



Dear colleagues,

### **Emergency power supply test**

Last week RBWH carried out a planned site-wide power outage in order to test the emergency power supply.

These vital tests are carried out periodically to ensure the safeguards we have in place will work if there is an unplanned power outage. Extensive planning was undertaken prior to the day, led by Facilities but involving every team at the hospital as well as campus partners and stakeholders.

All that planning ensured last week's test was a successful one, with no disruptions to clinical services. Some minor issues were highlighted and will be addressed, which is precisely the purpose of running such tests.

Thank you to everyone involved for ensuring this operation went off smoothly.

### **Planning for winter virus season**

In a recent Executive Leadership Team meeting we heard from representatives from Public Health and our Infectious Diseases department about what we can expect from this year's winter virus season. Modelling from previous years suggests July and August are expected to be the peak times for flu. Usually, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) will increase a bit earlier and we can expect other winter viruses to impact on patient presentations, flow and staff sick leave. We are currently reviewing our plans in preparation.

This won't be the first time this year I will remind everyone to please get vaccinated at the start of the flu season to help protect yourself and those around you. We will let you know when your free flu shots will be available on site.

### **Apology to Australia's Indigenous Peoples**

Between 1910 and 1970 thousands of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children were forcibly removed from their families and communities by churches, welfare organisations and governments by past Government policies and practices. Children forcibly removed from their families were fostered or adopted by non-Indigenous families or raised in institutions.

These children are known as the Stolen Generations.

On 13 February 2008, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd apologised on behalf of the nation for past laws, policies and practices that have impacted Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, particularly members of the Stolen Generations and their descendants.

Full script available at: [Apology to Australia's Indigenous Peoples – Parliament of Australia](https://www.parliament.gov.au/indigenous/parliament-of-australia/apology-to-australia-s-indigenous-peoples)

[aph.gov.au](http://aph.gov.au)

We encourage all staff to watch this powerful short [video](#) created by Western Australia Department of Health that showcases the journey of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander wellbeing and the ongoing affects from the Stolen Generations.

### **Metro North Draft Strategic Plan RBWH sessions**

As I have mentioned in previous messages, a [draft of the Metro North Strategic Plan](#) is now available for feedback. The strategic plan is the overarching guiding document for our decision making. Now is your opportunity to provide your views on the document and how you think we can make Metro North a great place to work. I encourage everyone to take the time to read the draft Strategic Plan and to share your feedback by completing the [short survey](#). The survey is open until the end of February.

I will be attending several pop-up sessions for RBWH staff over the coming weeks to allow the staff to learn about and provide feedback on the proposed plan.

Keep an eye out in your inbox for the details of these sessions.

### **Queensland Health Open Hospitals**

The Queensland Health [Open Hospitals website](#) has been developed to provide Queenslanders with easy access to real-time data on hospital performance.

The website shows the number of permanent treatment spaces, how many patients are waiting, and median wait times at 25 major public emergency departments and seven minor injury and illness clinics, including here at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital.

The website offers real-time data updates, refreshed every 15 to 30 minutes. It also provides information on when to go to emergency, contact information for 13 HEALTH and a link to the healthdirect online Symptom Checker.

### **Positive feedback**

I'd like to share some positive feedback we received recently.

*I have been overwhelmed by the care provided from the emergency department that admitted me, to the neurology team who operated on me to the recovery team and Ward 8AS. In a difficult time, the little things such as treating me as a person, holding my hand as I was going under to genuine concern as to my wellbeing are things that mean so much to me and I will not forget . The continuity of care across all aspects and teams provided great comfort. My only regret is that I can't remember the names of all the people involved, but hope that this message may find its way to them as a small token of my appreciation. Quite simply, thank you!*

Thank you for everything you do for 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.

Metro North  
Health



Queensland  
Government



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