

Metro North Health

Message from the

# Executive Director The Prince Charles Hospital

Tami Photinos



## Summary:

- Executive update
- Cardiology team takes centre stage
- Get ready for R U OK? Day
- TPCH pioneers AI care for dementia patients
- Safety and Quality Month

Message feedback



**Audience:**  
All staff



**Read time:** 4 min



**For:** Information

Dear team,

Farewell to Jackie Hanson, who announced her retirement this week after 47 years in the public health sector, including the last 7.5 years as Metro North Health Chief Executive,

I wish her well and look forward to continuing to work with Acting Chief Executive Dr Liz Rushbrook.

Cystic Fibrosis and Bronchiectasis Clinical Director Dr Dan Smith provided a great report to the Metro North Board Safety and Quality Committee meeting this week.

The committee was impressed with our care for CF patients and interested in the challenges faced by TPCH when providing care for this cohort in regional communities.

## Executive update

Congratulations to Dr Shanal Kumar, Angela Matson, Vanessa Moore, Felicity Loel and Dr Daniel Smith who won the [Research Implementation Award](#) at the Metro North Research Excellence Awards at the BCEC last night.

Dr Julieanne Graham is acting Metro North Chief Medical Officer and Dr Ros Crawford is acting Director of Medical Services at TPCH.

Dr Ivan Rapchuk will continue as TPCH Medical Director Anaesthetics for a further two years. Also welcome to Dr Geraldine Kong as a new Staff Specialist Anaesthetics.

On Tuesday, I attended the Metro North Board Community Day at Brighton. It was a valuable opportunity to talk about the new draft Metro North Consumer and Community Engagement Strategy.

TPCH is a finalist again this year for a 'Golden Hip' Best Overall Performance in the Australian and New Zealand Hip Fracture Registry awards. The winner will be announced in early November.

### Cardiology team take centre stage!

The TPCH Cardiac Investigation Unit team took centre stage at the 73rd annual Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand conference, hosted at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre last Friday and Saturday.

TPCH had great representation including medical, research, nursing and radiographers from the Heart Lung team.

We also had several presenters at the conference and live-streamed the 'Interventional and Structural Cases' events from the TPCH Cath Labs.

The seamless delivery of both sessions was impressive. My thanks to everyone involved!



**Caption:** STEMI team ready, coordinating both labs simultaneously during the live cases, TPCH CIU live at BCEC.



### Nominate today!

Put aside some time to [nominate](#) your colleagues in this year's TPCCH Staff Excellence Awards.

Check the [guidelines](#) for more details on each category.

[Nominations](#) for this year's Metro North Corporate Business Services Awards have been extended to 5pm Wednesday (27 August).

### New date for Have Your Say and Strategic Plan forum

The Have Your Say and Strategic Plan staff forum with Acting Chief Executive Dr Liz Rushbrook planned for Monday has been moved to Thursday 2 September from 1pm to 2.30pm.

A recording of yesterday's Have Your Say results vidcast is available here on [QHEPS](#).

The logo for 'R U OK?' features the text 'R U OK?' in a bold, sans-serif font. The 'O' is replaced by a stylized smiley face with a yellow arc for a mouth. Below the text is the tagline 'A conversation could change a life.' in a smaller font.

### Know an R U OK? Champion at Metro North Health?

[➔ Nominate them today](#)

Thursday 11 September is R U OK? Day. We all have a role to play in looking out and caring for our colleagues and with the success of last year's R U OK? Champion campaign, the nominations are open again this year, encouraging staff to acknowledge and celebrate colleagues who champion the R U OK? message every day.

[Nominate a team member here](#). Nominations close Sunday 31 August, with winners announced the week of R U OK? Day.

### CAM Unit pioneering AI care for dementia patients

TPCH is the first hospital in Australia to have a Tover 'Magic Table' which uses AI technology to care for our dementia and delirium patients.



In a room in the CAM Unit, interactive light animations and games are projected onto a table with sounds providing an immersive experience for patients based on their cognitive impairment.

This diversion therapy can include music, jigsaws, puzzles, pool and painting.

The table delivers significant cognitive stimulation for this cohort, such as patient Robert below colouring in the dog.

It is also great tool for de-escalation and avoiding pharmaceutical interventions, improving quality of life.

I'm thrilled TPCH was able to take the lead with this new approach to care.



## Staff Profile

CAM Unit CN/CF Reyonald 'Jake' Javier started work as an AIN in aged care homes before joining TPCH in 2007.

His dedication to person-centred care is the reason that he is often called to manage acute patients outside of the CAM Unit.



He's been pioneering new assessments into dementia care and has developed several frameworks now used at TPCH. One of his dementia and delirium management protocols, the PITCHED framework, is not only common practice at TPCH, but it's also being used in facilities as far away as Western Australia.

## August is Safety and Quality Month

We use Riskman to enhance the safety of our patients and our staff. Every staff member can enter details into Riskman using their Novell log on. It's just as important to enter an incident report when there has been a 'near miss' when harm could have resulted.



The [Riskman Incident Tutorial](#) on QHEPS shows you how to lodge an incident report.

### Shout out!

Congratulations to TPCH Cardiac Anaesthetist and UQ PhD student, Dr Matt Bright, who recently won the Australian and New Zealand College Of Anaesthetists (ANZCA) Clinical Trials Network (CTN) 2025 Emerging Investigator prize.

Well done Matt - this is well-deserved recognition of your hard work and dedication to research!

The Metro North Anti-Racism campaign includes Pause and Reflect Yarning Circles at TPCH to discuss the campaign, reporting options and how to access support. The next Yarning Circle will be at the TPCH Gathering Garden on Wednesday 27 August from 11am. All welcome.

Finally, next Friday (29 August) is 'Wear It Purple Day' to support the LGBTQIA+ community. Remember to wear something purple to show your support!

Kind regards,

**Tami Photinos**  
Executive Director  
The Prince Charles Hospital

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.

**Metro North Health's vision**

Creating healthier futures together—where  
innovation and research meets compassionate  
care and community voices shape our services.



**Queensland  
Government**

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