



Dear team

Earlier this week several of the TPCH Executive team received our staff flu vaccinations from our friendly CNC Infection Control, Janice Geary.

With the flu season predicted to be significant this year, our free staff flu vaccinations will get underway from next Monday, 14 April.

Vaccination really is the best way to protect yourself and people around you at work, home and in the community.

You can view the full clinic schedule [here](#). In addition, vaccinations are available at the Infection Management Service Office, Level 3 Clinical Sciences Building from 7am to 4pm on weekdays (excluding public holidays). Vaccination for staff over-65 will only be available from the Infection Management Service Office.

More details on the staff flu vaccination program are available on the Metro North [Staff Extranet](#).

While having the vaccination at work was very convenient for me, I recognise that if you need to take children or other family members for their flu vaccinations, it might be easier to have yours at that time. If you do receive your 2025 flu vaccination privately (e.g. GP clinic or community pharmacy), please let us know for planning purposes, [On line Poll | INFLUENZA VACCINATION](#).



Executive update

This week I attended the Nutrition and Dietetics monthly meeting. We all know how important diet is to a person's health and wellbeing. Our Nutrition and Dietetics department can assess, diagnosis and provide dietary intervention to optimise a patient's diet to support their health or recovery journey.

It was great to gain a better understanding of the department and their breadth of work. I am always interested to hear about the current challenges staff are facing, as well as the many positive outcomes of the work they do.

I also joined the Prehabilitation Workshop, known as the SurgiFIT Program. Maintaining or improving physical and mental wellbeing prior to surgery can be so beneficial for a patient's recovery. The multidisciplinary SurgiFIT program reduces complication rates, decreases time spent in hospital and returns patients to their normal daily life and activities faster. It was a great opportunity to learn more about the program and the benefits it provides to patients.

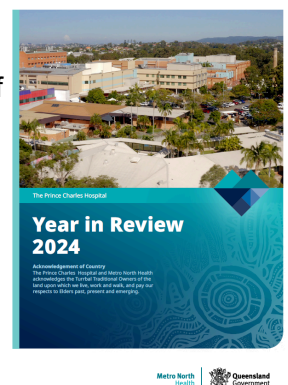


2024 Year in Review

The [2024 Year in Review](#) report is now available. The Year in Review is a snapshot of our hospital's achievements, designed to highlight the high-quality work we do at TPCH in supporting the health of our patients and growing community.

I recognise there are many other achievements across our services which are not included in this report – this is just a sample of the wonderful work that took place at TPCH last year.

I encourage everyone to take a look- it really makes you realise what an exciting time it is to be part of Charlies, particularly with the major infrastructure projects underway.



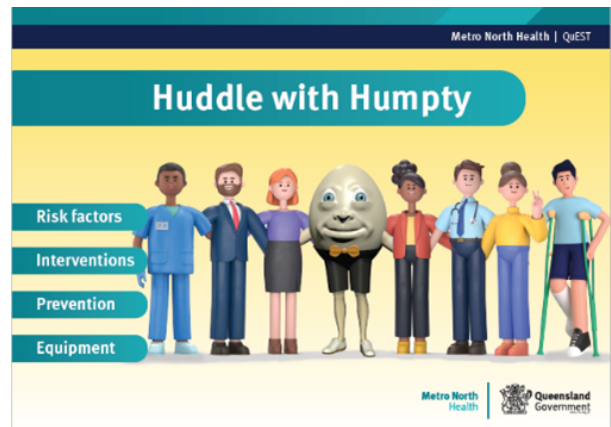
April No Falls Month

April No Falls Month is an annual campaign to educate and raise awareness of the impact of falls and to promote the best practice fall prevention strategies. There are a number of factors that can contribute to falls in a hospital setting including delirium, environmental issues, visual impairment, medications and deterioration due to bed rest, to name just a few.

Throughout the month, staff across wards will have the chance to attend rolling education sessions, 'Huddle with Humpty' delivered by the Quality Effectiveness Support (QuEST), Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Pharmacy teams. Humpty Dumpty is our April No Falls Month mascot and is well experienced in falls management!

Have your Say survey

The biennial Metro North all staff survey, Have Your Say will be open from 12-30 May. The survey provides an important opportunity for staff to give feedback on what's working and what we can do better as an employer.



If you missed the Have Your Say survey vidcast on Monday, hosted by Chief Executive Jackie Hanson and Best Practice Australia (BPA) Analytics' Jacqui Parle, I encourage you to watch the recording. The short 30-minute vidcast covered just some of the many positive initiatives that have been implemented in response to your feedback in 2023 and unpacked common myths that in the past may have deterred staff from completing the biennial survey.

All Have Your Say vidcasts taking place in the lead up to the survey will be recorded and published on [QHEPS](#). The next one, targeted at managers, **Have Your Say – your role as a leader and driving change**, is coming up this Tuesday, 15 April. [Join here](#).

Metro North Research Excellence Awards

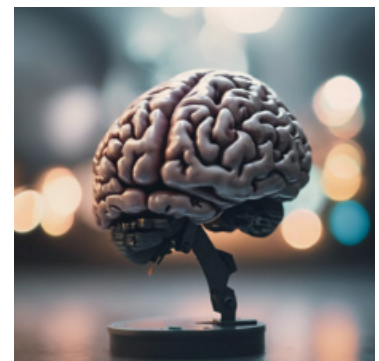
Nominations are now open for the annual Metro North Research Excellence Awards. TPCH has a strong tradition of ground-breaking medical research, with national and international research projects. The awards provide an opportunity to recognise and reward outstanding achievements in research across all clinical specialities and professions.

I encourage those involved in health and medical research, whether early career researchers or established researchers, to nominate for the awards. For more information on the categories and guidelines, visit the [QHEPS page](#). Nominations close on **7 May 2025**.



Dementia and delirium podcast series

There is a new podcast series, Beyond Dementia and Delirium: Conversations on Awareness and Action, dedicated to raising awareness and improving understanding of delirium and dementia. The podcasts include expert discussions with doctors and researchers, including our own Internal Medicine Director Dr Jeff Rowland. You can listen to the series on [Spotify](#).



After-hours BEMS and lift issues

Please be reminded that all after-hours BEMS related issues should be escalated to the Duty Nurse Manager in the first instance.

It is the responsibility of the Duty Nurse Manager to escalate any reported issues immediately to the on-call

BEMS engineer who will assess and determine appropriate remediation.

Any issues with the lifts in the building and/or multistorey carpark need to be reported to the Security control room 3139 5908.

For more information, please contact the Director Corporate Services or the Manager BEMS.



Staff profile – Dr Helen Vickery-Smith

Please join me in welcoming Dr Helen Vickery-Smith, who recently commenced as our Director of Clinical Training (DCT).

As the DCT at TPCH, Helen is responsible for the leadership of prevocational medical education and the advocacy and support of prevocational doctors within the program. Helen will work closely with clinical leaders and educators to promote a culture of continuous learning and professional development.

Helen is a specialist Medical Administrator (FRACMA) with a particular interest in medical education. She has previously held roles as Deputy Director Medical Services across Metro North and as a Management Consultant in professional services. Helen holds a Master of Health Leadership and a Master of Public Health and is currently completing research into medical officer wellbeing.

Outside of work, Helen enjoys spending time with her family and two young children and is currently training to complete her first Olympic triathlon. Any tips welcome!

*Left to right: TPCH Medical Administration Team – Dr Julieanne Graham (DMS), **Dr Helen Vickery-Smith (DCT)**, Dr Rosalind Crawford (DMA) & Dr Jillian Gardner (Med Admin Reg & A/DCT).*

Staff Council Staff Expo prize winners

Last week at the Staff Expo, the TPCH Staff Council had a display to invite staff feedback on what they can do to represent our workforce and to answer questions about the upcoming Have your Say survey. They also held a quiz with three prizes up for grabs. I am happy to announce the winners were Janeen Edwards, Ruby Woods and Wendy. Thank you to the TPCH Staff Council for supporting the Staff Expo.



some of the TPCH 2025 riders including [Denise](#), [Matthew](#) and [Oscar](#) from the TPCH Common Good Café and our Allied Health Director [Perry Judd](#).

For all those riding in this year's Tour de Brisbane, best of luck for Sunday!

Shout out

This week's shout out goes to the team at the Kallangur Satellite Health Centre (Kalangoor).

On Tuesday, Kalangoor underwent a Final Assessment of the two 'met with recommendations' from the initial assessment in February. The team developed comprehensive action plans to ensure the integration of risk management processes with those at TPCH and the maintenance of consumer privacy and confidentiality at the Minor Illness and Injury Clinic triage desk.

In a desktop exercise the team were able to provide evidence and show how the new processes will be incorporated into business as usual.

Kalangoor will now join with TPCH in future Short Notice Accreditation processes, rather than be assessed individually.



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.

Metro North
Health



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