Education Centre foyer

Wednesday 19 February

8.00am – 9.00am

RBWH Education Centre foyer

Redcliffe Hospital

Tuesday 18 February

2.00pm – 3.00pm

Lecture Room 4, Education Centre

Community and Oral Health

Monday 10 February

8.00am – 9.00am

Brighton Auditorium

Friday 28 February

3.00pm – 4.00pm

Brighton Auditorium

The Prince Charles Hospital

Monday 10 February

9.00am – 10.00am

Education Centre foyer

Wednesday 19 February

12.00pm – 1.00pm

Education Centre foyer

Friday 28 February

2.00pm – 3.00pm

Education Centre foyer

Caboolture Hospital

Tuesday 18 February

12.00pm – 1.00pm

Education Centre Auditorium

Wednesday 26 February

12.00pm – 1.00pm

Education Centre Auditorium

Thursday 27 February

1.00pm – 2.00pm

Education Centre Auditorium

Staff can also consult on the draft plan which is [available here](#) and share their feedback by completing a [short survey](#) before the end of February.

Focus on the First Quarter

As you are hopefully aware, we are halfway through our Year of the Children, Adolescents and Young Adults – Focus on the First Quarter. Metro North Health is the largest public health service in the country and up to 33 per cent of our patients are children, adolescents, and young adults up to 25 years old. For the first time, a child born from 2024 will have a shorter life expectancy than their parents. The first 2,000 days of life are critical for child development, with many adult chronic conditions are a direct result of this critical development period.

Our aim for this year is to promote, advocate, educate and bring awareness to all staff across Metro North of the increased needs of our young people under 25 years. The Women, Children and Families Clinical Stream has a number of activities planned including vidcasts with Dr Lucy Cook, Medical Director of NeoResQ next week. There is also a RBWH Grand Rounds on 17 February with special presentation by Professor Simon Denny, Director of the Mater Young Adult Health Centre.

For more information about other upcoming activities, please email the Women, Children and Families Clinical stream at WCFMN@health.qld.gov.au. Staff can also visit the QHEPS page - [Focus on the First Quarter | Metro North Health](#) to access information, resources and learning opportunities.

Satellite Hospitals renamed

After a consultation process with clinicians and a survey, a new name for satellite hospitals has been chosen. As of yesterday, satellite hospitals are now called Satellite Health Centres. Metro North has three satellite health centres – Kallangur (Kalangoor), Caboolture (Kabul) and Bribie Island (Yarun). These centres will continue to deliver the same trusted care including minor injury and illness care and outpatient services from dedicated nurses, medical officers, and allied health professionals.

Anyone in the community needing healthcare can access the satellite health centres, with minor injury and illness clinic offering a drop-in model similar to the emergency department while outpatient services are facilitated via referral pathways. In a life-threatening situation, always call Triple Zero (000) or visit an emergency department.

Staff working at satellite health centres should continue to use any stationary or other stock with the Satellite Hospital title until it runs out.

Introducing the Metro North Clinical Council - Dr Lisa Kane

Dr Lisa Kane is a General Paediatrician at Caboolture Hospital, where she has worked for 16 years. With over 22 years of experience in paediatrics, she is also the Chair of the Clinical Council and the Director of Clinical Psychology at UQ.

Lisa's passion for paediatrics began during her final year as a medical student, where she discovered a deep connection to working with children and helping families. She also holds a Masters in Clinical Education and is committed to providing high-quality training

for future healthcare professionals.

Lisa joined the Clinical Council to have a broader impact on healthcare beyond clinical care. She is also interested gaining a deeper understanding on how CKW operates and how we can better serve the community.



Looking forward with our thinking

Yesterday, People and Culture delivered an impactful and timely event with special guest, Bernard Salt. This is the first in our Speaker Series to build strategic capacity and thought leadership across our organisation to collaborate and explore innovative solutions for improved patient and people outcomes. Bernard, a columnist, author, social commentator, addressed a full house of 300 staff at the Education Centre in Herston, presenting how global and Australian demographic, consumer and social trends are affecting the healthcare sector.

The next Speakers Series event is scheduled for June, with Dr Jo Lukins with registrations opening soon. If you missed yesterday's event, you can watch Bernard's quick wrap-up video below.

[Watch video here](#)

Staff profile - Dr Peter Stevenson

Dr Peter Stevenson is the recently appointed Executive Director of the Women's, Children's and Families Stream – Paediatrics. He is the Clinical Director of Paediatrics at TPCH and has been the clinical lead in planning for the significantly expanded new paediatric service at TPCH which is due to open in 2028.

This year Peter is commencing his 30th year in paediatrics, and has worked as both a general paediatrician and neonatologist after completing dual training. He has held multiple leadership roles in paediatrics within Queensland including past Chair of the Directors of Paediatrics Forum. He is actively involved in many state committees focussed on improving paediatric patient care and paediatric training in Queensland.



As Executive Director of the Paediatrics component of the Women's, Children's and Families Stream, Peter will be focusing on developing equitable paediatric services for children across all of Metro North, working closely with all the children's services. There will also be a strong focus on supporting children with neurodiverse conditions and their families. Additionally, Peter will prioritise the establishment of gold standard adolescent and young adult services in Metro North.

For Women, Children and Families Clinical Stream enquiries please email: wcfmn@health.qld.gov.au. For Healthcare Excellence and Innovation enquiries, please email: hei@health.qld.gov.au

Shout out

This week's shout out goes to a great initiative recently launched at Redcliffe Hospital, where hearing impaired staff have the option of wearing an extra badge which lets others know how to be more inclusive around them.

After learning three staff members with hearing impairments were receiving negative feedback because of others not facing them when talking, the People and Culture team worked with the employees, their managers and local support staff to come up with a solution—resulting in a magnetic badge easily attached to the front or back of an employee's shirt, letting people know they lip read.

Well done to those involved in creating this badge and thanks to Rima and Lachlann (pictured below) from Redcliffe Food Services for sharing their story. It's wonderful to learn they have been receiving a lot of positive feedback since wearing the badge.



Rima



Lachlann

If you'd like to know more or have a question about diversity, equity and inclusion supports available to you or your team, contact Thomas Skennerton in the Metro North People and Culture Unit or your local People and Culture Partner.

Kind regards,
Jackie

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.



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Government

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