

Message from the

Executive Director The Prince Charles Hospital

Tami Photinos



Summary:

- 40-year milestone for TPCH Foundation
- Rehabilitation pathway opening
- Medical interns start work
- Clinical Trials Centre visit
- Second stats masterclass session

Message feedback



Audience: All staff



Read Time: 5 Minutes



For: Information

Dear Team,

The TPCH Foundation has officially started celebrating its 40-year milestone.

The launch event on Tuesday morning recognised the strength of our partnership. We work well together to deliver better patient outcomes through research and ongoing support of many projects across the hospital.

I enjoyed meeting some [TPCH Foundation Ambassadors](#) who have a strong personal connection to the hospital, including [Rhys Hoole](#) (right) who was our 500th heart transplant recipient.



The Foundation's 40-year events will continue through the year, including the gala ball in May. Find more details [here](#).



The new pathway gives patients working with allied health professionals the chance to practice real-life mobility skills in a safe and supportive environment, helping them regain independence step by step.

It includes a wheelchair-accessible garden, outdoor seating area and pathways which include obstacles such as a sliding door, bridges and stairs, for patients to practice mobility in real life scenarios.



Patient Vicki (above) has worked closely with her treatment team after having a stroke. She has used the upgraded installations in the mobility garden as part of her recovery.

Read Vicki's story on the [Metro North Facebook](#) page.

The upgrade was completed from Giving Day funds and a special donation from the Stephens family.

Tony (above centre) had a heart transplant at TPCH. He and his family are proud to support the hospital that enabled him to get on with life.

Watch the Board Chair and CE vidcast

The Metro North Board Chair and Chief Executive held a vidcast earlier this week to discuss the strategic priorities and focus areas for Metro North Health in 2026.

If you weren't able to watch it at the time, a recording of the vidcast is [available on QHEPS](#).



Diverse backgrounds of our medical interns

What do a physiotherapist, podiatrist, teacher and accountant have in common?

They were just some of the roles that our new medical interns held prior to officially starting their medical careers at The Prince Charles Hospital this week.

Dr Dave Tyquin previously worked as an accountant but had always wanted to do medicine. He was working in Sydney when COVID-19 hit, which gave him time to study and sit the GAMSAT. Fast forward a few years and he's now an important part of the team helping patients at TPCH.

"I like people and wanted to do something that had more of an emotional response at the end of the day."



Minister visits TPCH Clinical Trial Centre

The Health Minister and Director-General visited our Clinical Trials Centre this week.

We were able to showcase the centre, the many advantages of co-locating it within an acute area of a hospital and trials underway.

Watch the [9 News story](#).

Patient Alf (right) talked on his experience being part of the ALOFT trial to see whether a new oral medication can slow the progression of his pulmonary fibrosis.

TPCH has eight patients enrolled in this global trial with preliminary results expected at the end of the year. The CTC is expanding our treatment options, improving equity of access and accelerating translation of evidence into practice to help patients like Alf and so many others.



CCRG adds second stats masterclass session

Are you interested in understanding more about the 'why' of good statistical practice, rather than the 'how'?

The [Critical Care Research Group](#) - in partnership with the [Australian Centre for Health Services Innovation](#) at QUT - will host a free, one-day course focusing on statistical thinking, rather than statistical techniques.

The course will feature simple study designs and cover some common mistakes, with a range of practical exercises throughout the day.

Host Professor Adrian Barnett (right) is a statistician with more than 28 years of applied experience, specialising in medical statistics, health services research and funding.

Due to overwhelming demand, a second course will be held on Monday 9 March.

Register to attend on the [CCRG website](#).





Staff Profile - Amir Fernandez

Patient Helen from Brighton wrote to *The Courier-Mail* this week, describing the meals produced by our Food Services team as 'Master Chef quality' which were delicious and well-plated. You can read the [full letter here](#).

Amir Fernandez has been a cook with TPCH for seven years. He has seen the change from 'old style' to room service and knows TPCH Food Services has come a long way.

"There's a big difference in fresh produce being served and the change to the made to order system has meant there is greater satisfaction, both for me delivering the food and for the patients," Amir said.

"Food wastage is minimised and the patients are more motivated to eat, which helps with their recovery.

"With fresher food prepared on the spot, it's great to know that we are working to such a high standard and we are constantly getting positive reviews shared with us by our team leaders and supervisors.

"It's a reflection of the good work that we're doing."

Finally,

A shout out to everyone named Ian at TPCH! Thoracic Program Medical Director Dr Ian Yang said he was proud to work with wardperson Ian Greensill and their roles were interchangeable.

"I often see Ian G chatting with and supporting patients as he transports them to their care, whilst I sometimes get the chance to wheel patients in and out of the clinic room," Dr Ian said.

"As far as I have seen, he and I are the only two with Ian on our name badge."



Kind regards,

Tami Photinos

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 we 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.



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