



Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital

RBWH Research Report 2025

Allied Health

Metro North
Health



Queensland
Government



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.

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Allied Health Professions

Research highlights



Mark Cruickshank
Executive Director
Allied Health Professions

2025 saw outstanding research achievements from the Allied Health Professions (AHP) service line, which includes Audiology, Dietetics and Food Services, Occupational Therapy, Orthotics and Prosthetics, Physiotherapy, Psychology, Social Work and Speech Pathology, as well as the Clinical Multimedia Unit and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Liaison Service.

The overarching focus on consumer-led research and translation into practice reflects our service line's commitment to embedding gold-standard person-centred care. In 2025 our AHP teams, supported by research champions, produced an exceptional level of research output. These successes include:

- \$8.86 million new grant funding including highly competitive MRFF and NHMRC grants
- 103 department led research projects (17% of which are being conducted as partnerships with consumers) and 92 collaborative projects
- 115 journal publications and 2 book chapters
- 23 keynote or plenary conference presentations.

Across our service line, we have 101 research active staff and a growing focus on improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander healthcare through the research leadership of Associate Professor Sam Bunzli and Alice Pender. This aligns with our work to build culturally safe care and health equity as an AHP priority.

Nine AHP staff were awarded a Research Higher Degree in 2025 (1 MPhil and 8 PhD). Congratulations to Sarah Wilson, Dr Kate Glen, Dr Liliana Botero, Dr Alice Pashley, Dr Bernadette Dimla, Dr Clare Pekin, Dr Mark Cruickshank and Dr Miriam Dillon. Across these projects, RBWH clinician researchers have actively advanced knowledge in nasogastric tube positioning, nutritional status and mealtime care, experiences of My Aged Care, best practice for swallowing following laryngectomy, psychological management of people with Type 2 diabetes undergoing bariatric surgery, physiotherapy prescribing practices and distress management for people with lower back pain. This speaks to the diversity of AHP research happening across the service line and our commitment to improve care through research and evidence-based practice.

Congratulations to Dr Adrienne Young for receiving a Queensland Health Clinical Research Fellowship and Dr Joanne Hiatt for receiving a RBWH Early Career Researcher Fellowship. Congratulations also to Associate Professor Sam Bunzli who received the Rising Star Award at the Metro North Research Excellence Awards.

We are grateful for our ongoing collaborations with local and international external partners, who continue to support growth in research capacity and translation. These partners include the Herston Biofabrication Institute, RECOVER Injury Research Centre, the Centre for Functioning and Health Research (Metro South Health), Queensland Aphasia Research Centre, the Jamieson Trauma Institute, the Australian Centre of Health Services Innovation, The University of Queensland, Griffith University and the Queensland University of Technology.

Centre for Allied Health Research

Research highlights

The Centre for Allied Health Research provided research capacity building and training for allied health clinicians to embed high-quality research and implementation across RBWH in 2025. The CAHR team is made up of Dr Kelsey Pateman and Dr Louise Purtell, who published 7 journal articles and 1 book chapter during 2025.

A highlight for our team was supporting the service line wide Cultural Capability in Allied Health survey, which measured the self-reported cultural capability of AHP staff. This work was a partnership between Griffith University Researchers, Physiotherapy Conjoint Research Fellow, A/Professor Sam Bunzli and a multidisciplinary AHP working group. The results will directly inform actions to build a culturally capable workforce.

We also continued to facilitate collaboration between allied health service lines at our monthly Quality and Research Advisory Group meetings. Highlights included featuring guest presentations from allied health PhD students and enabling them to receive guidance and support from the team on their future projects.

Our focus on building consumer partnerships in research continued, with our team co-authoring and co-writing successful research grants with consumer co-researchers. A highlight was being awarded a RBWH SERTA funded project to understand consumer representative experiences of partnership in research and quality improvement, which will be a consumer-led project facilitated by Dr Kelsey Pateman. We would again like to thank consumer representative Anja Christoffersen for leadership and capacity building for consumer-led research within CAHR and across the RBWH.

Collaborative Research Activity Involving RBWH Department / Research Group

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Samantha Bunzli	Susan de Jersey, Sarah Featherston, Matthew Stewart, Edwina Powe, Blayne Arnold, Curtley Nelson, Rebecca Barnett, Megan Cornock, Ellie Minchell, Jessica Angus, Christine James, Sue Laracy, Kelsey Pateman, Louise Purtell, Angela White	Cultural capability in allied health		Not applicable

Research Activity with a Specific Focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Samantha Bunzli	Susan de Jersey, Sarah Featherston, Matthew Stewart, Edwina Powe, Blayne Arnold, Curtley Nelson, Rebecca Barnett, Megan Cornock, Ellie Minchell, Jessica Angus, Christine James, Sue Laracy, Kelsey Pateman, Louise Purtell, Angela White	Cultural capability in allied health	Not applicable

Research Publications

Authors

Investigator	ORCID ID
Kelsey Pateman	https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5230-1492
Louise Purtell	https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6785-0817

Publications in 2025

Journal Articles (RBWH staff or consumers in bold)

Tiansaard J, Bloomer MJ, **Purtell L**, Bonner A. Advance Care Planning Interventions for Adults With Chronic Kidney Disease: A Systematic Review. Journal of Renal Care. 2026 Mar;52(1):e70046.

Chiang WS, **Purtell L**, Coronas-Watkins K, Bonner A. Patient-Reported Outcome Measures to Determine Sleep Problems in Adults With Chronic Kidney Disease: A Systematic Review. Journal of Renal Care. 2025 Dec;51(4):e70032.

Bui KL, **Purtell L**, Hyun A, Bonner A. eHealth Solutions for Symptom Assessment and Monitoring in Adults With Chronic Kidney Disease: A Systematic Review. Journal of Clinical Nursing. 2025 Sep;34(9):3560-91.

Duff J, Meloncelli N, **Purtell L**, Cameron A, Doubrovsky A, Barnes R, **Hyam K, Xu HG**. Evaluating the HELIX4 implementation capacity-building program. JBI Evidence Implementation. 2025 Mar 31:10-97.

Bui KL, Hyun A, **Purtell L**, Hoang VL, Bonner A. Remote symptom assessment and management via mobile app for adults with chronic kidney disease in Vietnam (SAM-CKD programme): a randomised feasibility trial protocol. BMJ Open. 2026 Feb 6;16(2):e111934.

Cottrell M, Featherston S, Pateman K. Determining a capability framework and training requirements to support provision of physiotherapy via telehealth in an Australian public tertiary health setting: a multi-methods study. Physiotherapy Theory and Practice. 2025 Oct 3;41(10):2130-40.

Journal Articles (RBWH staff or consumers in bold)

Meloncelli NJ, Wilkinson S, Rushton A, **Pateman K**, Gallaher S, O'Connor HM, **de Jersey S**. 1257-P: Codesigning the Healthy Gut Diet—A Complex Dietary Behavior Change Intervention to Prevent Gestational Diabetes Mellitus. *Diabetes* 20 June 2025; 74 (Supplement_1): 1257–P

Books (RBWH staff or consumers in bold)

Young AM, Christoffersen A, Trevor D, Pateman K. (2025). Co-production in Health Services Evaluation. In: Kaehne, A., Feather, J. (eds) *Handbook of Health Services Evaluation*. Springer, Cham.

Dietetics & Food Services

Research highlights

The Nutrition Research Collaborative (NRC) continued to work towards its vision to deliver high impact nutrition care and research to improve health outcomes, equity and access, patient and staff experience, delivered with the best use of resources. Our team, in partnership with our national and international collaborators, has secured 16 new grants in 2025 (some of which will begin in 2026), with 12 from Queensland Health and 4 from external partner totalling \$6,834,254. The NRC is leading 33 research projects and collaborating on 25 others, 20 of which involve partnerships or consultations with consumers. This collaborative effort has resulted in 56 peer-reviewed publications, with 4 first time authors, 18 listed first authors, and 20 senior authors ultimately reflecting 75% of department staff developing research capacity. The NRC has participated in 30 conference presentations, and keynotes, showcasing our research advancements and fostering professional collaboration, and has been recognized with 11 awards in 2025 at local, national, and international conferences/symposiums, with 8 led by our NRC team.

The NRC continues to foster the career pathways of clinician researchers, with 3 PhD completions (Dr Kate Glen, Dr Liliana Botero, Dr Alice Pashley) and 1 MPhil completion (Isabella Boccalatte), 3 new PhD enrolments (including RBWH Dietitian Ching Yee Lau), and one completed RBWH pre-PhD scholarship (Rhiannon Young). Dr Teresa Brown and Dr Sarah Andersen continued their post-doctoral clinician research fellowships throughout 2025 to improve care and outcomes for people receiving cancer treatment. New fellowships were secured by Dr Adrienne Young (Qld Health Clinical Research Fellowship) and Dr Jo Hiatt (RBWH Fellowship) which provides 2-3 year research programs to expand malnutrition research translation statewide and pursue further research to improve nutrition care following skull base surgery.

In 2025 two high impact clinical research projects funded by Queensland Health's Office of the Chief Allied Health Office were completed. Associate Professor Helen MacLaughlin led the evaluation of the Tertiary Obesity Management Service (TOMS) which identified improved health outcomes, exercise capacity, and increased access to non-emergent surgery for those patients receiving multidisciplinary evidence-based obesity care. Health service use decreases for TOMS participants, with emergency presentations, inpatient-admissions and total-bed-days reduced by 28%, 13% and 25% respectively. TOMS achieved feasibility, fidelity, adoption, acceptability and safety key performance indicators. Dr Carrie-Anne Lewis subsequently led the co-design of an obesity treatment model of care, which defined the elements of obesity care and implemented a modified version of TOMS in Mackay HHS. Investment in research capacity building alongside the clinical service has resulted in clinician-led research publications, presentations and awards. Dr Adrienne Young led the development of statewide quality indicators for nutrition and food services. A total of 262 individuals (including 96 consumers) were involved in a series of consensus processes co-designed with consumer research partners. This process identified 10 quality indicator domains, six of which can be measured currently by Queensland hospitals. Funding has been secured to test the implementation of these within a quality improvement collaborative model.

Collectively, these accomplishments highlight a year of impactful research, strong partnerships, and meaningful progress toward advancing nutrition care and outcomes for the NRC.

Successful Research Higher Degree (e.g. MPhil or PhD) candidates in 2025

Name	Degree (e.g. MPhil or PhD)	Title	Month Completed	Affiliated University	Summary
Kate Glen	PhD	Investigating ongoing nasogastric tube position – an analysis of practice and outcomes between the UK and Australia.	May 2025	Queensland University of Technology	Nasogastric tubes are used to provide food, fluid and/or medications in patients unable to consume enough orally in hospitals and the community. Practice varies widely across the world and is currently based upon expert opinion. This international research found that despite nothing holding the tube tip in the patient's stomach, tube displacement into the lungs, causing serious harm, is rare. The study measured the effectiveness of different methods of tube position testing in real-world hospital settings, demonstrating that widely used tests can unnecessarily delay nutrition. Research outcomes will inform guidance to improve the safety of nasogastric tube position testing globally.
Liliana Botero	PhD	Changes in nutritional status and associated risk factors and outcomes of in-hospital nutritional decline in adult long-stay acute patients	July 2025	University of Queensland	While the prevalence of malnutrition on admission is well documented, far less is known about patients who experience nutritional decline during prolonged hospital stays. In particular, there is limited evidence on the incidence, risk factors, and consequences of hospital-acquired malnutrition (HAM). To address this, this PhD research program employed a multi-method research design comprising three complementary studies, including a longitudinal cohort study and qualitative interviews. Collectively, the findings demonstrate that in-hospital nutritional decline is common, frequently under-recognised, and strongly associated with worse clinical outcomes, including complications, infections, longer length of stay, and higher readmission rates. Inadequate nutrition care early in admission significantly increased the risk of persistent or worsening malnutrition, while timely nutrition interventions and meal support were associated with higher energy intake. Qualitative findings further highlighted the importance of motivation, knowledge, emotional coping, and social support in sustaining oral intake, underscoring the need for person-centred and supportive care approaches
Alice Pashley	PhD	Exploring the therapeutic value of mealtimes in rehabilitation	1-Jul	University of Queensland	Mealtimes represent a potentially underutilised component of rehabilitation care, offering opportunities not only for nutritional intake but also for physical, cognitive, psychosocial, and social therapeutic engagement. Despite this potential, there is limited evidence to guide how mealtimes should be designed and delivered to maximise therapeutic value in rehabilitation settings. To address this, this PhD research program used a mixed-methods, multi-phase design, including qualitative and multiple case study designs. Flexible mealtime structures, particularly shared dining environments, were found to support person-centred care, social interaction, and opportunities for self-directed therapeutic activity, while also presenting challenges when poorly aligned with rehabilitation needs. Building on these findings, a co-designed framework was developed to support delivery of enhanced therapeutic mealtime experiences in inpatient rehabilitation.

Research Awards and Achievements

Recipient (RBWH staff in bold)	Award	Event
Dr Sarah Andersen	Best abstract	ANZTCT 2025

Recipient (RBWH staff in bold)	Award	Event
Jamie Gerkhe, Goleta Abdi-Ward, Cory Williams, Collette Barnbrook, Elise Treleaven, Marilyn Banks	Winner - Surgical Service Line	QuARRIES
Belinda Lehn, Clare Burns, Sarju Vasani, Charlotte Hockey, Rebecca Fichera , Brien Hands	Winner- Consumer Focus Project	QuARRIES
TOMS team (Helen MacLaughlin, Robin Hay, Andrea Cawte , Caitlin Merz, Gemma Woodruff, William Benningfield, Scott Ruddell, Abby Yu, Helen d'Emden , Matthew Seymour, Keren Singh , Kelsey Pateman, Mala McHale)	Notable mention- for Excellence in Leadership and Performance	QuARRIES
Taylor Guthrie	New Investigator (Poster) Award- Allied Health	Perinatal Society of Australia & New Zealand (PSANZ)
Hannah O'Connor	Highly Commended, Jenny Paratz Allied Health Award	Herston Health Symposium
Carrie-Anne Lewis	Highly Commended, Professor Jeffrey Lipman AO Best Translational Research Award	Herston Health Symposium
Adrienne Young	Highly Commended, Consumer Partnership Research Award	Herston Health Symposium
Erynn McAuley	Australia and New Zealand Society of Nephrology, Dietitians Australia Nutrition Research Award	Australia and New Zealand Society of Nephrology Annual Conference
Carrie-Anne Lewis	Best Interprofessional Abstract Award	National Allied Health Conference
Adrienne Young , Sarah Mackay, Hannah Olufson, Anja Christoffersen, Dale Trevor, Merrilyn Banks	Conference Grant	AuSPEN Conference
Taylor Guthrie	New Researcher Award	ANZMOSS National Conference

Research Grants

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Teresa Brown	Nutrition Research Collaborative	Optimising nutrition outcomes and care pathways for patients undergoing surgical resection for head and neck cancer	Metro North Health	\$175,000	3 years, 2022-2025

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Gita Mishra (UQ), Jenny Doust (UQ), Katrina Moss (UQ), Deborah Loxton (Uni Newcastle), Lisa Buckley (UQ), Kathleen Baird (UTS), Anthony Herbert (CHQ), Seema Mihrshahi (Macquarie Uni), Annette Dobson (UQ), Craig Olsson (Deakin Uni); Galina Daraganova (Uni Melbourne), Leigh Tooth (UQ), Debra Anderson (UTS, QUT), Joanne Gray (Uni Sydney), Susan de Jersey	Nutrition Research Collaborative	Mothers and their Children's Healthcare Experience Study (MatCHES)	MRFF	\$681,300	4 years, 2021-2025
Ruth Hubbard (UQ), Adrienne Young , Maria Fiatarone Singh (Uni Sydney), Sarah Hilmer (Uni Sydney), Natasha Reid (UQ), Ken Rockwood (Dalhousie University), Chris Etherton-Beer (UWA), Loretta Baldassar (ECU), Rosemary Saunders (Edith Cowan Uni), Michelle Miller (Flinders Uni), Mark Morgan (Bond Uni), Emily Gordon (UQ), Tracy Comans (UQ), Paul Yates (Austin Health), Jason Ferris (UQ)	Nutrition Research Collaborative	Frailty KIT: An Australian Frailty Network to Create Knowledge, Implement Findings and Support Training	MRFF	\$4,993,238	5 years , 2022-2027

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Ruth Hubbard (UQ), Sarah Hilmer (Uni Sydney), Ken Rockwood (Dalhousie University), Kirsten Howard (Uni Sydney), Allison Tong (Uni Sydney), Monika Janda (UQ), Chris Etherton-Beer (UWA), Danijela Gnjidic (Uni Sydney), Wen Lim (Melbourne Uni), Natasha Reid (UQ), Dan Saskind (UQ), David Story (Melbourne Uni), Anna Nowak (UWA), Adrienne Young , Rosemary Saunders (Edith Cowan Uni), Nicola Warren (UQ), Emily Gordon (UQ), Heather Allore (Yale), Andrew Clegg (University of Leeds), Fiona Lake (UWA)	Nutrition Research Collaborative	Frailty-ADD: Improving Hospital Outcomes for Frail Patients Across Different Disciplines	NHMRC	\$2,500,000	5 years, 2022-2027
Sarah Andersen	Nutrition Research Collaborative	Using prebiotic fibre supplementation to improve patient outcomes during treatment for haematological malignancies	Metro North Health	\$240,531	5 years, 2023-2027
Helen MacLaughlin, Robin Hay, Elizabeth Ryan, Andrea Cawte, Mala McHale, Kelsey Pateman	Nutrition Research Collaborative, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Psychology	Paving the way: Demonstrating a health practitioner led complex obesity management pathway can improve health outcomes and develop research capacity	OCAHO	\$121,000	2 years, 2023-2025

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Adrienne Young, Merrillyn Banks, Angela Byrnes , Jennifer Ellick (STARS), Elise Treleaven , Sarah Mackay (TPCH), Anja Christoffersen (Consumer), Dale Trevor (Consumer) , Sarah Wallace, Matthew Walker (Wide Bay HHS), Louise Moodie (Mackay HHS), Catherine McFarlane (Sunshine Coast HHS), Tania Bennett (Metro South HHS), Sarah Wright, (AHPOQ)	Nutrition Research Collaborative, Speech Pathology	Measuring what matters: developing quality indicators for hospital nutrition services	OCAHO	\$169,740	2 years, 2023-2025
Adrian Brown (Uni College London), Helen MacLaughlin , Sebastian Potthoff (Northumbria Uni), Reza Motallebzadeh (Uni College London), Rachel Batterham (Uni College London)	Nutrition Research Collaborative	INFILTRATE: Implementation of a formula low energy diet programme for weight loss in a renal transplant service	National Institute of Health and Care Research (NIHR)	\$2,200,000	5 years, 2023-2028
Carrie-Anne Lewis , Guy Law, Nicole Thill, Susan de Jersey, Helen MacLaughlin, Merrillyn Banks, Robin Hay , Louise Moodie, Gaurav Puri, Harshal Deshmukh, George Hopkins, Mala McHale , Luke Snabaitis, Caroline Giles, Joanna Munro, Emma Leyden	Nutrition Research Collaborative	Facilitating equitable access to allied health first obesity services using co-design	OCAHO	\$159,425	2 years, 2023-2025

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Clair Sullivan (UQ), Alain-Dominique (Dom) Gorse (UQ), Michael Lawley, Enrico Coiera (Macquarie Uni), Ranjeny Thomas (UQ), Xingliang Yuan (Monash Uni), Yasmeen George (Monash Uni), Steven M McPhail (QUT AuSHI), Susan de Jersey , Jiangning Song (Monash Uni), Euan Walpole (PAH), Leonie Callaway (UQ), Maureen Turner, Bill Donnelly, Lyn March	Nutrition Research Collaborative, Women's and Newborns	NINA: Disrupting current models for chronic disease; National Infrastructure for federated learNing in Digital health.	MRFF (additional \$7.2M co-contribution from partners)	\$6,500,000	3 years, 2023-2026
Catherine McFarlane (Sunshine Coast HHS), Helen MacLaughlin , Rathika Krishnasamy (Sunshine Coast HHS, UQ)	Dietetics and Food Services	Diet quality in CKD: a plant based dietary approach to modulate gastrointestinal microbiome and improve management of kidney disease.	Queensland Health Office of Precision Medicine and Research	\$99,999	2 years, 2024-2026
Sarah Andersen , Heidi Staudacher (Deakin Uni), Nicole Gavin (Cancer Care, nursing), Andrea Henden (QIMR, UQ)	Nutrition Research Collaborative, Cancer Care Services	Prebiotic fibre supplementation during haematological cancer treatment	Gateway for Cancer Research (USD\$112,652)	\$165,000	2 years, 2024-2026

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Mark Morgan (Bond University), Ruth Hubbard (UQ), Paresh Dawda (University of Canberra), Sarah Hilmer (University of Sydney), Adrienne Young , Andrew Clegg (Leeds University), Natasha Reid (UQ), Lisa Kouladjian O'Donnell (University of Sydney), Tracy Comans (National Ageing Research Institute), Anja Christoffersen (UQ), David Ward (UQ), Kristiana Ludlow (UQ), Ali Davidson (Bond University), Reema Harrison (Macquarie University), Jerneja Sveticic (Gold Coast PHN)	Nutrition Research Collaborative	An automatic electronic frailty index in Australian primary care and a toolkit for action	MRFF	\$3,500,000	5 years, 2024-2029
Ruth Hubbard (UQ), Sarah Hilmer (University of Sydney), Adrienne Young , Ken Rockwood (Dalhousie University), Clair Sullivan (UQ), Andrew Clegg (Leeds University), Anja Christoffersen (UQ) , David Ward (UQ), Tracy Comans (National Ageing Research Institute), Leila Shafiee Hanjani (UQ)	Nutrition Research Collaborative	Derivation, Validation and Implementation of a Digital Frailty Index for Acute Care Settings in Queensland	NHMRC	\$1,500,000	5 years, 2024-2029

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Lisa Nissen (UQ), Emily Lancsar (ANU), Bruce Hollingsworth (Lancaster University), Jean Spinks (UQ), Ian Creffenden (ANU), Isaac Koomson (UQ), Son Nghiem (ANU), Elisabeth Huynh (ANU), Jinhu Li (ANU), Geoff Argus (UQ), Jason Agostino (ANU), Fiona Coyer (UQ), Cylie Williams (Monash), Susan de Jersey , Allison McKendrick (UWA).	Nutrition Research Collaborative	Applying needs-based workforce planning in Primary Care	MRFF	\$2,885,186	4 years, 2024-2027
Rhiannon Young	Nutrition Research Collaborative	Person-centred nutrition care in palliative cancer care	Metro North Health	\$15,000	1 year, 2024-2025
Donna Fingland, Jenna Stonestreet, Cleo Burke, Erin Doenau, Irfan Khan, Kylie Matthews-Rensch	TPCH Mental Health, Nutrition Research Collaborative, Queensland Centre for Mental Health Research	STEPPED Care Pathway – Supporting Malnutrition following a paediatric eating disorder admission – a scoping study.	Metro North Health	\$15,000	1 year, 2025-2026
Fredrik Steyn, Kylie Matthews-Rensch , Robert Henderson, Rebecca Packer, Mario Siervo, Joanne Hiatt , Amber Sewell-Grant, Halley Ravuri, Cory Holdom	UQCCR, Nutrition Research Collaborative,	Tailoring nutrition in MND: A co-designed study linking lipid profiles with dietary intake	MND	\$250,000	2 years, 2025-2027
Adrienne Young	Nutrition Research Collaborative	Improving nutrition care in Queensland hospitals through an improvement collaborative	QH	\$249,534	3 years, 2025-2028
Sarah Andersen , Andrea Henden, Glen Kennedy, Midori Nakagaki, Nicole Gavin, Heidi Staudacher	Nutrition Research Collaborative, Clinical Haematology	IMPACT BMT Trial	CCS trust fund	\$27,703	6 months, 2025
Sarah Andersen	Nutrition Research Collaborative	Using prebiotic fibre supplementation to improve patient outcomes during treatment for haematological malignancies	Metro North Health	\$20,000	6 months, 2025

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Sarah Andersen, Rachel Willims	Nutrition Research Collaborative	Micronutrient requirements post stem cell transplantation and during graft versus host disease, implementation of evidence into practice	Office of Research and Innovation	\$4,963	11 days, 2025

RBWH Department / Research Group Led Research Activity

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Adrienne Young	Sarah Mackay (TPCH), Mary Hannan-Jones (QUT), Brooke Sharp (QUT), Isaac Morgan (QUT)	Measuring what matters: developing a new nutrition care patient experience questionnaire	Partnership	20
Adrienne Young	Merrilyn Banks, Angela Byrnes , Jennifer Ellick (STARS), Elise Treleaven , Hannah Olufson (STARS) Sarah Mackay (TPCH), Anja Christoffersen (Consumer), Dale Trevor (Consumer), Sarah Wallace, Matthew Walker (Wide Bay HHS), Louise Moodie (Mackay HHS), Catherine McFarlane (Sunshine Coast HHS), Tania Bennett (Metro South HHS), Sarah Wright, (AHPOQ)	Measuring what matters: developing quality indicators for hospital nutrition services	Partnership	0
Bronwyn Segon	Merrilyn Banks , David Silvera-Tawil (CSIRO), Elizabeth Vujcich (Surgery), Anita Plaza (Physiotherapy), Andrea Mc Kittrick (Occupational Therapy), Judy Bauer (Monash), Dale Trevor (Consumer), Marlien Varnfield (CSIRO), Wei Lu (CSIRO), Deepa Prabhu (CSIRO)	Accuracy and acceptability of wearable sensors in patients with burn injury to measure energy expenditure	Involvement	10
Carrie-Anne Lewis	Susan de Jersey, Helen MacLaughlin , Guy Law (Consumer), Nicole Thill (Consumer), Louise Moodie (Mackay HHS), Merrilyn Banks , Gaurav Puri (Endocrinology, Logan Hospital), Joanna Munro (HWQld), Robin Hay , Caroline Giles (Mackay HHS GPLO), Time Krivitsky (IM physician, Mackay HHS)	Facilitating equitable access to allied health first obesity services using co-design	Partnership	0

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Emma Osland	Dr Simon Lal (Salford Royal Hospital UK), DR Shameer Metha (The Royal London Hospital, UK), Dott.ssa Mariacristina Guidetti (University of Bologna Italy), Dr Tim Vanuytsel (KU Leuven Belgium), Dr Franscisca Joly (University of Paris, France), Professor Palle Bekker Jeppeson (Rigshospitalet, Denmark), Dr Manpreet Mundi (Mayo Clinic, USA)	Oral health and HPN international expansion	Involvement	N/A
Emma Osland	Julia Fox (QCH, Qld), Chris Walker (PNDU), Dr Darren Wong (Austin Health, Vic), Brooke Chapman (Austin Health, Vic), Morgan Brown (St George Hospital, NSW), Kate Dehlsen (Randwick Childrens, NSW), Suzie Daniels (Prince of Wales Hospital, NSW), Azar B-Nejad (Fiona Stanley Hospital, WA), Andrea Elliott (Alfred Health, Vic), Dr Sharon Carey (RPAH, NSW)	AuSPEN Nationalised MOC for HPN	Involvement	N/A
Erynn McAuley	Lynda Ross (QUT), Helen MacLaughlin , Mary Hannan-Jones (QUT)	What is the diet quality and self-efficacy of adults with chronic kidney disease?	Partnership	0
Helen MacLaughlin	Margie Conley, Erynn McAuley , Catherine McFarlane (Sunshine Coast HHS), Sharad Ratanjee (Kidney Health Service)	Healthy Eating in Haemodialysis: a prospective cohort study	Consultation	
Helen MacLaughlin	Robin Hay, Andrea Cawte , Gemma Woodruff, Caitlin Merz, (Pharmacy) Matthew Seymour (Endocrinology), Mala McHale (Psychology), William Benningfield (Physiotherapy)	Paving the way: Evaluation of the Tertiary Obesity Multidisciplinary Service	Consultation	
Helen MacLaughlin	Margie Conley (PAH/QUT), Andrea Vieceili (PAH), David Johnson (PAH), David Mudge (Redland Hosp), Tammy Tonges (consumer), Justin Holland (QUT), Kirsten Hepburn (RBWH), Alex Borg (QUT)	Slowing kidney disease with weight loss: a randomised controlled feasibility study	Partnership	
Helen MacLaughlin	Tania Best (QUT), Andrea Cawte , Robert Mullins (QUT), Mary Hannan-Jones (QUT), Joanne Avery (QUT), Teanna Curtis (QUT), Kirra Albert (QUT), Alex Mackie (QUT)	Evaluating the Impact of a Student-assisted Exercise and Nutrition Intervention on student experience and clinical and functional outcomes in Type 2 Diabetes and/or Chronic Kidney Disease	Consultation	N/A
Merrilyn Banks	Merrilyn Banks, Bronwyn Segon , Claire Lever (QUT), Jordan Woo (QUT)	Systematic review of vitamin and mineral requirements following major burn injury	Not applicable	N/A
Michael Wilson	Kylie Matthews, Carrie-Anne Lewis, Adrienne Young , Amanda Davis, Amy Hannigan	The use of indirect calorimetry in medically unstable eating disorders	Involvement	0

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Rhiannon Young	Helen MacLaughlin , Megan Crichton, Patsy Yates, Joanne Hiatt	Person-centred nutrition in palliative cancer care - pre PhD scholarship	Not applicable	N/A
Sarah Andersen	Teresa Brown , Glen Kennedy (CCS), Frederik Steyn (Neurology & UQ), Rachel Willims	Energy expenditure in patients undergoing allogeneic stem cell transplantation	Not applicable	0
Sarah Andersen	Andrea Henden (QIMR), Glen Kennedy (CCS), Merrilyn Banks	Prebiotics, the gastrointestinal microbiome and clinical outcomes post allogeneic stem cell transplantation	Not applicable	0
Sarah Andersen	Andrea Henden, Heidi Staudacher (Deakin), Jacinta Smith (Consumer), Midori Nakagaki, Nicole Gavin (Cancer Care), Tamara Wolf	Impact BMT	Not applicable	26
Sarah Andersen	Andrea Henden, Heidi Staudacher (Deakin), Jacinta Smith (Consumer), Midori Nakagaki, Nicole Gavin (Cancer Care),	Impact Leukaemia	Not applicable	4
Sarah Andersen	Rhiannon Young, Rachel Willims, Belinda Camilleri, Teresa Brown , Ngoc Ha (UQ)	Energy expenditure of patients undergoing stem cell transplantation: a systematic review	Not applicable	N/A
Susie de Jersey	Taylor Guthrie , Helen Truby (UQ), Sailesh Kumar (UQ), Helen Barrett (Mater), Jade Eccles-Smith (IMS), Alka Kothari (UQ), Sandra Lee (Caboolture hospital)	The Bariatric sUrgery and Maternal nutrition in Pregnancy (BUMP) Study: A prospective cohort study investigating the impact of bariatric surgery prior to pregnancy on maternal and offspring outcomes	Involvement	0
Susie de Jersey	Nina Meloncelli (MN AH), Sarah James (Redcliffe), Kristen Riggs (Caboolture)	Implementation of evidence-based routine antenatal care to support healthy weight gain during pregnancy: Exploring barriers and enablers to implementation	Not applicable	0
Taylor Guthrie	Taylor Guthrie , Kahlee Snape, Linda Sweet, Vidanka Visalevski, Lauren Kearney, Susan de Jersey	Pregnant women's experiences of nutrition care after bariatric surgery	Partnership	0
Taylor Guthrie	Madelyn Meury , Sharon Chambers (Diabetes), Alison Barry (WNBS), Kristiina Agryos (WNBS)	Virtual GDM Group: Patient + Staff satisfaction	Involvement	0
Teresa Brown	Daniel Hwang (UQ), Elise Treleaven , Brett Hughes (Cancer Care), Liz Kenny (Cancer Care), Charles Lin (Cancer Care), Penny Webb (QIMR), Anita Pelecanos (QIMR), Judy Bauer (Monash)	A feasibility study to investigate taste changes post treatment in patients with head and neck cancer and their association with genes and dietary behaviour	Involvement	0
Teresa Brown	Elise Treleaven, Claire Blake, Rebecca Fichera, Jo Hiatt , Omar Briek (MAXF), Ryan Sommerville (ENT), Milap Rughani (Plastics), Brett Hughes (Cancer Care), Judy Bauer (Monash)	Developing nutrition care pathways and prophylactic gastrosotomy insertion for head and neck surgery	Consultation	0
Teresa Brown	Ryan Sommerville (ENT), Tom Slaughter (ENT), Elise Treleaven , Juliet Hoey (SP), Clare Burns (SP), Brett Hughes (Cancer Care), Judy Bauer (Monash)	Nutrition and swallowing outcomes following TORS for head and neck cancer	Involvement	9

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Teresa Brown	Ryan Sommerville (ENT), Abigail Walker (ENT), Joanne Hiatt , Clare Burns (SP), Laura Moroney (SP), Brett Hughes (Cancer Care), Judy Bauer (Monash)	Nutrition and swallowing outcomes following skull base surgery	Involvement	18
Teresa Brown	Belinda Camilleri , Brett Hughes (Cancer Care), Judy Bauer (Monash), ELise Treleven , Claire Blake	Nutrition outcomes & body composition following immunotherapy for head and neck cancer	Not applicable	0
Teresa Brown	Anna Edwards (UQ), Brett Hughes (Cancer Care), Louise Campbell (Qld PET Service), Judy Bauer (Monash)	Assessment of sarcopenia and malnutrition in patients with head and neck cancer undergoing treatment of curative intent – implications for practice	Not applicable	0
Emma Osland	Claire Blake , Mattea Burello , Kelsey Pateman (MN Research Fellow), Diep Ha (Population Oral Health, UQ), Juliette McAleer (consumer), Winnie Roberts (consumer)	Oral health and long term enteral feeding	Partnership	0
Denise Cruickshank	Kate Morgan , Adrienne Young , Michelle Suter	An observational study of the environmental impact of different hospital foodservice systems.	Not applicable	0
Elise Treleven	Helen MacLaughlin , Rosa Venzke (QUT), Gracie Hankins (QUT), Claire Blake , Teresa Brown , Adrienne Young , Merrilyn Banks	Implementation of Patient-Led Malnutrition Screening in the Cancer Care Ambulatory Setting	Consultation	N/A
Helen MacLaughlin	Amina Agovic (QUT), Alesia Lam (QUT)	Systematic review of the impact of glucagon-like peptide-receptor agonists (GLP-RA) medications on appetite, dietary intake and the gastrointestinal microbiome in the treatment of diabetes or obesity	Not applicable	N/A

Collaborative Research Activity Involving RBWH Department / Research Group

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Adrian Brown (UCL)	Helen MacLaughlin , Rachel Batterham (UCL), Reza Motalebzadeh (UCL), Sebastian Potthoff (Northumbria University)	INFILTRATE: Implementation of a Formula low energy diet programme for weight loss in a renal Transplant Service	Consultation	N/A
Anna Edwards (Toowoomba/UQ PhD student)	Teresa Brown , Brett Hughes (Cancer Care), Judy Bauer (Monash)	Regional H&N cancer centre nutrition care and experience	Involvement	14
Catherine McFarlane (SCUH)	Helen MacLaughlin , Rathika Krishnasamy (SCUH)	Diet quality in CKD: a plant based dietary approach to modulate gastrointestinal microbiome and improve management of kidney disease.	Consultation	N/A

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Courtney Cross (University of Adelaide)	Associate Professor Rohit Joshi, Dr Hannah Wardill, Prof Joanne Bowen, Dr Ryan O'Hare Doig, Dr Sarah Andersen, Ms Bronwyn Cambareri, Dr Heidi Staudacher, Ms Denelle Cosier, Ms Angela Walls, Associate Professor Beverley Fosh, Ms Monique Bareham	The Adhere Study: evaluating an accessible dietary fibre intervention to improve outcomes in people with breast cancer	Consultation	N/A
Emma Ridley (Monash)	Claire Dux , Kate Ainscough (University College Dublin CRC), Rebecca Baskett (Auckland City hospital), Allison Bone (University Hospital Geelong), Eleanor Capel (Northeast Health Wangaratta), Adam Deane (Royal Melbourne Hospital), Kate Fetterplace (Royal Melbourne Hospital), Eileen Gilder (Auckland City Hospital), Victoria King (ANZIC-RC), Sandra Peake(The Queen Elizabeth Hospital), Andrew Udy (ANZIC-RC, Monash University), Patricia Williams (The Queen Elizabeth Hospital), Jacinta Winderlich (ANZIC-RC), Paul Young (Wellington Hospital)	Nutrition practice in critically ill adults – an observational study (NUTRIENT)	Involvement	0
Emma Shipton (WNBS)	Susie de Jersey , Katie Foxcroft (WNBS), Leonie Callaway (WNBS), Nigel Lee (UQ)	Antenatal Models of Care and the effect on breastfeeding rates after discharge	Involvement	0
Gloria Wong (IMS)	Alison Mudge (IMS), Kylie Matthews-Rensch , Warren Ward (QuEDS), Caroline Summers (IMS), Peter Donovan (IMS), Lisa Ryan (IMS)	A Retrospective Evaluation of Clinical Characteristics and Outcomes Of Patients with Eating Disorders Admitted for Inpatient Medical Management	Not applicable	N/A
Ho Ching Cheung (QUT)	Lynda Ross (QUT), Esben Strodl (QUT), Jane Musial, Angela Byrnes	Nutritional interventions and barriers to long-term weight loss maintenance after bariatric surgery: Qualitative study of patients and clinicians' perspectives.	Involvement	N/A
Judy Bauer (Monash)	Lauren Hanna (Monash), Teresa Brown , Merran Findlay (Uni of Sydney), Belinda Vangelov (Prince of Wales, Sydney)	Body composition and sarcopenia in head and neck cancer in a national dataset	Not applicable	N/A
Kevin Laupland (ICU)	Felicity Edwards (ICU), Claire Dux	Caffeine consumption and withdrawal among patients in the Intensive Care Unit	Involvement	N/A
Loris Pironi (Home Artificial Nutrition Group, ESPEN)	Emma Osland	Clinical classification of adult patients with chronic intestinal failure: An international cross-sectional survey to compare the home parenteral nutrition activity among countries	Not applicable	22

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Lynette de Groot (Princess Alexandra Hospital)	Carrie-Anne Lewis, Rebecca Healy, Robin Hay, Karina Laslett, Matthew Seymour (RBWH endo), Brendan Nolan (PAH endo), Hannah Mayr (PAH RC), George Hopkins (RBWH surgeon), David Mitchell (RBWH surgeon), Dr Moe Thuzar (RBWH Endo), Inge Ettema (PAH consumer representative), Raeesa Doola (PAH dietitian), Cullen O'Gorman (PAH Neurologist), Dr Chung Won (PAH surgeon), Elizabeth Woods (PAH coordinator), Chantelle Elson (PAH Dietitian)	Vitamin B6 toxicity risk after bariatric surgery	Consultation	115
Peter Buttrum (RBWH Allied Health)	Shaun OLeary (Physiotherapy), Adrienne Young , Diann Eley (UQ), Merrilyn Banks , Mark Cruickshank (Physiotherapy), James Elliot (Uni of Sydney), Nicholas Talley (Uni of Newcastle), Tracy Comans (UQ), Scott Bell (TRI)	Sustainable career pathways for clinician-scientists in Australian public health	Not applicable	N/A
Sarah Mackay (TPCH)	Adrienne Young , Jack Bell (TPCH)	The perception and understanding of the terminology used to describe 'malnutrition' from the perspective of patients, carers and health care professionals: a qualitative systematic review	Not applicable	N/A
Sarah Mackay (TPCH)	Adrienne Young , Jack Bell (TPCH), Alison Mudge (IMRU), Anja Christoffersen, Dale Trevor	Malnutrition – Call it what it is or something else?	Partnership	N/A
Sharon Carey (RPAH)	Emma Osland , Julia Fox (QCH), Chris Walker (PNDU), Darren Wong (Austin Health), Brooke Chapman (Austin Health), Morgan Brown (St George Hospital), Kate Dehlsen (Randwick Children's Hospital), Jason Yap (RCH Melbourne), Suzie Daniells (POW), Azar B-Nejad (Fiona Stanley Hospital), Andrea Elliott (Alfred Health)	AuSPEN HPN registry	Involvement	22
Trent Payne (UQ PhD student)	Alyra Shaw, Samuel Chan, Mark Morrison, Emily Gordon, Ruth Hubbard, Sarah Andersen, Adrienne Young	A Scoping Review Investigating the Role of Dietary Intervention on Gut Microbiome Outcomes in Frail People	N/A	N/A

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Trent Payne (UQ PhD student)	Seungha Kang, Gizem Gemikonakli, Sarah Andersen , Mark Morrison	Identifying a Frailty Biomarker in the Gut: Is There a Microbial Source? A systematic review	Not applicable	N/A
Anthony Pagidas (RBWH Radiation Therapist)	Jemma Blyth, Dr Rachel Effeneay, Cathy Hargrave, Michael Gray, Emma Anderson, Carlyn McDonnell, Emma Anderson, Tamara Wolf , Claire Blake	Bowel and bladder preparation for prostate cancer patients at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital. Feasibility of a patient centric education approach.	Involvement	0
Alice Jay (University of Adelaide)	Amanda Watt , Kelcie Cole, multi-site study Australia/New Zealand	Nutri-MAP: Nutrition Management and Assessment in Pelvic exenteration surgery: A multicentre period prevalence study.	Involvement	N/A
Professor Zoe McQuilton (Monash)	Zoe McQuilton, Erica Wood, Claire Rickard, Meera Agar, Eliza Hawkes, Andrea Henden, Jason Roberts, Dennis Petrie, Claudia Rutherford, Thao LE, Aleece MacPhail, Sarah Andersen , Catriona Parker, Adam Irving, Allison Mo	A Centre of Research Excellence in Supportive Care for People with Blood Cancers	Partnership	N/A
Dr Vidanka Visalevski (Deakin)	Linda Sweet, Valeh Moghaddam, Shahla Meedy, Anuroop Gaddam, Taylor Guthrie , Seyedeh (Samira), Mokhlesi	Co-designing an app to support breastfeeding among mothers post-bariatric surgery	Consultation	N/A
Megan Crichton (QUT)	Patsy Yates, David Wyld, Skye Marshall, Elizabeth Isenring, Amy Lovell, Ann Zhang, Lebogang Thomy, Helen MacLaughlin , Katharine Cuff, Morgan Farley, Kim Alexander	Evaluating the effects of standardised ginger root powder on chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting (CINV) using body surface gastric mapping (BSGM): The Ginger-MAP Study	Consultation	N/A
Megan Crichton (QUT)	Helen MacLaughlin , Jordan Taylor (QUT) , Amy Benn (QUT)	Malnutrition in People Living with Diabetes and undergoing systemic cancer treatment	Not applicable	N/A
Carolyn Keogh (QUT)	Helen MacLaughlin , Aylish Ware (QUT), Kye Allen (QUT)	Brave New World? - Creating reflexive, astute leaders for the emerging nutrition workforce	Not applicable	N/A

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Publications in 2025

Journal Articles (RBWH staff or consumers in bold)

- Disalvo D, Garcia MV, Soo WK, Phillips J, Lane H, **Treleaven E**, To T, Power J, Amgarth-Duff I, Agar M. The effect of comprehensive geriatric assessment on treatment decisions, supportive care received, and postoperative outcomes in older adults with cancer undergoing surgery: A systematic review. *Journal of Geriatric Oncology*. 2025 Apr 1;16(3):102197.
- Matthews-Rensch K**, Blackwood K, Lawlis D, Breik L, McLean C, Nguyen T, Phillips S, Small K, Stewart T, Thatcher A, Venkat L. The Australasian Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition: Consensus statements on refeeding syndrome. *Nutrition & Dietetics*. 2025 Apr;82(2):128-42.
- Matthews-Rensch K**, Connolly L, Ellis C, Flint K, **Wilson M**, **Young A**. Fluid requirements for adult inpatients with medically compromised eating disorders: A scoping review. *Nutrition & Dietetics*. 2025 Aug 19.
- Andersen S**, Kennedy G, **Banks M**, Flanagan B, Henden A. Prebiotic fiber enteral supplementation after allogeneic transplantation: feasibility and impact on the microbiome. *Blood Advances*. 2025 Aug 26;9(16):4167-79.
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- Willims R**, Sullivan H, Ross L, **Guthrie T**, Wolski P, Craven AM, Lehner C, Callaway L, Eley V, **MacLaughlin HL**, **Jersey SD**. Pregnancy After Bariatric Surgery: A Comparison of Antenatal Care Practices With the 2019 International Consensus Recommendations in Queensland, Australia. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology*. 2025 Dec;65(6):838-47.
- Guthrie TM**, Kearney L, Snape K, Sweet L, Vasilevski V, **de Jersey S**. Pregnant women's experiences of nutrition care after pregnancy bariatric surgery. *Midwifery*. 2025 Apr 1;143:104333.
- O'Connor H**, Meloncelli N, Wilkinson SA, Scott AM, Vincze L, Rushton A, Dawson S, Hollis J, Whiteoak B, Gauci S, **de Jersey S**. Effective dietary interventions during pregnancy: a systematic review and meta-analysis of behavior change techniques to promote healthy eating. *BMC pregnancy and childbirth*. 2025 Feb 3;25(1):112.
- Guthrie TM**, Lee S, Kothari A, Kumar S, Truby H, **de Jersey S**. Measuring Dietary Intake of Pregnant Women Post-Bariatric Surgery: Do Women Meet Recommendations?. *Nutrients*. 2025 Jan 14;17(2):285.
- Shipton EV, Foxcroft K, **de Jersey SJ**, Callaway L, Lee N. "Butterflies in the air, you're now a breastfeeding mother": A qualitative study of women's experiences receiving postnatal midwifery breastfeeding support. *Women and Birth*. 2025 Jan 1;38(1):101859.
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- Young R**, King J, **Young AM**, Hannan-Jones M, Mudge AM, **Byrnes A**. "Someone to Remember I Need Help": Multi-Site Mixed-Method Study of Older Inpatients' Experiences of Eating and Drinking. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*. 2025 Nov;73(11):3444-54.
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- Buttrum P, Butler P, **Young A**, Eley D, O'Leary S. Exploring the unique value of clinician scientist roles to the health services in which they are employed: a scoping review. *Australian Health Review*. 2025 Mar 3;49(2).
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- Miegel T, Vincze L, **Guthrie T**, Porteous H, Huxtable S, **de Jersey S**, Palmer M. Comparison of Gestational Weight Gain and Maternal and Neonatal Outcomes Among Women With and Without a History of Bariatric Surgery: A Retrospective Cohort Study. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology*. 2026 Feb;66(1):e70052.
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- Glen K**, Weekes CE, **Banks M**, Hannan-Jones M. What is the evidence to support ongoing nasogastric tube position testing? A prospective observational study of adverse events in Australia and the United Kingdom. *Worldviews on Evidence-Based Nursing*. 2025 Feb;22(1):e70001.
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- Glen K**, Weekes CE, McFarland A, **Banks M**, Xu G, Dhanani J, Hannan-Jones M. Beyond the "Never Event": A Qualitative Content Analysis of Ongoing Nasogastric Tube Position Testing Incidents. *Journal of Patient Safety*. 2026 Jan 1;22(1):e15-24.
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- Staudacher HM, Costas-Battle C, Phillips M, **Andersen S**, McKenzie Y, Lomer MC. Dietary modifications in patients with non-inflammatory bowel disease diarrhoea: a summary of the evidence and practical considerations. *Frontline Gastroenterology*. 2026 Mar 1;17(2):150-60.
- MacKenzie-Shalders K, Higgs J, **Cruickshank D**, Tang X, Collins J. Reported foodservice environmental sustainability practices in Australian healthcare and aged care services pre and post the onset of COVID-19. *Nutrition & Dietetics*. 2025 Feb;82(1):104-14.

Journal Articles (RBWH staff or consumers in bold)

- Torrens SL, Parr E, McNulty C, Ross L, **MacLaughlin HL**, Phillips L, Robergs RA. McArdle disease and carbohydrate ingestion before exercise: Timing on exercise tolerance, clinical relevance, and application to real world settings. *Sports Medicine and Health Science*. 2025 Mar 3.
- Furth SL, Colhoun HM, Kanbay M, Kukla A, Lim LL, **MacLaughlin HL**, Navaneethan SD, Shroff R, Stenvinkel P, Cheung M, King JM. The relationship between obesity and chronic kidney disease: conclusions from a Kidney Disease: Improving Global Outcomes (KDIGO) Controversies Conference. *Kidney International*. 2025 Oct 9.
- Joly F, Jezerski D, Pape UF, Crivelli A, Hütterer E, Bergoin C, Sasdelli AS, Aimasso U, Schneider SM, Poullenot F, Seguy D. Real-world experience of Teduglutide use in adults with short bowel syndrome: A seven-year international multicenter survey. *Clinical Nutrition*. 2025 Apr 1;47:54-67.
- Jenkinson B, Maxwell J, Bell A, **Young A**, Smith AC, Christoffersen A, Trevor D, Young L, Russell T. Bringing researchers to the consumer table: The process and outcomes of a consumer roundtable on telehealth. *Journal of Telemedicine and Telecare*. 2025 Apr;31(3):430-6.
- Conley MM, Mayr HL, Hepburn KS, Holland JJ, Mudge DW, Tonges TJ, Modderman RS, Gerzina SA, Johnson DW, Vieceilli AK, **MacLaughlin HL**. Low energy diets for obesity and CKD (SLOW-CKD Randomized Feasibility Study). *Kidney International Reports*. 2025 Jul 1;10(7):2153-64.
- Matthews-Rensch K**, Blackwood K, Lawlis D, Breik L, McLean C, Nguyen T, Phillips S, Small K, Stewart T, Thatcher A, Venkat L. The Australasian society of parenteral and enteral nutrition: consensus statements on refeeding syndrome. *Nutrition & Dietetics*. 2025 Apr;82(2):128-42.
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- Brown T**, Cooney L, Smith D, Elvin-Walsh L, Kern E, **Ahern S**, Brown B, Hickman I, Porceddu S, Kenny L, Hughes B. Comparison of Prophylactic Versus Reactive Tube Feeding Approaches on Weight Loss and Unplanned Hospital Admissions in Patients with Head and Neck Cancer Receiving Chemoradiotherapy. *Current Oncology*. 2025 Dec 21;33(1):5.

Book Chapters (RBWH staff or consumers in bold)

- Young AM**, **Christoffersen A**, **Trevor D**, **Pateman K**. Co-production in Health Services Evaluation. *Handbook of Health Services Evaluation: Theories, Methods and Innovative Practices* 2025:495-517.

Keynote or Plenary Lectures given in 2025

Date	Title
11/06/2025	AuSPEN HPN model of care - Emma Osland AuSPEN
20/8/2025	Helen D'Emden . Masterclass Session at the Australian Diabetes Congress. titled T1D and Eating Disorders: New Guidelines and a novel prevention program.
7/11/2025	Adrienne Young . Disease Related Malnutrition – Taking a National Approach to Action and Advocacy.
20/08/2025	Susan de Jersey Beyond the glucose threshold- delivering value through preventive maternity care. Australasian Diabetes Congress
14/11/2025	Susan de Jersey . Fuelling Motherhood- Nutrition for pregnancy and post partum. Dietitians Australia HER Health Summit

Occupational Therapy

Research highlights

In 2025, the RBWH Occupational Therapy research programme continued to advance clinical research, knowledge translation and quality improvement, with a focus on enhancing patient outcomes. Research activity remained strong across the department, supported by successful grant funding, conference engagement, and collaborations.

The department utilised funding from seven competitive research grants, supporting projects focused areas including concussion and occupational performance, consumer informed OT care pathways, persistent pain and burns recovery. These grants supported both early career and experienced clinicians and researchers.

RBWH Occupational Therapists presented their projects at local, national and international conferences, sharing new insights on topics such as cognitive performance following encephalitis, the OT role after pelvic exenteration surgery, and outcome measurement for hand burn injuries.

Research capacity building remained a priority, with three therapists undertaking research higher degrees across key clinical areas; pelvic exenteration, concussion and clinical education. Their projects continue to integrate research with practice. Research capacity was enabled through journal clubs, mentoring, and implementation science training initiatives.

Collaboration with the broader multidisciplinary team was a defining strength in 2025, with department led projects partnering with our medical, surgical, allied health and nursing colleagues. Partnerships with external research organisations including The University of Queensland, and the RECOVER Injury Research Centre continued to expand research opportunities.

Consumer involvement remained central to the department's research approach, with several projects adopting codesign frameworks to ensure patient experience and preferences meaningfully shape research direction and implementation.

Overall, 2025 marked a year of continuing research engagement, expanding capability and impactful contributions to both clinical practice and evidence. With continued grant support, active collaborations and growing research expertise, the RBWH Occupational Therapy department is well positioned for 2026.

Research Awards and Achievements

Recipient (RBWH staff in bold)	Award	Event
Karina Lewis	Best clinical paper	Australian Hand Therapy Association Conference, August 2025
Francis Thomsen	Commendation - clinical paper	Australian Hand Therapy Association Conference, August 2025
Andrea Mc Kittrick	Commendation - clinical paper	Australian Hand Therapy Association Conference, August 2025

Research Grants

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Sue Laracy	Occupational Therapy	Impact of Concussion on Occupational Performance	RBWH Foundation	\$72,422	3 years , 2022-2025
Nicole Andrews , Paul Gray, Joseph Parmenter, David Ireland, Trevor Russell, Jenny Strong, Adam La Caze, Jason Ferris	Occupational Therapy, The Tess Cramond Pain and Research Centre	A mHealth assisted allied health intervention to support people with chronic pain during opioid tapering: a pilot randomised controlled trial.	RBWH + RBWH Foundation	\$74,998	2 years, 2024-2025

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Jane Nikles (UQ) Nicholas Aitcheson (PAH), Rebecca Madden (PAH), Stefan Konigorski (Hasso-Plattner Insitut Germany), Nancy Sturman (UQ), Michele Sterling (UQ), Peter Worthly (UQ), Suzanne McDonald (UQ), Nicole Andrews , Libby Lake (Consumer Champion Health Agency), Christos Papadopoulos (Consumer), Kevin Conway (Consumer)	Occupational Therapy, The Tess Cramond Pain and Research Centre	Personalising non-pharmacological management of chronic non-cancer pain	Metro South Health Research Support Scheme	\$125,000	2 years, 2024-2025
Nathalie Collins , Dr Merrill Turpin, Dr Chloe Bryant	Occupational Therapy	Pelvic exenteration and Occupational Therapy: defining our role.	Metro North	\$15,000	1 year, 2024-2025
Nathalie Collins , Dr Paul Gray, Dr Andrew Claus, Dr Chloe Bryant, Davide Newton	Occupational Therapy	From experience to evidence: Consumer informed Occupational Therapy clinical pathway for the management of pelvic exenteration patients	RBWH Foundation	\$110,160	3 years, 2025-2028
Tyack, Leila Cuttle, Fiona Wood, Lisa Martin, Dale Trevor, Belinda Gabbe, Charlotte Brown, Martha Druery, Alexandra De Young, Dale Edgar, Jessica Killey, Rachel Kornhaber, Andrea Mc Kittrick , Akane Katsu, Siobhan Connolly, Megan Simons	QUT; University of Western Australia; Cosumer Committee Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital; Monash University; The University of Queensland; The University of Notre Dame Australia, Charles Sturt University;Occupational Therapy Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital; Royal North Shore Hospital; Agency for Clinical Innovation; and Queensland Children's Hospital.	Ember to Empower': developing and piloting a one-stop burn recovery toolkit for burn survivors.	Medical Research Future Fund Survivorship Care and Collaborative Research Prioritisation Grant program	\$992,441	2 years, 2025-2027
Rowan Hill, Michelle Cottrell, Patrick Swete Kelly, Nicole Andrews , David Ireland, Peter Window	Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, The Tess Cramond Pain and Research Centre, RECOVER Injury and Research Centre (UQ), The Australian eHealth Research Centre (CSIRO)	How reliable are pain drawings of patients referred to a tertiary spinal service for low back pain?	RBWH Physiotherapy Department	\$14,983	2 years, 2025-2026

Collaborative Research Activity Involving RBWH Department / Research Group

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Merrilyn Banks (N&D)	Christian Redd (CSIRO), David Silvera-Tawil (CISRO), Judy Bauer (N&D), Anita Plaza (PT), Andrea Mc Kittrick (OT), Dr Elizabeth Vujcich (RBWH), Claire Dux (N&D), Dr Qing Zhang (CISRO), Marlien Varnfield (CSIRO), Dale Trevor (Consumer)	Feasibility of using wearable technology in patients with burn injury, to measure energy expenditure, and other observations, that can directly influence clinical care.	Involvement	12
Elizabeth Vujcich (Surgery)	Dr Jason Brown (Surgery), Michelle Donovan , Noah Beta (Surgery)	ELATE: Early versus Late Ablative CO2 Fractional Laser Treatment Evaluation	Involvement	0
Genevieve Donohue (UQ)	Nicole Andrews , Pamela Meredith (SCU), Jenny Strong (UQ), Laura Page (CQU)	The association between spousal reactions to chronic pain and pain-related patient outcomes: a systematic review	Not applicable	N/A
Genevieve Donohue (UQ)	Nicole Andrews , Pamela Meredith (SCU), Jenny Strong (UQ), Miriam Dillon (PT)	An exploration of the relational and support needs of people experiencing persistent pain from their partner using interpretative phenomenological analysis	Involvement	N/A
Charlotte Brakenridge (UQ)	Venerina Johnston (UQ), Michelle Smith (UQ), Sjaan Gomersall (UQ), Nicole Andrews , Trevor Russell (UQ)	Identifying optimal sit-stand recommendations for the workforce	Not applicable	N/A
Terra Brady (UQ)	Celeste Glasgow, Andrew Mayo (Orthopaedics), Sue Laracy , Cherie Aceto , Freyr Patterson (UQ)	Enhancing Occupational Performance in Distal Radius Fractures.	Involvement	0
Amber Jones (TPCH)	Clare Burns (SP), Elizabeth Ward (UQ), Jason Brown (Burns), Andrea Mc Kittrick , Kerrie Christopher (Consumer)	Evaluation of a multidisciplinary telehealth service for the delivery of burn care	Partnership	0
Fiona Wood (UWA)	Jason Brown (RBWH), Aleksandra Edmondson (RBWH), Andrea Mc Kittrick (RBWH), Elizabeth Vujcich (RBWH)	The ELLIOT trial	Involvement	1
Professor Alison Mudge (IMES & Aged Care RBWH)	Brittany Williamson , Cleo Hetherington , Clara Denham-Rodriguez , Stephanie Michelle (IMES)	Delirium documentation: how well are we adhering to the Delirium Clinical Care Standard?	Not applicable	N/A
Christopher Burton (Metro South)	Karina Lewis , Corinne Lea Allsop, Michelle Palmer, Iulian Nusem.	Retrospective review of Advanced Practice Hand Clinic (APHC) primary contact management of acute upper limb trauma	Not applicable	N/A
Trevor Gillbard (Redcliffe Hospital)	Dane Thompson, Nicole Andrews	Investigating factors influencing fatigue and radiographer performance on night shift: an initiative to improve healthcare delivery	Not applicable	N/A
Peter Window (Physiotherapy Department, RBWH)	Trevor Russell, Daniel Harvey, Michel Coppieters, Nicole Andrews , Jean Spinks, Natalie Barthel	Cognitive-behavioural therapy-informed virtual reality in persistent low back pain: a feasibility randomised controlled trial	Partnership	15

Research Publications

Authors

Investigator	ORCID ID
Andrea McKittrick	https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6647-272X
Sue Laracy	https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8083-3146
Nicole Andrews	https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7739-1738
Erin Crofton	https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9978-544X
Karina Lewis	https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6965-0296

Publications in 2025

Journal Articles (RBWH staff or consumers in bold)

- Betar N, Donovan M**, Tyack Z, Warren J, McPhail SM, Vujcich E, Brown J. Recovery in patients undergoing ablative fractional carbon dioxide laser for adult hypertrophic burn scars: A longitudinal cohort study. *Burns*. 2025 Feb;51(1):107300.
- Kornhaber R, **Mc Kittrick A**, Rossiter R, Cleary M. Pain experiences in adult burn survivors during rehabilitation and recovery: a qualitative systematic review. *Journal of Burn Care & Research*. 2025 Jul;46(4):818-32.
- Plaza A, Mulliss B, Adsett J, **McKittrick A**, Hill A, McRae P, Mudge A. Enablers and barriers to participation in physical activity programs while hospitalized after burn injury: The patient perspective. *Burns*. 2025 Jun 1;51(5):107479.
- Mc Kittrick A**, Gustafsson L, Hodson T, Di Tommaso A. Co-design of an outcome measure for hand burn injuries. *British Journal of Occupational Therapy*. 2025 Feb;88(2):116-28.
- Chong C, **Mc Kittrick A**, Shelton I, Glassey N. Rehabilitation following distal triceps repair: A scoping review. *Journal of Hand Therapy*. 2025 Apr 24.
- Richards HS, Staruch RM, Kinsella S, Savovic J, Qureshi R, Elliott D, **McKittrick A**, Rooshenas L, King A, Acton A, Bayuo J, Booth S. Top ten research priorities in global burns care: findings from the James Lind Alliance Global Burns Research Priority Setting Partnership. *The Lancet Global Health*. 2025 Jun 1;13(6):e1140-50.
- Mc Kittrick A**, Hammond L, Brown J. Interventions for Functional and Cosmetic Outcomes Post Burn for Eyelid Ectropion—A Scoping Review. *European Burn Journal*. 2025 Aug 19;6(3):46.
- Burton C, Allsopp C, Palmer MA, **Lewis KJ**, Nusem I. Retrospective evaluation of allied health-led management of acute upper limb trauma. *Hand Therapy*. 2025 Dec 13:17589983251398878.
- Coox M, **McKittrick A**, Tornatore G, Desselle M, **Laracy S**, Padilha Lanari Bo A. Virtual reality rehabilitation using hand tracking: interaction system design and usability tests. *Virtual Reality*. 2025 Dec 4;30(1):4.
- Aplin T, Godfrey M, De Michele L, Hoffman A, **Palmer C**, McCormack C, Halin C, King M, Nix J, Eldridge A, Eames S. Supporting Occupational Therapists in PredischARGE Home Visit Decision-Making: Development and Evaluation of a Decision-Making Support Tool. *Occupational Therapy International*. 2025;2025(1):2296340.
- Gillbard T, Thompson D, **Andrews NE**. Investigating factors influencing fatigue and medical imaging technologist performance on night shift: an initiative to improve healthcare delivery. *Journal of Medical Radiation Sciences*. 2025 Dec;72(4):483-9.
- Hay E, Ireland D, Claus A, Rose T, Strong J, Westerman D, Schlumpf M, Vijayakumar P, Burvill L, **Andrews N**. Uncovering age-related differences in communication by people with persistent pain when interacting with a pain history assessment chatbot in Australia: an exploratory mixed-methods study using a comparative analysis. *BMJ open*. 2025 Dec 1;15(12):e104984.

Book Chapters (RBWH staff or consumers in bold)

- Mc Kittrick A**. Chapter 27 Upper Extremity Burns. In: Wietlisbach CM & Wolff AL, editors. *Cooper's Fundamentals of Hand Therapy*, 4th Edition, Elsevier

Keynote or Plenary Lectures given in 2025

Date	Title
26/03/2025	Andrea Mc Kittrick . Occupational Re engagement Posy Severe Burn Injuries to the Hand, IFFFH/IFSH Trinneal Congress 2025 Washington DC USA
7/04/2025	Andrea Mc Kittrick . Burns Rehabilitation Putting Competencies into Practice :Palmar Extension Splinting: Pre Congress Workshop American Burns Association Annual Meeting Phoenix, Arizona, USA 2025
8/04/2024	Andrea Mc Kittrick & Bernadette Nedelec . Burns Research ABA OT/PT SIG American Burns Association Annual Meeting Phoenix, Arizona, USA 2025

9/04/2025	Andrea Mc Kittrick , & Ingrid Parry. Correlative III Rehabilitation 1 American Burns Association ASM, Pheonix, Arizona, USA 2025
14/10/2025	Andrea Mc Kittrick . ANZBA Allied Health Forum - ANZBA 2025 ASM Adelaide SA
17/10/2025	Andrea Mc Kittrick . & Edgar, D. Burn Care in Digital Era ANZBA 2025 ASM Adelaide SA
22/10/2025	Andrea Mc Kittrick . Multidisciplinary Traum Forum ANZTS Trauma Conference 2025 Wellington New Zealand
22/03/2025	Nicole Andrews . Overactivity in chronic pain: what is it, why does it matter and how can we help people to adapt. New Zealand Pain Society Conference. Wellington.
21/03/2025	Nicole Andrews . Artificial Intelligence in Pain Management – Consumer Perceptions and Clinical Applications. New Zealand Pain Society Conference. Wellington.
2/05/2025	Nicole Andrews . Artificial intelligence in pain management - Consumer perceptions and clinical applications. 2025 Faculty of Pain Medicine (FPM) Symposium. Cairns.
10/11/2025	Nicole Andrews . Overactivity in chronic pain: what is it, why does it matter and how can we help people to adapt. Invited presentation for the OT Australia Work SIG. Virtual.

Orthotics & Prosthetics

Research highlights

In 2025, our growing body of work in research and quality improvement has focused on preventative healthcare, developing models of equitable access to care for high-risk populations and embedding cutting-edge technology in our services.

Carolyn Royse has continued her Queensland Technology Future Fund-funded work in implementing shoe pressure mapping technology to reduce ulcer recurrence in patients with diabetic foot disease. The team anticipates that the technology will result in reduced wound duration time, reduced ulcer recurrence, reduced readmission rates attributed to foot disease, reduced length of stay and earlier access to optimal offloading for patients admitted with foot disease concerns.

Jessica Angus's Health Professional Research Scheme grant-funded project has continued to evaluate a digital interprofessional service delivery model for the provision of custom foot orthoses in regional Queensland. The model includes digital foot scanning by podiatrists at regional high-risk foot clinics, collaborative custom foot offloading device design with the RBWH Orthotics department (facilitated by cloud-based computer-assisted design) and rapid manufacture and shipping of devices to the regional site.

We look forward to continuing to conduct our existing research projects and growing our research capacity in 2026.

Research Grants

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Jessica Angus , Alastair Ginman, Dr Alex Barwick, Assoc Professor Pete Lazzarini, Brian Delaney	Orthotics and Prosthetics	Evaluation of a digital interprofessional service delivery model for the provision of custom foot orthoses in regional Queensland.	Office of the Chief Allied Health Officer	\$39,393	1 year, 2025-2026
Carolyn Royse , Jessica Angus , Meagan Hurford	Orthotics and Prosthetics	Implementation of Plantar Pressure Mapping Technology (PPMT) into Routine Clinical Practice for High Risk Diabetic Foot (HRDF)	Queensland Health	\$198,835	2 years, 2024-2026

RBWH Department / Research Group Led Research Activity

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Jessica Angus	Alastair Ginman, Dr Alex Barwick, Associate Professor Pete Lazzarini, Brian Delaney	Evaluation of a digital interprofessional service delivery model for the provision of custom foot orthoses in regional Queensland.	Involvement	N/A
Carolyn Royse , Jessica Angus	Meagan Hurford	Implementation of Plantar Pressure Mapping Technology (PPMT) into Routine Clinical Practice for High Risk Diabetic Foot (HRDF)	Involvement	85

Physiotherapy

Research highlights

2025 was another standout year of research and quality improvement initiatives for the RBWH Physiotherapy department. Sixty-nine active research projects were undertaken across the department, including 32 with a Physiotherapy Department staff member as Principal Investigator, and another 37 projects undertaken in collaboration with other departments and institutes across Queensland and Australia. This commitment to our research program is reflected in the >\$10.86M grant/project funding being awarded towards 17 research grants in 2025, including five NHMRC or MRFF grants, and two research grants distributed to clinicians (Pat Swete Kelly, Rowan Hill) of the Physiotherapy Department through the Physiotherapy Research Fund. The department saw 29 publications (28 peer-reviewed journal articles, 1 clinical guideline) published, while 2 RHD students (including 1 current staff) completed their PhD with RBWH Physiotherapy staff supervision. Of note, the department received 10 research awards, including Associate Professor Sam Bunzli who received the Rising Star Award at the Metro North Research Excellence Awards and was also a finalist at the Eureka Prize for Excellence in Interdisciplinary Scientific Research. Prizes were also awarded for conference presentations (Elise Byrne, Will Beningfield, Peter Window, Catherine Chong, Michelle Cottrell), and university research mentorship (Associate Professor Sam Bunzli). The department's outputs were also showcased at our annual RBWH Physiotherapy Department Research Symposium, held virtually over three one-hour sessions. Fourteen projects were presented with more than 100 attendees from both within the department and across Queensland.

As a clinical impact spotlight, Kelly Burgess undertook work with the Helix Academy to explore avenues for providing respiratory outpatient services for individuals with chronic suppurative lung disease. Her work led to the establishment of a respiratory outpatients clinic within the department, and received awards at both the AH-TRIP showcase (Peoples' choice) and the RBWH QuARRIES (Excellence in Leadership and Performance). 2025 also saw Dr Mark Cruickshank successfully complete his PhD exploring safe prescribing of analgesia by physiotherapists in Emergency Departments.

The Physiotherapy Department also continues to develop strong research collaborations with both academic institutes and industry partners through our existing Conjoint Research Fellow positions. Professor Shaun O'Leary took up a full-time professorial position at the University of Queensland, and we welcome Associate Professor Kathryn Mills to the conjoint Fellow with the University of Queensland. Associate Professor Samantha Bunzli has firmly established herself as an integral part of the department during her third year as the Conjoint Research Fellow with Griffith University.

Successful Research Higher Degree (e.g. MPhil or PhD) candidates in 2025

Name	Degree (e.g. MPhil or PhD)	Title	Month Completed	Affiliated University	Summary
Dr Mark Cruickshank 	PhD	An Evaluation of Physiotherapist Autonomous Prescribing in Queensland	November 2025	Queensland University of Technology	This thesis examined whether physiotherapists can safely prescribe medicines in Queensland Health emergency departments to meet the needs of consumers and improve access to care. Trained physiotherapists were authorised to prescribe autonomously from a list of medicines, with their performance evaluated for safety, technical efficiency, and patient experience and satisfaction. Over 1,600 patients were included and no adverse events resulting from physiotherapist prescribing errors were found. Patient surveys showed high satisfaction, trust, and confidence in physiotherapist prescribing. The results demonstrate that physiotherapist prescribing is safe, efficient, and responsive, supporting its inclusion in the future practice of physiotherapists in Australia.
Dr Miriam Dillon	PhD	Beyond Pathology: (Re)conceptualising Distress in Physiotherapy and Chronic Low back Pain Care	March 2025	University of Queensland	This thesis explored distress in chronic low back pain care, making novel contributions that intersect the social and rehabilitation sciences. The thesis utilised critical reflexive ethnography within two clinics, including 43 ethnographic observations of clinical encounters between physiotherapists, involving 41 patients and carers, 24 clinicians, and 27 research partners across both sites. Findings explicate the constraining dominance of biomedicine in physiotherapy: siloed definitions of emotions, pain and care; scripted approaches to care; narrow conceptualisations of distress that limit how it is navigated; and restricted evaluations of 'care' that prioritise economic efficiency. These findings highlighted the need for changes in clinical care delivery and demonstrated the need to stretch physiotherapy's theoretical remit to better accommodate – in teaching and practice – the human aspects of care.

Research Awards and Achievements

Recipient (RBWH staff in bold)	Award	Event
Elise Byrne	Best Allied Health Paper	Elise Byrne. MOVIN in ICU: An observational study of mobilisation on vasopressors & inotropes in intensive care. ANZICS ACCCN 2025 Intensive Care ASM (9 - 11 April 2025), Christchurch, New Zealand
Sam Bunzli	Rising Star Award	Metro North Research Excellence Awards. Thursday 21st August, Brisbane, Australia
Will Beningfield	Best Allied Health Paper	Herston Health Precinct Symposium, 1-3rd September
Sam Bunzli	Finalist, 2025 Aspire Scholarship Eureka Prize for Excellence in Interdisciplinary Scientific Research.	Australian Museum Eureka Prizes (3rd September 2025)
Peter Window	Best Scientific paper, Physiotherapy General Stream, Australian Physiotherapy Association Scientific Conference 2025	Australian Physiotherapy Association Scientific Conference 2025, Adelaide
Catherine Chong	Commendation for best scientific presentation	AHTA National Conference Gold Coast Australia (29-31st August 2025)
Michelle Cottrell	Best Scientific Paper, Physiotherapy Advanced practice stream, Australian Physiotherapy Association Scientific Conference 2025	Australian Physiotherapy Association Scientific Conference 2025, Adelaide
Kelly Burgess	People's Choice AH-TRIP awards	Statewide AH-TRIP Showcase, November 2025
Kelly Burgess	Excellence in Leadership and Performance QuARRIES Awards	RBWH QuARRIES awards, November 2025
Sam Bunzli	Deadly Physio Curricula Griffith Teaching and Learning	Griffith University School of Allied Health for teaching

Research Grants

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Shaun O'Leary, Janelle Heine, Michelle Cottrell , Gary Mitchell (ETC) Jacelle Warren (JTI), Nadine Foster (UQ/STARS), Panos Barlas (JTI), Tanya Smyth (JTI)	Physiotherapy Department, Emergency Trauma Centre (ETC), Jamieson Trauma Institute	Reducing Inappropriate Medications for low back pain in the Emergency department (RIME): a controlled interrupted time-series implementation study	HCF Foundation	\$289,316	4 years, 2022-2025

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Nadine Foster (UQ), Jenny Setchell (UQ), Thorbjorn Loch-Wilkinson (RBWH N/Surg), Shaun O'Leary , Gregory Cunningham (UWA), Mark Chatfield (UQ), Tracy Comans (UQ), Paul Hodges (UQ), Paul Gray (RBWH Pain), Maree Raymer , Patrick Swete Kelly , David Beard (Oxford Uni), Sashin Ahuja (Oxford Uni), Andrew Claus (RBWH Pain)	MNHHS (STARS; Physiotherapy RBWH, N/OPSC & MDS; Tess Crammond MPRC, Neurosurgery) UQ SHRS, Faculty of Medicine; Fiona Stanley Hospital; University of Oxford; Cardiff and Vale University Health Board	The clinical and cost-effectiveness of lumbar fusion surgery for patients with persistent, severe low back pain: FusiOn veRsus bEst coNServative Care (the FORENSIC trial)	NHMRC-NIHR	\$2,424,160	6 years, 2022-2027
Helen Maclaughlin, Robin Hay, Elizabeth Ryan , Andrea Cawte, Mala McHale, Kelsey Pateman	Dietetics and Foodservices RBWH and School of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, Queensland University of Technology	Paving the way: Demonstrating a health practitioner led complex obesity management pathway can improve health outcomes and develop research capacity	Allied Health Professions Office of Queensland	\$151,010	3 years, 2023-2025
Jayesh Dhanini (RBWH ICU), Carl Lisec (RBWH Burns), Michael Reade (RBWH ICU), Paul Gray (RBWH Pain Services), Jason Roberts (RBWH ID), Andrew Claus (RBWH Pain Services), Amelia Perri (Dalby Hospital), Cheryl Fourie (RBWH ICU), Amelia Livermore (RBWH ICU), Jason Pincus (RBWH ICU), Anita Plaza	RBWH ICU, Burns, Pain, Physiotherapy	The IDEAS-B Study: Evaluating whether nebulized dexmedetomidine can be used for pain management	RBWH Foundation	\$59,252	3 years, 2023-2025

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Michele Sterling (UQ), Rachel Elphinston, Nadine Foster (STARS/UQ), Julia Treleaven (UQ), Roma Forbes (UQ), Shaun O'Leary (UQ/RBWH), Haitham Tuffaha (UQ), Jason Lodge (UQ), Johanna Lynch (UQ)	RECOVER Injury Research Centre, MNHHS (STARS; RBWH Physiotherapy Department), University of Queensland, Curtin University, University of Sydney	Implementing integrated psychological and physical care for Australians after road traffic injury	Medical Research Future Fund	\$1,485,339	5 years, 2023-2027
Christopher Carty (GCORE), Elyse Passmore (RCH), Pam Thomason (RCH), Henry Patrick (CHQ), John Walsh (CHQ), Teresa Phillips (CHQ), Leanne Dwan (SCHN), Anita Mudge (SCHN), Benjamin Patrilli (SALHN), Anna Murphy (Monash Health), Michelle McGrath , Alan Wee-Chung (Giffith Uni), Luca Modenese (UNSW), Oren Tirosh (Swinburne University), Roslyn Boyd (UQ), Shaneen Leishman (UQ), Eric Rutz (Uni Melb), Thor Besier (Uni Auckland), Julie Choisne (Uni Auckland), Michael Schwatz (Fillette Children's Speciality Healthcare)	Multiple national hospital and academic institutions	National clinical motion analysis databank	Medical Research Future Fund	\$2,498,406	5 years, 2023-2027
Miriam Dillon, Samantha Bunzli , Peter Window , Laurelie Wishart, Sophie Heywood, Natalie Barthel, Laura Freeburn, Ciaran Fitzgerald, Joanna Hargreaves , Simon Kilner	RBWH Physiotherapy Department	Trauma informed Physiotherapy project	RBWH Foundation	\$49,931	2 years, 2024-2025

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Laura Donnelly	RBWH	Pre-RHD Scholarship	Metro North Health	\$15,000	2 years, 2024-2025
Michelle Cottrell, Shaun O'Leary, Maree Raymer, Peter Window , Nadine Foster (UQ), Natalie Barthel (consumer)	RBWH, UQ	Co-designing multi-disciplinary musculoskeletal care to better match patients' needs and preferences	Project Grant Round 2	\$49,580	2 years, 2024-2025
Peter Window , Trevor Russell, Daniel Harvie, Michel Coppieters, Nicole Andrews, Nat Barthel	RBWH, UQ, Griffith, UniSA	Cognitive behavioural therapy-informed virtual reality in persistent low back pain: a feasibility randomised controlled trial	Project Grant Round 2	\$49,961	2 years, 2024-2025
Jonathan Quicke, Nadine Foster, Kim Bennell, Hunter, D, Ackerman, I, Brooke Conley, Samantha Bunzli , et al.	RBWH, UQ, UOM, Griffith Uni, etc.	The SOAR study (Shoulder OsteoArthritis Research priorities)	ANZMUSC	\$19,885	2 years, 2024-2025
Sarah Featherston, Samantha Bunzli, Edwina Powe	RBWH	Listening to our Community - Advancing Physiotherapy Health Equity	RBWH Physiotherapy Department	\$14,983	2 years, 2024-2025
Renee De Maria, Michelle Cottrell , Nicole Sng, Venkat Acholi, Beth Cunningham , Mark Paine	RBWH	Demand analysis for an Outpatient Rapid Review Vestibular Physiotherapy service for dizzy patients presenting to RBWH Emergency and Trauma Centre (ETC).	RBWH Physiotherapy Department	\$12,775	2 years, 2024-2025
Joanna Hargreaves, Shaun O'Leary , Deanne Gannaway (UQ)	UQ	Developing a user manual for the Clinical Educator Engagement (CEE) instrument	Queensland Physiotherapy Clinical Education and Training Program	\$25,217	2 years, 2024-2025
Lisa Franks, Alison Mahoney, Julie Adsett , Rita Hwang, Rachel Bowe	Physiotherapy Departments TPCH, RBWH, PAH, Cairns	Physiotherapy Resource and Education Program in Heart Failure (PREP-HF)	QCRPN	\$14,182	2 years, 2024-2025

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Tudy Rebecck (Usyd), Kerrie Evans (Usyd), Darren Beales (Curtin), Andrea Mosler (La Trobe), Joanne Kemp (La Trobe), Michael Nicholas (RNSH), Trevor Russell (UQ), Michele Sterling (UQ), Lilian Laranjo (Usyd), Ian Cameron (Usyd), Katie de Luca (CQU), Michelle Cottrell , Lisa Sharwood (UNSW), Robyn Fary (Curtin), Rob Waller (Curtin)	Usyd, La Trobe Uni, Curtin Uni, Royal North Shore Hospital, UQ, UNSW, CQU.	Implementation of a Pathway of CarE for people with chronic musculoskeletal conditions living RURAL and remote Australia using allied telehealth (PACE-RURAL)	Medical Research Futures Fund	\$2,503,806	6 years, 2024-2029
Beth Cunningham , Lisa Sparks, Mark Cruickshank , Jackson Bailey , Lindsay Hepnar , Ines Bishop	RBWH	Space to move: Redesigning therapy space	RBWH Foundation	\$17,281	1 years, 2025-2025
Jonathan Quicke, Nadine Foster, Kim Bennell, Hunter, D, Ackerman, I, Brooke Conley, Samantha Bunzli , et al.	RBWH, UQ, UOM, Griffith Uni, etc.	The SOAR study (Shoulder OsteoArthritis Research priorities)	Arthritis Australia	\$30,000	2 years, 2025-2026
Eleanor McClennan , Samantha Bunzli , Edwina Powe , Natasha O'Hanlon	RBWH	Evaluating the impact of an early allied health intervention for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women with persistent pelvic pain	OCAHO	\$39,854	2 years, 2025-2026
Joanna Hargreaves	RBWH	Exploring physiotherapist's engagement in clinical educator roles: future proofing clinical education in Queensland Health physiotherapy	RBWH SERTA	\$40,000	1 years, 2025-2025
Natalie Kruger	RBWH	Exploring and optimising the understanding and training of the lymphatic system and lymphoedema among Australian medical graduates	RBWH SERTA	\$40,000	4 years, 2025-2028

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Paulo Ferreira, Nadine Foster, Manuela Ferreira, Meredith Makeham, Kim Bennell, Michelle Sterling, Haitham Tuffaha, Ingrid Hickman, Paul Hodges, Adrian Bauman, Maree Raymer	Physiotherapy	Direct access to publicly funded physiotherapy for musculoskeletal pain: effectiveness, cost effectiveness, and implementation (PhysioDirect-Aus)	NHMRC	\$1,499,993	5 years, 2025-2029
Michelle Hall, Samantha Bunzli , Laura Diamond, Dorothea Dumuid, Jillian Eyles, David Klyne, Belinda Lawford, Jonathan Quicke, Robert Schutze, Joshua Wiley, Peter Window , Haiyan Zheng	Physiotherapy	Targeting insomnia to transform chronic musculoskeletal pain management	MRFF	\$4,763,341	4 years, 2025-2028
Samantha Bunzli	Physiotherapy	Changing the Osteoarthritis Narrative	Academy of Science	\$52,000	2 years, 2025-2026
Karin Lust, Julie Adsett	Physiotherapy	Step back in time. Environmental improvements to promote patient activity	RBWH Foundation	\$17,400	1 years, 2025-2025
Julie Adsett , Alison Mudge, Prue McRae, Margaret Cahill, Elise Treleaven.	Physiotherapy	Getting better? A co-designed intervention to reduce functional decline in older medical patients.	RBWH Foundation	\$49,028	2 years, 2025-2026
Julie Adsett , Alison Mudge , Prue McRae , Alison Mahoney.	Physiotherapy	Getting better? A co-designed intervention to reduce functional decline in older medical patients	TPCH Foundation	\$19,000	2 years, 2025-2026
Elise Byrne	Physiotherapy	Mobilisation of patients on vasopressors and inotropes in ICU	RBWH SERTA	\$15,000	2 years, 2025-2026
Laura Donnelly , Samantha Bunzli	Physiotherapy	'Scope MND - Secretion and Cough Optimisation for People living with Motor Neuron Disease'	FightMND.	\$199,000	4 years, 2025-2028
Alana Dinsdale, Matthew Stewart , Michelle Cottrell , Peter Window , Rod Mclean	Physiotherapy	The development of a collaborative co-design team to evaluate the Jaw Assessment Clinic Service	University of Queensland	\$4,973	2 years, 2025-2026
Patrick Swete Kelly , Roma Forbes , Peter Window , Madonna Lichtwark , Beth Cunningham	Physiotherapy	Development of early career learning outcomes within clinical rotations: a pilot study	RBWH Physiotherapy Department	\$15,000	2 years, 2025-2026

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Rowan Hill, Peter Window, Nicole Andrews, David Ireland, Michelle Cottrell, Patrick Swete Kelly	Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy	How reliable are pain drawings of patients referred to a tertiary spinal service for low back pain?	RBWH Physiotherapy Department	\$14,983	2 years, 2025-2026

RBWH Department / Research Group Led Research Activity

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Beth Cunningham	Peter Window, Lindsay Hepnar, Robyn Lamont (UQ), Sandy Brauer (UQ), John O'Sullivan (RBWH Neurology), Robert Adam (RBWH Neurology), Shayani Upadhyay (RBWH Movement Disorders)	Access to Physiotherapy for patients with Parkinson's disease attending the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital Movement Disorder Clinic	Involvement	15
Elise Byrne	Peter Thomas, Oystein Tronstad (TPCH), Marc Nickels (Ipswich), Alison Blunt (PAH), Mark Strong (PAH), Kate McCleary (SCUH), Kye Grant (SCUH), Sonja Schonfeldt (TUH), Nathan Peacock (TUH), Morag Shealy (Redcliffe), Shawnika Dass (Redcliffe), Lauren O'Connor (GCUH), Liam Picard (Hervey Bay), Vicki Schweitzer (Logan)	MOVIN in ICU An observational study of Mobilisation On Vasopressors & Inotropes in intensive care.	Involvement	26
Janelle Heine	Shaun O'Leary, Panos Barlas (JTI), Jacelle Warren (JTI), Tanya Smyth (JTI), Michelle Cottrell, Tracy Comans (UQ), Nadine Foster (UQ), Gary Mitchell (RBWH ETC), William See (TPCH), Emma Ballard (QIMR), Gustavo Machado (Sydney Uni).	Reducing Inappropriate Medications for low back pain in the Emergency Department (RIME): a controlled interrupted time-series implementation study	Consultation	N/A
Joanna Hargreaves	Shaun O'Leary, Deanne Gannaway (UQ)	Motivation for clinical education in Physiotherapists - development of a workforce assessment instrument	Consultation	N/A
Joanna Hargreaves	Shaun O'Leary, Deanne Gannaway (UQ)	Identifying factors that underlie physiotherapists' participation in clinical education for entry-level student placements: a cross-sectional analysis of the QPHS physiotherapy workforce	Involvement	N/A
Joanna Hargreaves	Lauren Davies, Jessica Bates	Clinical educator experiences within the RBWH Physiotherapy Department	Partnership	N/A
Julie Adsett	Alison Mudge (IMRU), Prue McRae (EWE), Margaret Cahill (EWE), Morag Shealy, Elise Treleaven (EWE), Emily Harvey (EWE)	Time to get moving: Evaluation of an evidence-based, multicomponent tailored intervention to improve hospital mobility	Consultation	N/A

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Laura Murphy-Shaw	Peter Window, Michelle Cottrell	Implementing a professional support and clinical supervision framework into a large physiotherapy department in an Australian public hospital	Involvement	N/A
Maree Raymer	Natalie Barthel (consumer), Peter Window, Michelle Cottrell , Nadine Foster (UQ), Samantha Bunzli, Shaun O'Leary	Matching multidisciplinary care to patients needs in the state-wide Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy Screening Clinics and Multidisciplinary Service - Study 2 and 3	Partnership	0
Mark Cruickshank	Maree Raymer , Deborah Lenaghan (GCUH), Darryn Marks (GCUH), Sonia Sam , Tania Cavanagh (Cairns Hosp), Lisa Nissen (QUT), Mark Nelson (QEI), Dean Blond (GCUH), Rod Ellem (GC HHS), Cherie Hearn (PAH), Nicole Bellet (TPCH)	Physiotherapy Defined Scope of Practice (Prescribing)	Involvement	0
Michelle Cottrell	Peter Window, Shaun O'Leary, Samantha Bunzli	Research capacity and culture within the RBWH Physiotherapy Department: an update from 2024.	Involvement	N/A
Michelle Cottrell	Shaun O'Leary, Maree Raymer, Patrick Swete Kelly, Peter Window , Simon Whitehart, Liam Maclachlan (RBWH Neurosurgery), Thorbjorn Loch-Wilkinson (RBWH Neurosurgery)	Addressing safety and comprehensiveness concerns for neurological examination via telehealth in patients with low back pain.	Involvement	0
Michelle Cottrell	Perry Judd, Sue Laracy (RBWH OT), Cate Carter (RDH), Jacqueline Nix (RDH), Leonie Naumann , Robyn Scheer (RBWH OT), Jennifer Strong (RBWH OT), Sonia Sam	Prospective surveillance and early intervention for lymphoedema (SAIL) in Breast Cancer patients: an evaluation of a standardised model of care in Metro North Hospital and Health Service.	Involvement	0
Michelle Cottrell	Kelsey Pateman (RBWH AHP), Sarah Featherston	Determining competency and training requirements of Metro North physiotherapists providing care via telehealth	Consultation	N/A
Michelle McGrath	James Wood, Venerina Johnston (RECOVER UQ), Esther Smits (RECOVER UQ), Peter Window	Gait Classification Following Traumatic Brain Injury	Involvement	0
Michelle McGrath	James Wood	The use of 3-dimensional gait analysis and its efficacy on the adult population – A Systematic review	Not applicable	N/A
Michelle McGrath	James Wood	Normative Gait Parameters using 3D-Gait Analysis in Adults	Involvement	2
Michelle McGrath	Peter Window, James Wood , Laurelie Wishart	Effects of gait analysis on intervention and cost efficacy for adults with pathological gait	Involvement	0
Miriam Dillon	Peter Window , Simon Kilner (RBWH Psychology), Michael Hockey, Fatima Amershi (RBWH OT), Matthew Stewart , Michelle Cottrell, Natalie Barthel (Consumer)	Time for a new approach? Enhancing patient-centred pain management through collaborative pain education	Partnership	9
Nanette Paxman	Sonia Sam (RBWH AHP), Michelle Cottrell , Makarla Stead (RBWH Peri-op), Debra McDonald (RBWH Peri-op), Peter Thomas	"Breathe, Wiggle and Walk" after surgery: Does preadmission physiotherapy influence elective surgery outcomes at the RBWH? A retrospective evaluation using health information databases.	Not applicable	0

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Olivia Wright	Marie-Pierre Cyr (UQ), Lorelle Hawes , Prudence Butler	Peripartum experiences of first-time mothers with a history of genito-pelvic pain: a qualitative study	Involvement	4
Peter Thomas	Caitlain Cawte, Stella Foley , Ellie Hawkins , Charlotte Jackson , Charlotte Kieman , Andrew Kim, Megan Moore, Nanette Paxman , Ashlee Snoswell , Andrew Statham , Bronte Wilson, Peter Window , Nadine Young	Mobilisation after pelvic exenteration surgery: a retrospective audit	Not applicable	100
Peter Window	Trevor Russell, Daniel Harvie, Michel Coppieters, Nicole Andrews, Nat Barthel, Michael Hockey , Elizabeth Ryan	Cognitive behavioural therapy-informed virtual reality in persistent low back pain: a feasibility randomised controlled trial	Partnership	0
Renee De Maria	Michelle Cottrell , Nicole Sng, Venkat Acholi , Beth Cunningham , Mark Paine	Demand analysis for an Outpatient Rapid Review Vestibular Physiotherapy service for dizzy patients presenting to RBWH Emergency and Trauma Centre (ETC)	Not applicable	60
Samantha Bunzli	Peter Window , Prudence Butler , Mark Cruickshank	Enhancing Impactful Quality ImProvement in Physiotherapy (EQUIP)	Involvement	N/A
Samantha Bunzli	Miriam Dillon, Peter Window , Laurelie Wishart, Sophie Heywood, Natalie Barthel, Laura Freeburn, Ciaran Fitzgerald, Joanna Hargreaves , Simon Kilner	Trauma Informed Physio	Partnership	44
Samantha Bunzli	Samantha Bunzli, Edwina Powe, Sarah Featherston, Matt Stewart	Cultural Capability in Allied Health	Not applicable	N/A
Sarah Featherston	Samantha Bunzli , Edwina Powe	Listening to our community - Advancing Physiotherapy Health Equity	Consultation	N/A
Shaun O'Leary	Bill Vicenzino (UQ), Merrill Turpin (UQ)	Exploring the utility of the Feedback Action Planning Form in improving a students use of feedback in the clinical education setting	Consultation	0
Michelle Cottrell	Cottrell , Raymer , Barthel , Window , Foster, Bunzli , O'Leary	Co-designing multi-disciplinary musculoskeletal care to better match patients' needs and preferences	Partnership	0
Peter Window	Sam Bunzli , Anita Plaza , Shaun O'Leary , Michelle Cottrell , Madeline Thornton	Understanding the impact of pain-related fear of movement on physical rehabilitation engagement for individuals with acute burn injuries: a qualitative study	Involvement	11
Sam Bunzli	Peter Window , Rachel Almar	Lived Experiences of Diverse Individuals with Chronic Musculoskeletal Pain and Sleep Disturbances: A Qualitative Study	Involvement	6

Collaborative Research Activity Involving RBWH Department / Research Group

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Alison Mudge (IMRU)	Adrienne Young (RBWH ND), Teresa Green (STARS), Aparna Arjunan (STARS), Niru Mahendran (UQ), Julie Adsett , Penny Burfein (STARS), Gio Tornatore (STARS), Ian Parker (STARS), Julia McLeod (STARS), Janette Moore (Consumer), Dan Trestrail (Consumer).	Stratifying Trajectories After Rehabilitation (STAR): prospective study of the impact of frailty on recovery trajectories following inpatient rehabilitation	Partnership	N/A
Andrew Hislop (TPCH)	Maree Raymer , Natalie Collins (UQ), Shaun O'Leary , Michelle Cottrell , Michelle Smith (UQ)	Understanding the statewide use of group-based exercise programs for knee and hip osteoarthritis (including Good Life with Osteoarthritis: Denmark (GLA:D)) in Queensland public health physiotherapy service	Not applicable	N/A
Ann Holland (La Trobe University)	Kermeen Kansara (RBWH), Joanne Fuller (RBWH Thoracic Medicine)	HomeBase2: An implementation trial to improve access to pulmonary rehabilitation in people with COPD	Involvement	0
Ben Glenwright (Cairns Hospital)	Shaun O'Leary , Trevor Russell (UQ), Michelle Cottrell	Consensus regarding patient characteristics and clinical indicators contradicting the use of the NICE Guidelines in individual patients post Total Hip Replacement – a e-Delphi Study	Not applicable	N/A
Ben Glenwright (Cairns Hospital)	Shaun O'Leary , Trevor Russell (UQ), Michelle Cottrell , Ben Parkinson (Cairns Hospital)	Co-designing a self-directed rehabilitation care pathway following Primary Total Hip Replacement	Involvement	N/A
Carl Lisec (RBWH Burns)	A Perri, A Hill, Amber Jones (RBWH OT), Anita Plaza , Aleksandra Edmundson, Andrea McKittrick (RBWH OT), Kate McCrossin (RBWH Anaesthetics)	A pilot study assessing the feasibility of NexoBrid versus the current standard of care of isolated upper limb burns: A solution to "the perfect crime"?	Involvement	N/A
Christopher Carty (GCORE)	Elyse Passmore (RCH), Pam Thomason (RCH), Henry Patrick (CHQ), John Walsh (CHQ), Teresa Phillips (CHQ), Leanne Dwan (SCHN), Anita Mudge (SCHN), Benjamin Patrilli (SALHN), Anna Murphy (Monash Health), Michelle McGrath , Alan Wee-Chung (Giffith Uni), Luca Modenese (UNSW), Oren Tirosh (Swinburne University), Roslyn Boyd (UQ), Shaneen Leishman (UQ), Eric Rutz (Uni Melb), Thor Besier (Uni Auckland), Julie Choisne (Uni Auckland), Michael Schwatz (Fillette Children's Speciality Healthcare)	National clinical motion analysis databank	Not applicable	N/A

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Clare Burns	Elise Gane (UQ/PAH), Trevor Russell (UQ), Nell Baghaei (UQ), Elizabeth Ward (UQ), Jennifer Muller, Emma Doig (STARS), Peter Window , Elizabeth Beadle (PAH), Soo Oh (PAH), Dharsha Petrie (STARS), Caitlin Fraser (STARS), Catherine Bomford (PAH)	Collaborative co-design of clinical protocols for use in immersive virtual reality environments to support multidisciplinary rehabilitation	Consultation	N/A
Luke Churchill (TPCH)	Allison Mandrusiak (UQ), Oystein Tronstad (TPCH), Jennifer Paratz, Peter Thomas , Lawrence Caruana (TPCH), Stacey Verner Wren (TPCH), Anna-Liisa Sutt (RBWH Peri-op)	Determining the safety and benefits of exercising tracheostomised mechanically ventilated patients with a Passy-Muir Speaking valve.	Involvement	N/A
Luke Churchill (TPCH)	Oystein Tronstad (TPCH), Allison Mandrusiak (UQ), Peter Thomas , Christopher Allen, Ramsy DSouza	Can lung ultrasound predict post-operative pulmonary complications in high-risk post-operative cardiac surgery patients?	Involvement	N/A
Luke Churchill (TPCH)	Luke Churchill (TPCH), Allison Mandrusiak (UQ), Peter Thomas (RBWH), Nicole White, Nchafatso Obonyo, Gianluigi Li Bassi, Kylie Baker, John Fraser (TPCH), Oystein Tronstad (TPCH)	Can lung ultrasound safely and accurately differentiate pneumonia from atelectasis with dynamic air bronchograms and/or colour Doppler imaging in animal models.	Not applicable	N/A
Merrilyn Banks (RBWH ND)	Anita Plaza , Christian Redd, David Silvera (CSIRO), Judy Bauer (RBWH ND), Andrea McKittrick (RBWH OT), Elizabeth Vujcich, Claire Dux (RBWH ND), Zhang Qing (CSIRO), Marlien Varnfield (CSIRO), Dale Trevor (Consumer)	Feasibility of using wearable sensors in patients with burn injury, to measure energy expenditure and other observations, that can directly influence clinical care	Partnership	N/A
Mikaela Lynch (UQ)	Trevor Russell (UQ), Rachelle Pitt (AHPOQ), Leonie Naumann	Essential components of Self-Management for Cancer Related Lymphoedema: a Delphi Study	Involvement	N/A
Panos Barlas (JTI)	Michael Schuetz (JTI), Esther Jacobson. (JTI), Jerry Van de Pol (RBWH Ortho), Richard Hanly (RBWH Ortho), Christopher Smith , Michelle McGrath , Manzanero.S	Validity of smart shoe inserts to measure weight-bearing in Aircast® boots.	Involvement	10
Peter Buttrum (RBWH AHP)	Shaun O'Leary , Adrienne Young (RBWH ND), Diann Eley, Merrilyn Banks (RBWH ND), Nicole Marsh, Mark Cruikshank , James Elliott (Sydney Uni), Nicholas Talley (Uni Newcastle), Scott Bell (UQ)	Sustainable career pathways for clinician-scientists in Australian public health	Not applicable	N/A

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Sabrina Hernandez (Eastern Health)	Claire Tipping (Alfred Hospital), Adam Deane (UOM), Wendy Bower (RMH), Peter Thomas , Eldho Paul (Monash Uni), Alex Adamides (RMH), Carol Hodgson (Monash Uni)	A prospective study of early mobilisation following aneurysmal subarachnoid haemorrhage	Involvement	0
Jayesh Dhanani (RBWH Intensivist)	Carl Lisec (RBWH Burn Surgeon), Michael Reade (RBWH Intensivist), Paul Gray (RBWH Anaesthetics), Jason Roberts (RBWH Pharmacy), Andrew Claus (RBWH Pain service), Amelia Perri, Cheryl Fourie (RBWH ICU Nursing / Research), Amelia Livermore, Jason Pincus (RBWH Anaesthetics), Anita Plaza	Evaluating whether nebulized dexmedetomidine can be used for pain management in burn injury dressing changes: A phase III pilot feasibility, randomized controlled crossover trial. (The IDEAS-B study)	Involvement	0
Prudence Butler (SCUH/UQ)	Michele Sterling (UQ RECOVER), Melita Giummarra (UQ), Shaun O'Leary , Nigel Armfield (UQ), Gerrit van de Pol (RBWH Ortho).	What shapes beliefs about persisting symptoms after an isolated extremity injury? A qualitative study'	Partnership	0
Prudence Butler (SCUH/UQ)	Melita Giummarra (Monash Uni), Shaun O'Leary , Nigel Armfield (UQ), Gerrit van de Pol (RBWH), Michele Sterling (UQ)	Injury perceptions, pain and mental health symptom trajectories after traumatic orthopaedic extremity injuries	Involvement	0
Amy Combers (JCU)	Suzanne Munns (JCU), Peter Thomas (RBWH)	Mobilising intensive care patients on vasoactive medications: The behaviours, attitudes, and current practice of physiotherapists in Australia and New Zealand	Not applicable	N/A
Penny O'Brien (UMelb)	Penny O'Brien (UMelb) , Samantha Bunzli , Ivan lin (UWA), Jonathan Bullen (GU), Brooke Conley (UMelb), Jane Linton (USyd), Ryan Prehn (UMelb)	Evaluation of Staying Moving Staying Strong resources for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with arthritis	Partnership	13
Leanne Bissett	Leanne Bissett (GU), Samantha Bunzli , Kerrie Evans (Healthia), David Chua (UQ), Tracey Johnson, Dan Henderson, Jamie Nuttall (Inala healthcare), Hayley Thomson, Joan Kelly (GU)	Share the Pain: Improving access and delivery of chronic pain management in primary care	Partnership	30
Blayne Arnold	Blayne Arnold (GU), Sean Horan (GU), Samantha Bunzli	Exploring the role of health literacy in patient attitudes and beliefs towards the use of diagnostic imaging for low back pain	Involvement	N/A
Sean Horan	Sean Horan (GU), Blayne Arnold (GU), Samantha Bunzli	Exploring Physiotherapists Knowledge, Attitudes, and Behaviours on How They Consider Health Literacy in Patients with Chronic Musculoskeletal Pain	Not applicable	N/A

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Felix Leung	Felix Leung (GU), Julie Hides (GU), Samantha Bunzli	Understanding Concussion Reporting Dynamics in Australian Female Amateur Rugby League Athletes through Qualitative Inquiry	Involvement	N/A
Naomi Simick	Naomi Simick (USyd), Samantha Bunzli , David Hunter (USyd), Vicky Duong (USyd)	Building a Communication Framework Toward Empowerment in Osteoarthritis	Partnership	7
Joelle Schwarz	Joelle Schwarz (U Lausanne, Switzerland), Samantha Bunzli	Gender equity in orthopaedic care	Partnership	122
Sophie Heywood	Sophie Heywood, Samantha Bunzli	UPskilling in Trauma Informed Care (UPTIC)	Involvement	15
Amanda Tutty (USyd)	Amanda Tutty (USyd), Samantha Bunzli , Dr Christopher Williams (USyd), Dr Zoe Micallef (NNSWHHS), Dr Steve Kamper (USyd)	Evaluation of barriers and enablers to delivering lifestyle care for chronic musculoskeletal pain (knee and hip OA and chronic neck and back pain) to inform the Healthy Lifestyle for Pain – Rural (HeLP-R) hybrid type 2 implementation-effectiveness trial.	Partnership	0
Monica Stankiewicz (GU)	Monica Stankiewicz (GU), Julie Hides (GU), Nicole Gavin (QUT), Brooke Coombes (UQ), Samantha Bunzli	Targeted exercise for improving quality of life and physical health in people who have undergone stoma formation	Consultation	N/A
Barlas (JTI)	Smyth, Heine, O'Leary	Exploring patient's experience of receiving care for acute low back pain in the emergency department	Involvement	N/A
Dinsdale (UQ)	Forbes, O'Leary , Read, Delaney.	Raising consumer awareness on the role of physiotherapy in the management of Temporomandibular disorders in Australia.	Consultation	N/A
Sterling (Recover)	Elphinston, Foster, Treleaven, Forbes, O'Leary , Setchell, Tuffaha, Slater, Lodge, Peek, Lynch.	Implementing integrated psychological and physical care for Australians after road traffic injury	Consultation	0
Foster (STARS/UQ)	Setchell, Loch-Wilkinson, O'Leary , Cunningham, Chatfield, Comans, Hodges, Gray, Raymer, Swete Kelly , Claus, Ferreira, van Gelder, Ferreira, Harris, Buchbinder, Maher, Diwan, McAuley, Davis, Selby, Ahuja, Beard.	The clinical and cost-effectiveness of lumbar fusion surgery compared to best conservative care for patients with persistent, severe low back pain: FusiOn veRsus bEst coNServative Care (the FORENSIC-AUS trial protocol)	Consultation	0
Karina Lewis	K. Lewis, J. Senic, J. Bryant, C. Aceto, L. Heyes, C. Rayment, M. Grundy , A. Mayo, A. O'Malia, S. Laracy	Bridging the gap in psychosocial care for patients with injuries related to violence	Involvement	0
Kimberly Baxter	Kimberley Baxter, Lisa Anemaat, Scott Harding, Hannah Olufson, Peter Window , Karina O'Leary, Adrienne Young, Jo Sherring, David Copeland, Gail Robinson, Tamsin Mahoney, Ben Ballard, Shona Clayton	CollaborativeEd: Co-designing digital learning for enhanced consumer involvement in healthcare	Consultation	N/A
Vanessa Mckinnon	Peter Window , Cheryl Costello, Seung-Min Youn, Alex Karanja	Accelerated functional rehabilitation in lower trapezius tendon transfer with achilles allograft: A case report and literature review	Involvement	0

Research Activity with a Specific Focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited	
Samantha Bunzli	Samantha Bunzli, Edwina Powe, Sarah Featherston, Matt Stewart	Cultural Capability in Allied Health	Not applicable	N/A
Sarah Featherston	Samantha Bunzli, Edwina Powe	Listening to our community - Advancing Physiotherapy Health Equity	Consultation	N/A
Penny O'Brien (UMelb)	Penny O'Brien (UMelb) , Samantha Bunzli , Ivan lin (UWA), Jonathan Bullen (GU), Brooke Conley (UMelb), Jane Linton (USyd), Ryan Prehn (UMelb)	Evaluation of Staying Moving Staying Strong resources for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with arthritis	Partnership	13

Research Publications

Authors

Investigator	ORCID ID
Anita Plaza	
Glen Volker	
Julie Adsett	https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4230-4577
Joanna Hargreaves	https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6702-534X
Maree Raymer	https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0833-2160
Mark Cruickshank	https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0563-3950
Michelle Cottrell	https://orcid.org/0000-0001-7300-1467
Nanette Paxman	
Natalie Kruger	
Patrick Swete Kelly	https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8057-9053
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Rebecca Tweedy	
Samantha Bunzli	https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5747-9361
Shaun O'Leary	https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2574-129X
Sonia Sam	
Sally Yin	https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5978-1417
Matthew Stewart	

Elizabeth Ryan	
Leonie Naumann	
Gina Williams	
Michelle McGrath	
Janelle Heine	
Alistair Mcdougall	
Elizabeth Watson	
Natalia Karlovic	
Catherine Chong	

Publications in 2025

Journal Articles (RBWH staff or consumers in bold)

Kruger N, Plinsinga M, **Window P**, Hayes S, **Bunzli S**. Comfortable knowing little about lymphoedema? A qualitative study of medical interns in Australia. *BMJ open*. 2025 Jan 1;15(1):e089789.

Rodrigo T, Hislop A, **O'Leary SP**, **Window PJ**. The reliability of goniometric measurement of frontal knee alignment in standing in people with knee osteoarthritis: a pilot study. *Journal of Musculoskeletal Surgery and Research*. 2025 Apr 2;9(2):260-5.

Dillon, M., Olson, R., Setchell, J., Miciak, M., **Window, P.** Beyond Pathology: (Re)conceptualising Distress in Chronic Pain Care. *Journal of Humanities in Rehabilitation*. October 2025. DOI: 10.18737/0607158692

Window P, Bada E, Stovell MG, Ahuja S, Beard DJ, Gardner A, Foster NE. Healthcare Professionals' Decision-Making Regarding Lumbar Fusion Surgery or Conservative Care for Adults With Severe, Persistent Low Back Pain: An Australian Cross-Sectional Survey Using Case Vignettes. *Global Spine Journal*. 2025 Sep;15(7):3311-22.

Chong C, Mc Kittrick A, Shelton I, Glassey N. Rehabilitation following distal triceps repair: A scoping review. *Journal of Hand Therapy*. 2025 Apr 24.

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Hayes SC, Bernas M, Plinsinga ML, Pyke C, Saunders C, Piller N, Moffatt C, Keeley V, **Kruger N**, Reul-Hirche H, McCarthy AL. Breast cancer-related arm lymphoedema: a critical unmet need. *EClinicalMedicine*. 2024 Jul 26;75:102762.

Haber T, Hinman RS, Hall M, Lawford BJ, Zhu SJ, **Bunzli S**, Jinks C, O'Keeffe M, Dobson F. How Do Individuals Perceive Diagnostic Labels and Explanations for Hip Pain? A Qualitative Study Among Adults With Persistent Hip Pain. *Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research*. 2025 Mar 5;483(9):1699-1714.

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Plaza A, **Mulliss B**, **Adsett J**, McKittrick A, Hill A, McRae P, Mudge A. Enablers and barriers to participation in physical activity programs while hospitalized after burn injury: The patient perspective. *Burns*. 2025 Jun 1;51(5):107479.

Barton CJ, Dowsey M, Smith A, Ackerman IN, Ademi Z, **Bunzli S**, Choong P, Crossley KM, Kemp J, Wallis JA, Gibbs A. Monitoring the health trajectory of patients with knee osteoarthritis referred for orthopaedic opinion: Protocol for the MOTION parallel cohort-implementation study. *Osteoarthritis and Cartilage Open*. 2025 Sep 1;7(3):100622.

Cottrell M, **Featherston S**, Pateman K. Determining a capability framework and training requirements to support provision of physiotherapy via telehealth in an Australian public tertiary health setting: a multi-methods study. *Physiotherapy Theory and Practice*. 2025 Oct 3;41(10):2130-40.

Churchill L, Caruana L, White N, Fraser JF, Mandrusiak A, Paratz J, Sutt AL, **Thomas PJ**, Verner-Wren S, Tronstad O. Exercise in patients with a tracheostomy and speaking valve: a randomised crossover-controlled trial. *Critical Care*. 2025 Aug 19;29(1):368.

Phillips S, **Adsett J**, Mahoney A, El-Ansary D. Implementing Evidence to Inform Recovery After Cardiac Surgery via Median Sternotomy Is Feasible and Effective Using a Research Translation Framework. *Heart, Lung and Circulation*. 2025 Oct 14.

Hargreaves J, Pekin C, Gannaway D, **O'Leary S**. Assessing Constructs Underpinning Clinical Educator Engagement in Physiotherapy (Part A): A Scoping Review of Available Instruments. *International Journal of Work-Integrated Learning*. 2025;26(4):639-65.

Hargreaves J, Gannaway D, **O'Leary S**. Assessing Constructs Underpinning Clinical Educator Engagement in Physiotherapy (Part B): Instrument Construction Using a Modified eDelphi. *International Journal of Work-Integrated Learning*. 2025;26(4):665-82.

O'Connor FK, Chen D, Sharma P, **Adsett J**, Hwang R, Roberts L, Bach A, Louis M, Morris N. Physiological responses to sit-to-stand and six-minute walk tests in heart failure: a randomised trial. *Heart, Lung and Circulation*. 2025 Aug 1;34(8):789-97.

Dinsdale A, **Levine J**, **O'Leary S**, Delaney J, Read J, Vuvan S, Dimitroulis G, Scanlan R, Forbes R. What factors influence the community's use of physiotherapy services as first-line management for temporomandibular disorders? A qualitative study using the COM-B framework. *Musculoskeletal Science and Practice*. 2025 Jun 1;77:103315.

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- Kelley S**, Treleaven J, Thomas L, Liang Z. Patients' expectations and experiences of physiotherapy management of migraine. *Musculoskeletal Science and Practice*. 2025 Sep 16:103418.
- Costa N, Olson R, **Dillon M**, Mescouto K, Butler P, Forbes R, Setchell J. Navigating uncertainty in low back pain care through an ethic of openness: learnings from a post-critical analysis. *Health*. 2025 Sep;29(5):609-32.
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- Cottrell M**, Winter S. Understanding research capacity and culture of Allied Health clinicians working within a metropolitan tertiary hospital. *Health Services Management Research*. 2025 Nov 5:09514848251384284.
- Williamson A, **Window P**, McLeod J, Petrovski K, van den Berg M. Impact of a Multidisciplinary Lower Limb Spasticity Clinic on Gait Speed, Dynamic Balance, Quality of Life, and Service Outcomes in a Neurological Outpatient Setting; a Pragmatic pre-Post Observational Study. *NeuroRehabilitation*. 2025 May 21:10538135251407107.
- Sterling M, Xie Y, Papic C, Carvalho-e-Silva AP, Eather CE, Forbes R, Lodge J, Ware RS, Foster NE, Treleaven J, Slater H, Tuffaha H, Peek K, Lynch J, **O'Leary S**, Rebeck T, French S, Evans K, Austin T, Brentnall D, Nicholas M, Hodgkinson E, Elphinstone RA. Implementing an integrated psychological and physical intervention in routine physiotherapy practice for patients with musculoskeletal road traffic injury: protocol for a hybrid implementation-effectiveness type III cluster randomised controlled trial. *Implementation Science*. 2025 Nov 28;20(1):51.
- Churchill L, Tronstad O, Hay K, **Thomas PJ**, Shekar K. High-flow Oxygen and Nitric Oxide inhalation versus high-flow oxygen alone to prevent intubation in hypoxaemic Respiratory failure (HONOR): a pilot randomised controlled trial protocol. *Pilot and Feasibility Studies*. 2025 Nov 26;11(1):149.
- Pearce J, Visscher L, **Karlovic N**, Halliday B, Mason J. Hand and Foot Subungual Haematomas in Haemophilia: A Report of Six Cases. *Haemophilia*. 2025 Jul;31(4):696-702.

Keynote or Plenary Lectures given in 2025

Date	Title
1/10/2025	Maree Raymer . Ten years in five minutes. An evolution of physiotherapy by group. APASC25, Adelaide October 2025
1/10/2025	Thomas Petrie . Ten years in five minutes. An evolution of physiotherapy by group. APASC25, Adelaide October 2025
1/10/2025	Thomas Petrie . Orthopaedic group session chair. APASC, Adelaide October 2025
1/10/2025	Catherine Willis . Session Chair closing plenary, Thursday 23rd October, APASC, Adelaide October 2025

Psychology

Research highlights

In 2025, the Psychology Department continued to strengthen its research profile. A key milestone for the year was the successful completion of a PhD examining the role of psychological risk factors in outcomes for people undergoing bariatric surgery for the management of Type 2 diabetes.

Innovation in clinical service delivery within the Department was supported by a Research Grant from the RBWH Foundation. The funding enabled the implementation and evaluation of the LaTCH memory management group program within Metro North. This project reflects a continued focus on translating research into practical interventions that support cognitive function and self-management, while also contributing to the evaluation of group-based models of care within real-world health service settings.

Scholarly output continues to grow, with multiple peer-reviewed journal publications across a range of specialty areas. This included work advancing understanding of emotional processing and neurocognitive mechanisms, evaluations of virtual and multidisciplinary models of care, and research exploring the psychological impacts of self isolation and virtual health delivery. Publications also addressed psychosocial wellbeing in diverse populations and synthesised evidence on group-based interventions following acquired brain injury. Collectively, this work highlights the Department’s breadth of expertise and contributions to inclusive health research.

Department members contributed poster presentations, plenary sessions, and oral presentations at national and international conferences. Members shared emerging findings, clinical insights, and implementation lessons with the wider scientific and health-professional communities. These activities supported meaningful exchange of ideas and fostered collaboration.

Across all activities, the Psychology Department remained focused on conducting research that is clinically relevant, collaborative, and responsive to consumer and service needs. The Department remains committed to improving health outcomes for the diverse populations we serve.

Successful Research Higher Degree (e.g. MPhil or PhD) candidates in 2025

Name	Degree (e.g. MPhil or PhD)	Title	Month Completed	Affiliated University	Summary
Dr Clare Pekin	PhD	The role of psychological risk factors on outcomes for people undergoing bariatric surgery for the management of Type 2 diabetes	Dec-25	University of Queensland	People living with obesity and comorbid Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM) are at an increased risk of mortality, morbidity, and reduced quality of life. Bariatric surgery has demonstrated efficacy in managing obesity and T2DM; however, a subset of patients experiences suboptimal outcomes. Psychological factors are suggested to explain these outcomes. Despite this, research on the prevalence and measurement of psychological factors in bariatric candidates with T2DM remains limited and inconsistent. This thesis explores the relationship between psychological risk factors and bariatric surgery outcomes in people with T2DM through five studies, identifying pre-surgical psychological predictors of outcomes and suggesting areas for future research.

Research Grants

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Hannah McGlashan	Psychology	Implementation and evaluation of the LaTCH memory management group program at RBWH, Metro North	RBWH Foundation	\$49,970	12 months, 2025-2026

RBWH Department / Research Group Led Research Activity

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Hannah McGlashan	Kate Thompson , Kerry Pike	Implementation and evaluation of the LaTCH Memory Management Group at RBWH	Involvement	6

Collaborative Research Activity Involving RBWH Department / Research Group

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Kate McCarthy	Angela White	Self-isolation Experience due to an Infectious disease: the Impact of Virtual Care	Consultation	10

Research Publications

Authors

Investigator	ORCID ID
Maree Grier	https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0573-5447
Jacquelyn Knight	https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9991-5910
Hannah McGlashan	https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0952-9827
Emma McNulty	https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9444-6411
Kate Thompson	https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2269-1215
Angela White	https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5725-7913

Publications in 2025

Journal Articles (RBWH staff or consumers in bold)

Moses E, Scambler J, Taubert J, **Lo AH**, **Thompson K**, de Gelder B, Pegna AJ. Temporal lobectomy evidence for the role of the amygdala in early emotional face and body processing. *eneuro*. 2025 Feb 1;12(2).

Kumar S, Walker A, Leech C, Powell E, Varrall R, Ramsay S, **Searle R**, Jensen S. Learnings From the Front Line: Early Implementation Experiences of the Central Queensland Foot Hub Virtual Multidisciplinary Team Model-of-Care. *Australian Journal of Rural Health*. 2025 Apr;33(2):e70014.

White A, Davis J, Tee E, McCarthy K. The experience of self-isolation due to an infectious disease: The impact of virtual care. *Infection, Disease & Health*. 2025 Nov 1;30:S32.

Javier C, Crimston CR, **McHale M**, Price S, Barlow FK. Cross-sectional associations between medical affirmation, social connectedness, and psychological well-being in transgender and gender-diverse adults. *Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity*. 2025 Dec 18.

McGlashan HL, **Thompson K**, Lam M, Cruwys T, Walter ZC, Beadle E, Haslam C. Group psychosocial interventions following acquired brain injury: A systematic review and meta-analysis of group process and outcomes. *Neuropsychology Review*. 2025 Aug 21:1-36.

Keynote or Plenary Lectures given in 2025

Date	Title
13/11/2025	Maree Grier. Debunking misconceptions in psycho-oncology, in Plenary - Myths and misunderstandings. At 2025 Joint Meeting of the Clinical Oncology Society of Australia Annual Scientific Meeting and the International Psycho-Oncology Society Congress

Social Work

Research highlights for the year (1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025)

RBWH Social Work had a significant milestone in 2025 with the conferment of a PhD for Bernadette Dimla, the Senior Social Worker in Internal Medicine. Her PhD explored Social Work experiences and ethical challenges when working with the national My Aged Care reforms. Another social worker, Imogen Weston-Kelly has commenced a PhD in 2025, focusing on children in out of home care.

Social Work had two journal publications in 2025 by Bernadette Dimla and Kristy Washington. Two grants were also awarded to Social Work. One was a Helix Hub Support grant for Zachary Schuster to undertaking a project exploring psychosocial and cultural barriers and enablers for Pasifika patients accessing kidney transplants. The other grant was a Helix Hub Innovation Grant, focusing on the implementation of a system to improve visibility and access to aged care residential placements.

Successful Research Higher Degree (e.g. MPhil or PhD) candidates in 2025

Name	Degree (e.g. MPhil or PhD)	Title	Month Completed	Affiliated University	Summary
Bernadette Dimla	PhD	My Aged Care: Social Work Experiences and Ethical Challenges.	Jun-25	University of Sunshine Coast	This research explores the experiences of social workers during the Australian Aged Care Reforms as they undertook discharge planning tasks for older patients who may have limited or no access to aged care services. A qualitative study was conducted with 17 social workers practising in metropolitan, regional, rural, and remote hospitals across Queensland from 2018 to 2023. Regional, rural, and remote communities face difficulty accessing healthcare and resources due to geographical location, lack of infrastructure and scarcity of resources. Older people from metropolitan communities' experience challenges with access to care due to complex social issues. The study involved semi-structured interviews conducted face-to-face, via video, or teleconferences to accommodate environmental and geographical challenges during the project, including the COVID-19 pandemic. Thematic analysis identified two key themes, choice and control, interpreted through four lifeworld existential dimensions: corporeality or lived body, temporality or lived time, spatiality or lived space and relationality or lived relationships. The participants described their experiences and ethical challenges supporting patients and families whilst working within the constraints of their organisational role in the context of the current aged care system. The availability, accessibility, and funding of aged care services that were meant to meet care needs, inform patient outcomes, and influence discharge planning practices were either adequate or inadequate. The identified challenges considerably impacted older patients residing in regional, rural, and remote communities, including outer metropolitan suburbs, many of whom are from low socio-economic groups. Discharge planning is one of these challenges and involves the assessment of the patient's needs, coordinating support, and consultation with families, the multidisciplinary team, and external stakeholders. Limited access to aged care services during discharge planning impacts older patient outcomes, causing ethical dilemmas for social workers. The interactions between the aged care and hospital systems can impede effective discharge planning, affect patient outcomes, and cause moral conflict among social workers. This phenomenon was experienced within the lifeworld realms of corporeality, relationality, temporality, and spatiality. Social workers reported implementing compensatory actions to alleviate moral conflict, sustain ethical practice, and preserve professional self-hood within the contemporary aged care system. The findings of this study also brought to light how social workers navigate the limitations of the National

Name	Degree (e.g. MPhil or PhD)	Title	Month Completed	Affiliated University	Summary
					Disability Insurance Scheme and how involvement with systemic advocacy and research could neutralise feelings of professional inadequacy. The significance of this study is its demonstration of social workers' resilience and performative actions that could inform and influence patient outcomes despite resource-constrained welfare systems and government policies. The results of this study suggest the importance of preparing social work students for the challenges in contemporary practice and of maintaining professional resilience through reflective practice, lifelong learning, systemic advocacy, and research.

Research Grants

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Zachary Schuster	Social Work	Pasifika Renal Care	Helix Hub	\$10,000	1 year, 2025-2026
Angela Wood, Elizabeth Whiting, Sarah Napier , Georgina Quin-Conroy	Healthcare Excellence and Innovation, Social Work RBWH, Social Work TPC, Social Work COH	NU-Path - Navigation of a Unified Patient-centred Aged Care Transition Hub	Helix Hub	\$73,412	1 year, 2025-2026

RBWH Department / Research Group Led Research Activity

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Zachary Schuster	Elizabeth Kerven, Lorraine Garry	Pasifika Renal Care	Consultation	N/A

Collaborative Research Activity Involving RBWH Department / Research Group

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Angela Wood	Elizabeth Whiting, Sarah Napier , Georgina Quin-Conroy	NU-Path - Navigation of a Unified Patient-centred Aged Care Transition Hub	Involvement	N/A

Research Publications

Authors

Investigator	ORCID ID
Bernadette Dimla	0000-0002-7335-5473
Gai Harrison	0000-0003-2859-9847
Kristy Fitzgerald	0009-0007-3583-3933
Kristy Washington	

Publications in 2025

Journal Articles (RBWH staff or consumers in bold)
Dimla B. Qualitative Social Research: Critical Methods for Social Change: by Priscilla Dunk-West and Kate Saxton, New York, Routledge, 2024. Australian Social Work. 2025 Oct:1-2.
Riegel M, Rückholdt M, Randall S, Tofler G, Whitfield V, Washington K , et al. Navigating Uncertainty: Family Experiences and Coping Strategies During Critical Care Hospitalisation: A Descriptive Qualitative Study. Nursing in Critical Care. 2025 Oct 8;30(6):e70194–4.

Speech Pathology & Audiology

Research highlights

In 2025, the RBWH Speech Pathology and Audiology Department has continued to lead and contribute to health service research and innovation.

Audiology research has focused on improving access to and quality of care for people with hearing loss. A research highlight is Alice Pender's PhD program which focuses on improving the detection and management of hearing loss in the adult Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population. This year, Dr Alice Pender was awarded the UQ School of Medicine Higher Degree Research Student Excellence Award (Clinical category) for her PhD study investigating self-reported hearing loss and follow-up care of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults in an urban setting. Her work reports that hearing loss is common in urban Indigenous populations yet is inconsistently identified, referred, and managed in primary care, highlighting clear opportunities for system-level improvement. By documenting gaps in screening, referral pathways, and follow-up care, Dr Pender's research provides an evidence base to improve consistency and quality of hearing health care and increase access to appropriate services. Central to this work is the initiation of a new state-wide working group with key stakeholders from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, public and private audiology, and academic sector. The aim of the group is to co-design culturally appropriate and practical solutions to overcome barriers to accessing hearing healthcare. This research advocates for empowerment and participation in care by promoting earlier identification, clearer care pathways, and more responsive services. Ultimately, this work contributes to improved social wellbeing, equity, and inclusion by addressing a neglected but highly consequential health issue affecting communication, education, employment, and quality of life.

Speech Pathology research aims to improve service delivery and outcomes for people with swallowing and communication disorders. A major milestone in 2025 was Sarah Wilson's conferral of her Master of Philosophy (UQ). Her work produced two evidence-based frameworks to support clinical practice and guide future research in laryngectomy-related dysphagia assessment. Our head and neck cancer (HNC) research program also expanded, supported by new grant funding and highlighted by Dr Laura Moroney receiving the Best Oral Presentation Award at the Australia and New Zealand HNC Society Meeting. We further advanced our technology-enhanced healthcare initiatives, securing funding to develop virtual reality and telehealth programs for communication rehabilitation, as well as ultrasound imaging protocols to assess treatment effects in HNC.

Another key research outcome was partnering with consumers using co-design methodologies to develop and evaluate innovative therapy programs (virtual reality), educational programs (head and neck cancer), and care pathways (Motor Neuron Disease [MND]). For example, Dr Shana Taubert and Annette Collins co-designed, implemented and evaluated a saliva-management pathway with people with Motor Neuron Disease, their carers, and the RBWH MND Multidisciplinary Team. This evidence-based decision-making framework is supported by online resources for both patients and clinicians, has been accessed internationally, and presented at national research meetings, with an invited publication.

Across 2025, our department has maintained a strong commitment to research dissemination through publications and conference presentations, while continuing to build research capacity through supporting 6 research higher degree students.

Successful Research Higher Degree (e.g. MPhil or PhD) candidates in 2025

Name	Degree (e.g. MPhil or PhD)	Title	Month Completed	Affiliated University	Summary
Sarah Wilson 	MPhil	Clinical and radiological examination of swallowing following laryngectomy: International e-Delphi consensus processes.	Jun-25	The University of Queensland	Laryngectomy surgery causes permanent anatomical changes that significantly affect swallowing, yet core components of dysphagia assessment in this population remain undefined. This thesis aimed to establish consensus on essential tasks, observations, and measures for clinical swallow examinations (CSE) and video fluoroscopic swallowing studies (VFSS) following laryngectomy. Using international e-Delphi methodology, expert speech pathologists identified and refined assessment elements across two studies. Study 1 established 34 core CSE components, while Study 2 identified 28 key VFSS elements. Together, these findings provide a draft evidence-based framework that can be used to inform clinical practice and guide future research in laryngectomy dysphagia assessment.

Research Awards and Achievements

Recipient (RBWH staff in bold)	Award	Event
Laura Moroney , Elise Treleaven, Clare Burns , Teresa Brown	Allied Health and Nursing Grant - Best Oral Presentation	2025 Australia and New Zealand Head and Neck Cancer Society Meeting
Clare Burns , Trevor Russell, Joshua Simmich, Robert Cuthbert, Rebecca Cremer , Caitlin Fraser, Annie J Hill.	Best Scientific Poster Award	2025 Herston Health Symposium

Research Grants

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Clare Burns	Speech Pathology	Co-design, development and evaluation of a consumer-driven, immersive reality tool to optimise communication rehabilitation	Queensland Health Office of Research and Innovation	\$250,000	2 years , 2024-2026

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Clare Burns , Elise Gane, Trevor Russell, Liz Ward, Jennifer Muller, Nell Baghaei, Emmah Doig, Peter Window, Elizabeth Beadle, Soo Oh, Dharsha Petrie, Caitlin Fraser, Catherine Bomford, Rianna Guest	RBWH (Speech Pathology, Physiotherapy), STARS (Speech Pathology, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy), PAH (Speech Pathology, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy), RECOVER Injury Research Centre UQ, School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science UQ, Centre for Functioning & Health Research, Metro South Health,	Collaborative co-design of clinical protocols for use in immersive virtual reality environments to support multidisciplinary rehabilitation	Metro North and Metro South Health	\$6,000	Not specified, 2025-2026
Shana Taubert , Elaine Kearney, Tressa Byrne, Clare Burns , Brooke-Mai Whelan, John O'Sullivan, Robert Adam	RBWH (Speech Pathology, Neurology), QUT, UQ	Speaking Clearly Together: A novel speech treatment program enhancing communication for individuals with Huntington's Disease	RBWH Foundation	\$65,104	1.5 years, 2024-2025
Emmah Doig, Trevor Russell, Hannah Gullo, Jenny Flemming, Elizabeth Beadle, Clare Burns , Jennifer Muller, Freya Patterson, Mark Chatfield, Nadine Foster, Lisa Anemaat, Wood, Calvin Cooper, Giovanna Tornatore, Alison Bell, Vikram Joshi, Cassandra McLennan, Fatima Nasrallah	RBWH (Speech Pathology), STARS (Occupational Therapy, Psychology), The Prince Charles Hospital (Occupational Therapy) RECOVER Injury Research Centre UQ, School of Health and Rehabilitation Services UQ, Queensland Brain Injury Collaborative, UQ	Co-creating virtual environments with consumers to enhance self-awareness and preparedness for home after brain injury.	NHMRC	\$598,976	3 years, 2024-2026
Robert Cuthbert, Trevor Russell, Riley Brown, Clare Burns , Joshua Simmich, Hannah Gullo	RECOVER Injury Research Centre UQ, School of Health and Rehabilitation Services UQ, RBWH Speech Pathology, TPC Occupational Therapy	Immersive Virtual Reality and Artificial Intelligence Powered Agents for Job Interview Training in Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury	Queensland Brain Injury Collaborative	\$15,000	1 year, 2025

Investigator Names (RBWH staff in bold)	RBWH Departments / Research Groups	Research Project Title	Granting Body	Total Awarded (whole all years)	Length of Awards in years and years active
Laura Moroney , Laurelie Wishart, Clare Burns , Michelle Fenech, Penelope MacKenzie, Liz Ward, Kalnisha Appavoo-Juhasz, Roslyn Stray	RBWH (Speech Pathology, Radiation Oncology), Metro North (Office of Chief Allied Health Officer), Metro South Health, UQ, Griffith University, QUT	Feasibility of Ultrasound Imaging of Late Radiation Treatment Effects in Head and Neck Cancer Survivors (ULTRA Late-RAD).	Metro North Health	\$15,000	1 year, 2025-2026
Lisa Anemaat, David Copland, Philippa Logan, Tamara Robson, Diana Padilla, Clare Burns , Emmah Doig, Natasha Roberts, Kimberley Baxter, Ben Ballard, Gail Robinson, Tamsin Mohoney, Pamela D'Netto, Karina O'Leary.	RBWH (Speech Pathology), STARS Allied Health Professions, The University of Queensland	Beyond Words: <i>Silent Films</i> for supporting multicultural consent and decision making in medical settings	Queensland Health Office of Research and Innovation	\$100,000	1 year , 2025-2026
Sarah Wilson , Joanne Hiatt, Gemma Blyth, Joyce Souza, Clare Burns , Penny Mackenzie, Teresa Brown	RBWH (Speech Pathology, Nutrition & Dietetics, Radiation Oncology, Cancer Care)	Patient education pathway for patients with head and neck cancer (HNC) undergoing radiotherapy at RBWH.	RBWH Foundation	\$39,087	1 year , 2025-2026
Clare Burns , Robert Cuthbert, Trevor Russell, Emmah Doig, Elizabeth Beadle, Liz Ward	RBWH (Speech Pathology), STARS (Occupational Therapy, Psychology), RECOVER Injury Research Centre UQ	Collaborative co-design of a virtual reality office environment (VROffice) to support multidisciplinary rehabilitation following Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and Stroke.	Queensland Brain Injury Collaborative	\$30,000	1.5 years , 2025-2026

RBWH Department / Research Group Lead Research Activity

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Alice Pender	Deborah Askew (UQ), Wayne Wilson (UQ), Philip Schluter (University of Canterbury), Roxanne Bainbridge (Cairns Institute), Geoff Spurling (UQ, MSHHS), Claudette "Sissy" Tyson (MSHHS)	Hearing and hearing loss in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults: knowledge, perceptions, and attitudes	Partnership	N/A

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Alice Pender	Deborah Askew (UQ), Wayne Wilson (UQ), Philip Schluter (University of Canterbury), Roxanne Bainbridge (Cairns Institute), Geoff Spurling (UQ, MSHHS), Claudette "Sissy" Tyson (MSHHS)	Improving detection and treatment of hearing health care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults living in South East Queensland	Partnership	N/A
Clare Burns	Atiyeh Vaezipour (UQ), Anna Farrell, Natalie Hickey (Speech Pathology); Penni Burfein (Speech Pathology); Deborah Theodoros (UQ); Trevor Russell (UQ); David Copland (UQ), Arindam Dey (UQ); Kate Hacking (Community and Oral Health MNHHS); Michelle Slee (The Prince Charles Hospital); Brooke Cowie (Caboolture Hospital); Wendy Luttrell (Redcliffe Hospital)	Co-design, development, and evaluation of an immersive virtual reality therapy tool for individuals with communication disorders	Involvement	N/A
Clare Burns	Annie Hill (UQ), Liz Ward (CFAHR; UQ), Sanjeewa Kularatna (AusHSI QUT); Joshua Byrnes (Griffith University)	Evaluation of two speech pathology service models for swallowing rehabilitation post head and neck cancer treatment	Involvement	N/A
Clare Burns	Atiyeh Vaezipour (UQ), Meghan Curren (Speech Pathology); Sarah Heaton (Speech Pathology); Caitlin Fraser (STARS); Annie Hill (UQ; STARS) Trevor Russell (UQ)	Telehealth delivery of an immersive virtual reality therapy tool for individuals with communication disorders: A feasibility study.	Involvement	10
Clare Burns	Trevor Russell (UQ), Joshua Simmich (UQ), Annie Hill (UQ), David Copland (UQ), Nell Baghaei (UQ), Peter Worthy (UQ), Kylie Short (STARS), Michelle Slee (TPCH), Kate Hacking (COH), Anna Farrell (PAH)	Co-design of clinical protocols and implementation resources for use in an immersive virtual reality tool for communication rehabilitation.	Involvement	0
Clare Burns	Trevor Russell (UQ), Joshua Simmich (UQ), Annie Hill (UQ), David Copland (UQ), Nell Baghaei (UQ), Peter Worthy (UQ), Kylie Short (STARS), Michelle Slee (TPCH), Kate Hacking (COH), Anna Farrell (PAH)	Evaluation of the implementation of a virtual reality therapy program for communication rehabilitation.	Involvement	0
Jenny Blotteaux	Clare Burns (Speech Pathology)	Adult Gender Speech Pathology Service: Comparing outcomes of in-person and telepractice service models	Involvement	N/A

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Penni Burfein	David Copland (UQ), Emma Doig (SERA STARS; UQ), Tracy Roxbury (UQ), Jenny Strong (UQ), Clare Burns (Speech Pathology) , Kate Hacking (COH), Michaela Jackson (COH), Lauren Harris (Brighton BIS), Danielle McGovern (CBRT), Pauline Burge (CBRT), Michelle Slee (TPCH), Ann Finnimore (TPCH), Brooke Cowie (CBH), Wendy Luttrell (Redcliffe)	Return to work outcomes and experiences of stroke survivors with aphasia admitted to MNHHS facilities: A mixed-methods approach	Involvement	N/A
Sarah Wilson	Clare Burns (Speech Pathology) , Bena Brown (Metro South HHS/UQ)	Development of clinical and videofluoroscopic assessment tools for the evaluation of dysphagia following laryngectomy; An e-Delphi process	Not applicable	N/A
Shana Taubert	Annette Collins (Speech Pathology) , Clare Burns (Speech Pathology) , Robert Henderson (Neurology), Pamela McCombe (Neurology), Katrina Kramer (Palliative Care), Lily Tang (Neurology).	Enhancing saliva management practices for patients attending RBWH MND Clinic	Involvement	N/A
Shana Taubert	Elaine Kearney (PAH), Brooke-Mai Whelan (UQ), Clare Burns (Speech Pathology) , John O'Sullivan (Neurology), Robert Adam (Neurology),	Speak Clearly Together: A novel speech treatment program enhancing communication for individuals with Huntington's Disease	Involvement	5

Collaborative Research Activity Involving RBWH Department / Research Group

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Amber Jones (Occupational Therapy)	Clare Burns (Speech Pathology) Liz Ward (UQ)	Developing a telehealth model for the delivery of occupational therapy burn care	Not applicable	N/A
Amber Jones (Occupational Therapy)	Clare Burns (Speech Pathology) Liz Ward (UQ) Jason Brown (Burns); Andrea McKittrick (Occupational Therapy) Kerrie Christopher (Consumer)	Evaluation and enhancement of the RBWH Multidisciplinary Burns Telehealth Service (MDT TeleBurns)	Involvement	14
Annie Hill (UQ)	Clare Burns (Speech Pathology) , Penni Burfein (Speech Pathology), and Dr Kana Appadurai (GARU) Genevieve Vuong (UQ), Jade Dignam (UQ), David Copland (UQ)	The usability, feasibility, acceptability and efficacy of providing a Comprehensive, High-dose Aphasia Treatment (CHAT) program via Telerehabilitation (TeleCHAT)	Not applicable	N/A

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Brooke-Mai Whelan (UQ)	Adam Vogel (Melbourne Uni), Robert Henderson (Neurology), Anthony Angwin (UQ), David Copland (UQ), Shana Taubert (Speech Pathology) , Rebecca Packer (UQ), Adriana Penman (UQ), Salma Charania (MND Association), Bronte Dunn (TPCH)	Save our Speech (SOS) Study: Towards automated speech biomarkers of disease progression and treatment responsiveness in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)	Involvement	N/A
Chloe Smith (Speech Pathology COH)	Clare Burns (Speech Pathology) , Kate Hacking (COH)	Establishing a telehealth dysphagia assessment service within a community health setting	Not applicable	N/A
Emma Finch	Leisa Turkington, Clare Burns (Speech Pathology)	CanCommunicate: Optimising communication for people with brain cancer and their families	Involvement	10
Kellie Hill (Pharmacy)	Meghan Currant (Speech Pathology), Rebecca Cremer (Speech Pathology) , Karen Whitfield (Pharmacy), Clare Burns (Speech Pathology)	To investigate medication safety, administration techniques, and communication between healthcare professionals for patients with dysphagia	Not applicable	N/A
Laurie Wennerholm (UQ)	Clare Burns (Speech Pathology) , Liz Ward (CFAHR/UQ)	Laryngectomy care pathways: Examining patient and clinician perspectives	Not applicable	N/A
Liz Ward (CFAHR/UQ)	Clare Burns (Speech Pathology) , Laurie Wennerholm (White Plains Hospital New York, UQ)	Examining international laryngectomy care during the COVID-19 pandemic: Informing a consensus-driven pathway for speech language pathology management	Not applicable	N/A
Liz Ward (CFAHR/UQ)	Jasmine Jones (UQ), Clare Burns (Speech Pathology) , Laurelie Wall (UQ), Rebecca Nund (UQ), Nicky Graham (QH), Wendy Comben (THHHS), Emily Missenden (NWHHS)	Enhancing Speech Pathology Workforce and Service Capabilities to Deliver Services to Patients with Head and Neck Cancer	Not applicable	N/A
Teresa Brown (Nutrition & Dietetics)	Abigail Walker (ENT), Brett Hughes (Medical Oncology), Clare Burns (Speech Pathology), Laura Moroney (Speech Pathology) , Judy Bauer (Monash), Louise Campbell (Nuclear Medicine), Rebecca Fichera (Nutrition & Dietetics), Ryan Sommerville (ENT), Stephanie Yau (ENT), Joanne Hiatt (Nutrition & Dietetics)	Investigating the impact of skull base surgery on nutrition and swallowing outcomes	Involvement	N/A
Teresa Brown (Nutrition & Dietetics)	Tom Slaughter (ENT), Ryan Sommerville (ENT), Louise Campbell (Nuclear Medicine), Judy Bauer (Monash), Clare Burns (Speech Pathology), Juliet Hoey (Speech Pathology) , Brett Hughes (Medical Oncology)	Investigating the impact of Transoral Robotic Surgery (TORS) on nutrition and swallowing outcomes	Involvement	N/A

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Consumer involvement	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited
Sarah Wallace (UQ)	David Copland (UQ), Monique Kilkenny (Monash), Erin Godecke (Edith Cowan), Carolyn Unsworth (Federation University), Kirstine Shrubsole (UQ), Robyn O'Halloran (LaTrobe), Muideen Olaiya (Monash), Annie Hill (UQ), Deborah Hersh (Edith Cowan), Sam Harvey (UQ), Marissa Stone (UQ), Sally Zingelman (UQ), Miranda Rose (La Trobe), Joosup Kim (Monash), Dominique Cadilhac (Monash), Kathryn Mainstone (UQ), Penelope Mainstone (UQ), Rachelle Pitt (UQ), Caterina Breitenstein (Uni of Munster), Emily Brogan (Fiona Stanley Hospital), Clare Burns (RBWH) , Kylie Short (STARS), Kathryn McKinley (St Vincents Hospital, Melbourne), Carolyn Baker (Monash Health), Stacey Rand (Caboolture Hospital), Wendy Luttrell (Redcliffe Hospital)	The right treatment for the right person at the right time. Driving high value aphasia care through meaningful system monitoring	Involvement	N/A
Emmah Doig (STARS/UQ)	Emmah Doig (STARS/UQ), Sarah Prescott (STARS/UQ), Hannah Gullo (TPCH/UQ), Trevor Russell (UQ), Lisa Anemaat (STARS/UQ), Elizabeth Beadle (STARS/UQ), Jennifer Muller, Randall Wood, Diana Segura Sojo, Nina Carr, Robert Bell, Erin Gothard (STARS), Shannon Scharff (STARS), Katherine Goodchild (PAH), Clare Burns (RBWH) , Giovanna Tornatore (STARS), Freyr Patterson (STARS/UQ), and Jennifer Fleming (UQ)	Co-creating virtual environments with consumers to enhance self-awareness and preparedness for home after brain injury	Involvement	N/A
Robert Cuthbert (RECOVER Injury Research Centre, UQ)	Trevor Russell (UQ), Riley Brown (UQ), Clare Burns (RBWH) , Joshua Simmich (UQ), Hannah Gullo (TPCH/UQ),	Immersive Virtual Reality and Artificial Intelligence Powered Agents for Job Interview Training in Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury	Partnership	N/A

Research Activity with a Specific Focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

Lead Investigator Name (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Other Study Investigators (RBWH staff and consumers in bold)	Research Project Title	Number of RBWH Patients Recruited	
Alice Pender	Deborah Askew (UQ), Wayne Wilson (UQ), Philip Schluter (University of Canterbury), Roxanne Bainbridge (Cairns Institute), Geoff Spurling (UQ, MSHHS), Claudette "Sissy" Tyson (MSHHS)	Hearing and hearing loss in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults: knowledge, perceptions, and attitudes	Partnership	N/A
Alice Pender	Deborah Askew (UQ), Wayne Wilson (UQ), Philip Schluter (University of Canterbury), Roxanne Bainbridge (Cairns Institute), Geoff Spurling (UQ, MSHHS), Claudette "Sissy" Tyson (MSHHS)	Improving detection and treatment of hearing health care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults living in South East Queensland	Partnership	N/A

Research Publications

Authors

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Alice Pender	https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5059-6143
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Shana Taubert	https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1514-6833
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Sarah Wilson	https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6386-5429

Publications in 2025

Journal Articles (RBWH staff or consumers in bold)

Wilson SE, Brown B, **Burns CL**. Clinical Swallow Examination Following Laryngectomy: An International e-Delphi Consensus Process. *Dysphagia*. 2025 Jan 21;

Taubert S, **Collins A**, Henderson R, McCombe P, Tang L, Kramer K, Wishart L, **Burns C**. Co-Design and Non-Randomised Pilot Evaluation of Resources Developed to Optimise Saliva Management in People with Motor Neurone Disease. *Healthcare*. 2025 Nov 5;13(21):2813.

Vuong G, Dignam J, **Burns C**, Copland D, Wedley H, O'Brien K, et al. Feasibility of delivering TeleCHAT: A comprehensive high-dose aphasia treatment via telerehabilitation. *Clinical Rehabilitation*. 2025 Sep 26.

Hughes R, Corry J, Rischin D, Bressel M, Kenny L, **Lehn B**, Wishart L, Minslow LA, Frowen J. Swallowing and Communication Outcomes Post Chemoradiotherapy for Low-Risk Human Papillomavirus (HPV)-Associated Oropharyngeal Squamous Cell Carcinoma: A Substudy of TROG 12.01. *Head & Neck*. 2025 Dec;47(12):3310-20.

Shaw TB, Ribeiro FL, Zhu X, Aiken P, Bollmann S, Bollmann S, Chang J, Chidley K, Dempsey-Jones H, Eftekhari Z, Gillespie J, Henderson RD, Kiernan MC, Ktena I, McCombe PA, Ngo ST, **Taubert ST**, Whelan B, Ye X, Steyn FJ, Tu S, Barth M. Segmentation of the human tongue musculature using MRI: Field guide and validation in motor neuron disease. *Computers in Biology and Medicine*. 2025 Sep 1;196:110824.

Whelan B-M, Aldridge D, Ruhle J, Whitelock P, **Taubert S**, **Collins A**, Kearney E, Charania S, Henderson RD, Wallace SJ, et al. To Treat or Not to Treat: A Scoping Review of Speech Treatment for Dysarthria in Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS). *Healthcare*. 2025; 13(19):2434.

Keynote or Plenary Lectures given in 2025

Date	Title
9/09/2025	Annette Collins . Managing saliva in the context of airway secretion clearance. Oceanic Palliative Care Conference, Brisbane.
25/09/2025	Clare Burns . Telepractice in Total Laryngectomy. National Conference on Alaryngeal Speech and Swallowing, Mysore, India



Dr Alice Pender was awarded the **UQ School of Medicine Higher Degree Research Student Excellence Award** (Clinical category) for her PhD study investigating self-reported hearing loss and follow-up care of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults in an urban setting.