

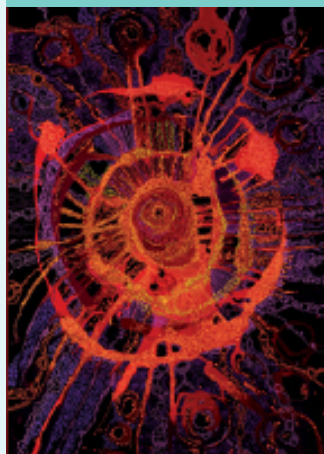
ED Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health

Adj.Prof. Sherry Holzapfel



Adj. Prof. Sherry Holzapfel

July 2026



NAIDOC WEEK
50 YEARS DEADLY
5-12 JULY 2026



Dear colleagues,

As NAIDOC Week draws to a close, I hope you have had the opportunity to celebrate with your teams, communities and loved ones.

It has been wonderful to see so many staff participating in flag raisings, yarning circles, community events and celebrations across Metro North Health. Thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered and contributed to making this year's NAIDOC Week such a success.

The week has been a powerful reminder of the strength of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, the importance of community, and the role each of us plays in contributing to better health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. It has also highlighted the dedication of our staff in fostering safe, respectful and inclusive healthcare experiences.

This year's theme, *50 Years of Deadly*, reminds us not only to honour the achievements and advocacy of those who came before us, but also to invest in and empower the leaders who will shape the next 50 years.

That was reflected over the last couple of weeks as we welcomed our newest Deadly Start trainees to Metro North Health. Watching the next generation begin their careers is a powerful reminder that our future is in good hands. These young people will help shape the future of culturally safe healthcare, bringing fresh ideas, passion and pride in who they are.

The same can be said for our rising leaders who took part in the recent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Program and Executive Leadership Program. Their achievement reflects their commitment to growing as leaders, and I'm excited to see the impact they'll continue to have across our health service. Investing in our people at every stage of their journey is how we continue to strengthen our workforce for generations to come.

Here is a selection of photos from events across the week, capturing the spirit, connection and celebration that has been on display throughout Metro North Health.



As we move beyond NAIDOC Week, I encourage you to stay connected.

Registrations are now open for our upcoming Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Men's and Women's Cultural Staff Days, providing another opportunity to connect with colleagues, strengthen culture and invest in our own wellbeing. You can find more information and the Cultural Staff Days further down in this ebuletin. I hope to see many of you there.

Thank you for everything you do each and every day. I hope you have a wonderful weekend celebrating with family, friends and community.

Stay Deadly,
Sherry

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health QHEPS page

Access programs, services, cultural resources and support to deliver culturally safe, equitable care and improve health outcomes across Metro North Health.

[Click here to visit](#)



Staff Shout Out - Natasha White & Roslyn Boland

Congratulations to Natasha and Roslyn for graduating from the Executive Leadership Program.

This achievement is a testament to their hard work, dedication and commitment to growing as leaders and reflects the positive impact they continue to have across our hospital and health service.

Fill out the survey below and tell us how you'd like to be recognised as a Metro North Health staff member.

[Tell us here](#)



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Men's Business Staff Gathering

When

Friday 14 August 2026
9:00am - 3:00pm

Where

Decker Park
25th Avenue, Brighton

Details

- Lunch will be provided
- Cultural activity included

To register your interest, email healthequitymnh@health.qld.gov.au.



June Talk About out Now!

The June edition of [Talk About](#) is now available and full of updates from across Metro North Health.

Latest edition features:

- COH Launches Second Reconciliation Action Plan
- Strong Men, Deadly Men – A Community Coming Together
- RBWH remembers trailblazing cancer care volunteer
- Auntie Lorian's heart health journey
- A Day in the Life of Dr Luke David

And lot's more!

[Read here](#)



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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Women's Cultural Gathering

When

25th September 2026
8:30am – 3pm

Where

Suttons Beach,
Redcliffe

[Click here to register or search 'Better Together Staff Gathering' in TMS.](#)



Double click here to add content

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Better Together -
Our Health, Our Way!





STOP RACISM

It Starts with Me

There is no place for racism in
our health service.

If you hear it or see it, speak up
and report it.

Search '**stop racism**' on QHEPS
to learn more.

TOGETHER WE CAN STOP RACISM

Anti-Racism 1st Birthday

On 1 July, Metro North Health marked one year since the launch of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander [Anti-Racism Policy](#) and the Stop Racism. It Starts with Me. campaign.

Over the past 12 months, the policy and campaign have helped strengthen awareness of racism and its impacts, encourage important conversations, and support staff to identify, report and respond to racism across our health service.

While there is still more work to do, this milestone is an opportunity to reflect on the progress made and reaffirm our shared commitment to creating a culturally safe workplace where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples feel respected, valued and supported.

Every staff member has a role to play in fostering a workplace where cultural safety is embedded, diversity is celebrated and racism has no place.

To learn more, visit the Stop Racism. It Starts with Me. campaign page on [QHEPS](#).



Welcome to our new Deadly Start trainees!

This week, we were proud to welcome our newest Deadly Start trainees to Metro North Health.

The orientation gave trainees the opportunity to connect with one another, meet staff and learn more about the exciting journey ahead as they begin their careers with Metro North Health.

We wish all our new trainees every success and look forward to supporting them as they grow, learn and make a valuable contribution.



SHARE YOUR FEEDBACK

We're seeking feedback from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff to help strengthen workforce initiatives and opportunities across Metro North Health.



Children's Health Queensland - Transport to Treatment Bus

The Transport to Treatment bus service provides safe, reliable and culturally appropriate transport for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and their families accessing Children's Health Queensland services.

The service can assist with transport to and from Queensland Children's Hospital appointments, approved accommodation, Brisbane Airport, and eligible home-to-hospital appointments.

If you are supporting a family who may benefit from this service, discuss their transport needs during appointment planning. You can connect families with PTSS or their local Health Worker, or contact the CHQ Patient Journey Officer on 07 3068 5950 (option 1) or via email at chq.patient_journey_officer@health.qld.gov.au for assistance.



Supporting our diverse workforce

Have you updated your diversity status on myHR?

[Click here to access myHR](#)



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Artwork Protocols and online request form

AVAILABLE NOW!



Protocols

Artwork Request Form

Better Together Health Van now available for bookings!

We are now accepting bookings from Metro North Health services keen to utilise the Better Together Health Van for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities within the Metro North Health catchment area through:

- **Improved access**
- **Opportunistic screening measures**
- **Health promotion**
- **Engagement activities**

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Team are available to assist you by connecting your service with the local community.



If you would like to book the BTHV for an upcoming event, please contact the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Team

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Book Here

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Team (A&TSILT) acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which our services are located, the Jinibara, Kabi Kabi, Turrbal and Yagara peoples, and pays respects to Elders both past and present.

Produced by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Leadership Team,
Metro North Health

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