

Executive Director The Prince Charles Hospital

Tami Photinos



Summary:

- Christmas and New Year planning
- Inaugural World Prehabilitation Day
- Footy finals taste treat for patients
- Last chance to nominate in TPCH awards
- Pastoral Care available

[Message feedback](#)



Audience: All staff



Read time: 4 min



For: Information

Dear Team,

There will not be a mandatory stand down period during the 2026 Christmas and New Year period, with services expected to be maintained throughout this time.

However, I expect a reduction in activity in the weeks commencing Monday 21 December and Monday 28 December 2026, reflecting the impact of leave, public holidays and concessional days.

Regular service delivery will resume from Monday 4 January 2027.

Please start the necessary planning and workforce arrangements to support these operational requirements.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to delivering essential, safe, and high-quality care to our community.

Executive Update

Melissa White is TPCH Acting Director Facility Support Services until Wednesday 30 September. She will also continue her substantive role at Kallangur during this time.

Perry Judd will be Acting Chief Allied Health Officer for North West Hospital and Health Service in Mount Isa from Monday 12 October to Friday 6 November. Amber Jones will be Acting TPCH Allied Health Director during this time.

Kate Jakeman is Acting Nursing Director Internal Medicine Services until Monday 5 October.



World Prehabilitation Day at TPCH

Wednesday was the inaugural World Prehabilitation Day, a global campaign promoting optimisation of patients' physical, nutritional and psychological health before treatment.

SurgiFIT is TPCH's multidisciplinary prehabilitation program for cardiothoracic and general surgical

patients, helping patients optimise their physical, nutritional, psychological and social wellbeing before surgery.

The program involves doctors, physiotherapists, dietitians and social workers who develop personalised plans to improve recovery and reduce complications.

To learn more about our local TPCH SurgiFIT prehabilitation program and how it supports patients before surgery, visit the TPCH Prehabilitation webpage: [TPCH Prehabilitation \(SurgiFIT\) Program](#).

The team set up an information stall at The Common Good main cafe (above) for staff, patients and visitors to learn more and support the prehabilitation initiative.

Sepsis Hall of Fame promotes awareness

For World Sepsis Day on Sunday, the Ward 2A team delivered a fun and engaging *Sepsis Hall of Fame* awareness initiative which used the slogan: "It does not pick a person, a profession, or a celebrity. It can happen to anyone."

The initiative reinforced that sepsis is a life-threatening emergency where early recognition and timely intervention are critical to preventing organ failure and saving lives.



Staff and patients were engaged through celebrity sepsis facts, education on the physiology and progression of sepsis, risk factors, early recognition and the importance of infection prevention including hand hygiene.

The initiative successfully combined education, engagement and an awareness campaign.

Led by Standard 8 Champion Clinical Nurse Kat Crowe, it promoted a culture of early recognition, escalation and patient safety, empowering staff and patients to recognise the signs and impact of sepsis.

Footy finals taste treat for patients

For lunch on Wednesday, in the lead up to the footy grand finals, TPCH patients were able to order a Pie Floater special, complete with mushy peas, mash and gravy!

Manager Dione Jacka said Food Services provided a 'Cooks Special' meal for patients each month.

Looks delicious!



Your last chance to nominate in TPCH awards!

We have almost 100 completed nominations and more than 50 in progress for this year's TPCH Staff Excellence Awards. A great start!

If you're yet to submit nominations, please make time before the deadline, which is 5pm on Monday (21 September). [Nominate](#) here.

If you have started a nomination, please be sure to [log back in and click submit](#). Scroll down to find TPCH.

There are some new awards this year - including the Enabling Care award, designed specifically to recognise non-clinical teams, projects and staff.

Don't let your team or colleagues miss out on the recognition they deserve.

Metro North Staff Excellence Award tickets on sale Monday!

Tickets for the 2026 Metro North Staff Excellence Awards gala dinner will go on sale Monday 21 September.



The Staff Excellence Awards celebrate individuals and teams who demonstrate excellence, leadership, innovation, collaboration and dedication to our values across the organisation.

Tickets include a four-hour food and drinks package, live entertainment and a great night celebrating with your colleagues. Find more details on [QHEPS](#).

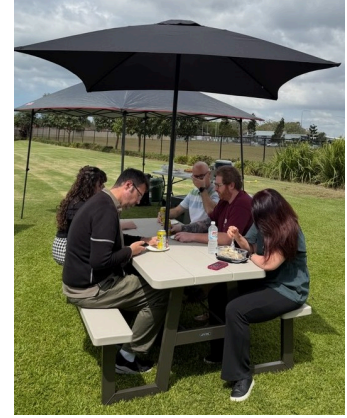
New outdoor furniture enhances green space at Kallangur

Kallangur Satellite Health Centre (Kalangoor) held a Picnic in the Park on Wednesday. The picnic was a great opportunity to celebrate the arrival of new outdoor furniture and encourage staff to make the most of the green space at KSHC.

To mark the occasion, the KSHC Staff Wellness Committee organised some lunch platters and

outdoor games which created plenty of friendly competition and gave staff a chance to relax and catch up with colleagues.

It's great to see so many staff making use of the new seating and shaded areas. The feedback so far has been really positive.



RU OK? Day at Kallangur Satellite Health Centre

A special shout-out to our minions and Gru, who took a break from their mission to Close the Gap and champion health equity to spread connection, kindness and conversation across Kallangur Satellite Health Centre for R U OK? Day last week.

Your enthusiasm helped bring smiles, start meaningful conversations and remind everyone of the importance of asking R U OK?



Pastoral Care available

A reminder that patients can access pastoral care at TPC. It is available Monday to Friday mornings, by request from staff or the patient.

Chaplains are available for everyone, regardless of their beliefs or religious background.

For more details, phone 3139 4366 or email [Senior Chaplain Judy Burt](#).

Building 50 alternative pedestrian access during demolition works

If you work or visit Building 50, please use the signed, alternative pedestrian route until mid-October.

I appreciate this may add a few extra steps to your day, but it helps maintain safe separation between pedestrians and construction vehicles demolishing the old pool and gym area.

Thank you for helping keep everyone safe.

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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