



Dear team

After the severe weather event last weekend, it's good to see the majority of staff back on campus and the hospital returning to its normal level of activity. For those staff who were impacted by the weather event or whose families were impacted, I hope you and your loved ones are managing to get back on track with the support you need.

Today is the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Harmony Day) which recognises diversity and brings together Australians from all different backgrounds. As a large Metropolitan hospital with a growing patient population, it's important we celebrate the great diversity of our people and community.

Yesterday was National Close the Gap Day, a time when we reaffirm our commitment to improving health outcomes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. At TPCH, we have a range of programs, services and initiatives focused on enhancing the health journey of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with the goal of providing a high quality clinical and culturally safe care experience.

Kallangur Satellite Health Centre (Kalangoor) celebrated the day with a special afternoon tea attended by staff from the Centre, TPCH and Metro North as well as consumers and local Elders. This was one of a number of Close the Gap events hosted by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Team in partnership with Satellite Health Centres including Bribie (Yarun) and Caboolture (Kabul) to acknowledge a shared commitment to achieving better outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



Executive update

Last Wednesday was World Delirium Awareness and Day and I joined members of the Internal Medicine Service to help raise awareness about delirium and its impact on patients, families and health care

systems. At TPCH, we are fortunate to have a team of passionate and skilled clinicians who support delirium prevention, management, new models of care and important research activities. A big thanks to members of TPCH Cognitive Impairment working group for coordinating a very interesting information stall, ward-based education and activity boxes for our wards.



World Delirium Awareness Day display

I also caught up with members of our Social Work Department for a special event to celebrate World Social Work Day, acknowledging the important role social workers play in supporting a dignified health care experience for patients and families at TPCH. The event highlighted the importance of care and respect across generations and passing on the wisdom of past social workers to their younger colleagues to enhance daily clinical practice. To mark the event, the Social Work Department is running an Undies Drive during March to support patients in need. Drop off points can be found in communal ward areas or speak with the social worker on your ward for more information.

I also had the opportunity to attend the Social Work department's monthly meeting, General Surgery Senior Medical Officer meeting and the Coronary Care Unit staff meeting.



World Social Work Day



CCU staff meeting

Introducing our TPCH Staff Council

TPCH's Staff Council's membership has recently undergone a refresh with eight new members joining the hospital's key staff advocacy body. TPCH Staff Council provides direction and leadership, by fostering staff involvement to enable services provided by TPCH to result in best care for every patient.

The Council held its first meeting last week where members met with Metro North's Board Chair Bernard Curran, Chief Executive Jackie Hanson and TPCH Executive Leadership Team and discussed ways the Council can work effectively with TPCH and Metro North Executive teams to promote staff engagement and wellbeing. Staff Council is playing a role in helping ensure that the upcoming Have Your Say survey will be as user-friendly and informative as possible so we can continue to make TPCH a great place to work.

Here is the Council's refreshed membership:

Existing members

- Dr Lucy Dakin (Chair), Director Geriatric and Subacute Services
- Dr Jayshree Lavana, Staff Specialist Intensive Care Unit
- Carol Cox, CN Endoscopy and Procedural Services
- Katherine Findlay, Administration Officer Palliative Care
- Nicole Cheales, CNC Quality Surgery Critical Care
- Nazanin Ahangari, Senior Clinical Psychologist Staff Psychology
- Janice Geary, CNC Infection Control
- Dr Kwun Fong, Thoracic Physician
- Jane Bebbington, Principal Communications Advisor
- Andrew Munns, Pharmacist

New members 2025

- Dr Denzil Gill, Staff Specialist Intensive Care Unit
- Hayley Gunn, Speech Pathologist Advanced Team Leader
- Jennifer MacEwan, Senior Culture and Wellbeing Coordinator, TPCH Peer Responder Coordinator
- Justin Myers, Senior Physiotherapist
- Marilia Libera, Psychologist
- Paula Ve, Nursing Director Surgery and Critical Care
- Jessica Muhling, Nurse Manager Workforce Recruitment
- Miranda Bartlett, Director Allied Health

TPCH Staff Council are keen to hear from staff on how we can improve our culture and workplace. To contact TPCH Staff Council email lucy.dakin@health.qld.gov.au

Car parking update

Staff forum

An all TPCH staff forum will be held on Wednesday 26 March, 1 – 2pm for staff to receive the latest updates on changes to car parking on TPCH campus and ask questions.

Date: Wednesday 26 March

Time: 1 – 2pm

Where: Via teams – join [here](#)

[JOIN HERE](#)

Information booth

A car parking information booth will be available for staff to visit in the Café for the Common Good on Thursday 27 and Friday 28 March, 7am – 12 noon.

Members of TPCH Car Parking team will be on hand to provide information and answer questions about upcoming changes to car parking at TPCH.

For more information visit: https://qheps.health.qld.gov.au/tpch/corporate/corp_home/parking-at-tpch

Staff Influenza Vaccination Program

Infection Management Service will officially launch the 2025 Staff Influenza Vaccination Program on 14 April 2025. Staff can get their vaccination at the Infection Management Service Office, Level 3 Clinical Sciences Building, 7am to 4pm, Monday to Friday. A list of staff influenza clinics dates and times will be available shortly. Clinics will be located throughout the hospital where staff can drop in for their vaccination. Please note: Over-65 influenza vaccinations will only be available from the Infection Management Service Office. For more information about the program visit - [2025 Influenza Vaccination](#).

Patient Safety Net

The new Patient Safety Net (PSN) program is launching in Metro North Health on 31 March 2025. This program provides an escalation process designed to strengthen the way we address patient safety concerns and empower all staff to raise their concerns. PSN provides an easy, confidential way for staff to raise patient safety concerns that they feel have not been addressed through the standard reporting processes.

It is available to all staff at Metro North including contractors, agency staff, students and volunteers, and can be accessed via [phone, email, or online](#).

As part of our ongoing commitment to the safety and wellbeing of our patients I encourage all staff to familiarise themselves with how Patient Safety Net works, how to raise a concern, and when to take action. For more information about the program, visit [QHEPS](#) for full details.

Together, we can ensure a safer environment for our patients and continue to uphold the high standards of care we all strive to provide.

Medical Workforce Wellbeing Survey

All Queensland Health doctors are invited to participate in a survey to help us understand the work-related issues impacting your wellbeing. The anonymous survey will be sent via email and will be live from Monday, 17 March to Friday, 2 May 2025. It will take approximately 5 minutes to complete.

Your feedback is crucial in shaping future local and state-wide wellbeing initiatives for our medical workforce. We encourage all doctors—from interns to consultants—to share your honest feedback. Your input will have a direct impact on future support for our medical staff.

This survey is part of the Medical Workforce Wellbeing project, commissioned by the Chief Medical Officer. For more information, please contact CMO_Corro@health.qld.gov.au.

Staff profile - Ellen Engco

It was recently Hospitality Workers and Healthcare Day so we will introduce Patient Support Services Officer, Ellen Engco.

As part of the environmental cleaning team in the Rehabilitation and Acute Stroke unit, Ellen is responsible for maintaining a clean and sterile environment for patients. She enjoys keeps the ward clean and fresh to help preserve a clean and friendly environment which contributes to patient well-being and recovery.

Ellen values a good work ethic, reliability, trustworthiness and the ability to project a happy attitude towards others.

In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her family keeping fit, jogging, basketball and fishing.



Helipad upgrade

Staff travelling past the helipad may notice it is shining extra brightly thanks to a recent upgrade by our BEMS painters. The upgrade, which was planned with Life Flight, QAS and TPCH security involved our painters grounding and repainting the entire helipad with special aviation paint to increase its visibility from the air and ensure safe landing by Life Flight. A big thanks to painters Paul Barber, Barry Smith and Robert Lea for their efforts in supporting the safe continuation of essential patient transport services to TPCH.



Freshly painted helipad

Shout out

This week's shout out goes to Jan Robinson, CNC Sleep Disorders Centre who is retiring after over 40 years of service. With almost half of her career spent in her current role, Jan has been a pioneer in developing nursing-led models of care for sleep disorders and is a clinical expert in managing patients with complex ventilatory needs.

She is known as an exceptional leader and manager who has mentored dozens of nurses in the Sleep Disorders Centre, working alongside the centre's multidisciplinary team. Jan is a true example of someone who puts people first, always advocating for patients and their families and showing compassion for her colleagues. She will be dearly missed.

Jan is now looking forward to indulging in her love of travel and spending time with family. Congratulations on an outstanding career Jan and we wish you a happy and healthy retirement.

The other shout out goes to Dr Andrew Spiller who is stepping down from the role of Medical Director Emergency Department (ED) after three and a half years. We thank Andrew for his capable and measured leadership of Queensland's second busiest ED and wish him well as he continues his clinical work in the department as a senior medical officer and spends more time with his family. We now welcome Dr Melanie Rule who has recently been appointed to the role of Medical Director. Melanie brings extensive experience to the role, having worked as a senior staff specialist in TPCH ED for the last 15 years, the last three of which have been as Clinical Director.



Kind regards,

Tami Photinos
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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