

Executive Director The Prince Charles Hospital

Tami Photinos



Summary:

- Blue Sky Research Program
- Executive Update
- From Belgium to Brisbane
- Immunisation award
- NAIDOC Week

[Message feedback](#)



Audience: All staff



Read Time: 5 Minutes



For: Information

Dear Team,

The Blue Sky Research Program, created by The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation, wants to accelerate the next generation of heart and lung treatments in Australia over the coming decade.

Its vision is that no one should die waiting for a heart or lung transplant.

The Foundation has provided \$2 million seed funding and aims to provide more than \$10 million of support by 2032 to help unlock discoveries that have the potential to transform care, prevent disease progression and radically improve survival and quality of life.

Dr Vinesh Appadurai and I, along with the TPCH Foundation executive and supporters, met this week to discuss this new program. Exciting times ahead for research at TPCH.



On another note, a strong turnout and great line-up of speakers at the Metro North Delirium Symposium (left) held in the TPCH Education Centre earlier this week.

A great event designed to raise awareness of delirium across healthcare settings and drive quality improvement activities that embed best practice into routine care.



Executive Update

Nicholas Irwin has been permanently appointed to the Protective Services Manager role at



TPCH. He will lead the Protective Services team, supporting a safe and secure environment for patients, staff and visitors.

Nic brings over five years of experience in health care security across a range of roles, in addition to working within the broader security environment.

Introducing our new Dietician Manager Food Services

Dione Jacka is TPCH's new Dietitian Manager Food Services.

Dione joins TPCH from COH, where she is currently acting Director Dietetics and Team Leader Food Services. She also has held several other senior food services roles, including at the Wesley, Mater and St Andrew's War Memorial hospitals.

Dione also has experience with CBORD NetMenu and Room Service on Demand systems, so is well prepared to lead the TPCH team.



TPCH STAFF

Thanks to:
The TPCH
Executive &
TPCH Staff
Council

SOUP-ER DUPER

The Common
Good Main Café
Tuesday 30 June
11.30am - 1pm
or until run out!

TPCH Staff Council Metro North Health Queensland Government

From Belgium to Brisbane!

Dr Catherine Ruelens (centre) and Dr Hendrik-Jan Betraains (right) are new Staff Specialists in Psychiatry who recently joined TPCH.

Both doctors recently relocated from Belgium, drawn to Brisbane by our warmer climate and outdoor lifestyle.



They have strong clinical proficiency in public, private and community mental health settings in Belgium, which I'm excited we can now offer to patients at TPCH.

National immunisation award for TPCH

TPCH Director of Research Associate Professor Dr Michael Nissen, Director of Infectious Diseases and Thoracic Physician Dr Andrew Bourke and collaborators from the UQ Frazer Institute recently won a \$20,000 Public Health Association of Australia immunisation award at



the Communicable Diseases and Immunisation Conference.

It means the team can now work towards implementing their proposal to address gaps in the uptake of National Immunisation Program-funded vaccines for patients admitted to TPCH.

The research group is also addressing ways to improve uptake of pertussis

(whooping cough) vaccination in TPCH ED. This [article](#) has further information.

Next HELIX innovation and implementation program assessment rounds open

Congratulations to the staff who presented at the recent Metro North Innovation Showcase.

Expressions of Interest are now open with the next HELIX Innovation and Implementation Program assessment rounds, starting Tuesday 21 July.

Submissions should be in before Monday 20 July. You do not need a fully formed solution - start with the problem so HELIX can support you to move it forward.

For more details visit [HELIX Innovation and Implementation Program](#) on QHEPS.

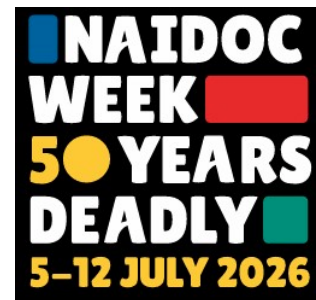
Celebrate NAIDOC Week at TPCH

TPCH will celebrate NAIDOC Week (5-12 July) with an event in the Gathering Garden. More details coming soon!

Date: Monday 6 July

When: 12pm – 2pm

Where: TPCH Gathering Garden



This year's theme is 50 Years of Deadly. Visit the [NAIDOC Week](#) website for more details.

Kind regards,

Tami Photinos

Executive Director

The Prince Charles Hospital



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.



**Queensland
Government**

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