PA Hospital has become Australia’s first large scale digital hospital

With 100 per cent of inpatient records now digital, the PAH is recognised as Australia’s first large scale digital hospital, thanks to the hard work of staff and the digital hospital project team.

A positive attitude and proactive approach to sharing information about new ways of working helped PAH staff power through the initial digital hospital Go Live period with flying colours.

Dr Stephen Ayre, Executive Director PAH-QEII Health Network, said the success of the Go Live implementation was due to the proactive way in which staff approached the project.

"We know many staff turned up for their first shift during Go Live with some trepidation about how they would cope with the new system and devices in real patient care situations," Dr Ayre said.

“Clearly, all the training and practice paid off as the transition took place as well as anyone could have imagined and any small support issues were well managed.

“It was great to see everyone take to the challenge with our typical PAH positive and professional attitude, supporting each other at every stage.

“Some areas during Go Live had particularly busy and complex case loads at times, and it is a credit to those teams and the support staff that those episodes were so competently managed.

“In particular, the way staff worked together to solve problems and share information with each other was inspirational,” Dr Ayre said.

“Now we have this wonderful new system in place, it is still absolutely vital that clinical staff keep sharing patient information face-to-face like we always have and not just relying on the system.”
It has been an extraordinary time to be part of innovation in health with our successful launch of Australia’s first large-scale digital hospital.

We have transitioned 100 per cent of inpatients to digital medical records so far and it has happened with no major issues thanks to the outstanding commitment and preparation by our dedicated team.

The scale of this change is unprecedented in an Australian hospital and our staff have enthusiastically risen to the challenge of going digital, with the benefits already starting to show.

This project required training nearly 6,000 staff and integrating more than 1,600 new digital devices across the hospital, with extensive third-party support throughout implementation.

This has been a great team effort, supported by a dedicated team of change champions, floor walkers, project staff and the Cerner experts. Congratulations to all PAH staff for an incredibly smooth transition so far and I’m really proud of everyone involved.

PAH welcomed the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services, Hon Cameron Dick for the announcement of Cardiac Rehabilitation incentive payments in November and the launch of our amazing Gamma Knife service in December. The Minister also was able to see the early impact of the Digital Hospital project at PAH.

I would like to congratulate those wards who participated in the EDNS Christmas Decorating Competition and thank them for their dedication to making the hospital festive for our patients. Congratulations particularly to Radiology 1K for their win and the TB Clinic for their ‘People’s Choice award’.

In what has been a challenging year of change for PAH, our staff have been able to accomplish amazing things while continuing to improve the quality of care for our patients. The results of the latest BPA survey highlighting PAH’s culture of Ambition is a testimony to the commitment of our PAH team.

On behalf of the PAH Executive, please enjoy a truly restful and safe break over Christmas and a special thanks to all staff who will be working over the holidays for your dedication in caring for our patients.

PAH goes Digital

From the Executive

Minister for Health launches the Gamma Knife Centre of Queensland

Metro South Health employee Survey - by the numbers

Cardiac Rehabilitation incentive funding announcement

Digital Hospital Go live testimonials

Digital Hospital Training success

National Pharmacy Award for Dr Christine Carrington

Pharmacy awards

Radiography and Radiation Therapy Success

Queensland Health Awards for Excellence acknowledgements

Nutrition and Dietetics Translation awards

Spinal Injuries Unit benefits from donated equal access BBQ

PNP nurses head to Goondiwindi

ARNA conference overview

Melbourne Cup inspires breast cancer awareness

Transit Care Hub celebrates it’s first anniversary

Orthopaedics Waiting Area refurbished after Consumer feedback

Christmas Festivities on Campus

Pet Therapy for Christmas

Staff BBQ and Market days in December

Smiddy Fun Run

Research Grants 2016

Staff Award - Patient Liaison Team

Who’s who

Take Care this Christmas season - A message from ED

WhisPAH is published monthly by the Media and Communications Unit, Princess Alexandra Hospital.

Article Submissions: Please forward ideas, articles and photos to PAH_Communications@health.qld.gov.au, or phone 3176 7899 so we can attend your event.
Minister for Health launches the Gamma Knife® Centre of Queensland

Minister for Health and Ambulance Services
Cameron Dick opened Queensland’s first Gamma Knife, a revolutionary treatment for brain tumours, on 16 December.

Mr Dick said that Gamma Knife technology was the gold standard for treating a range of brain tumours and was a non-invasive alternative to open brain surgery.

The Gamma Knife is well established world-wide and this is the only Gamma Knife technology available in the public hospital system in Australia and the only service in Queensland.

The Minister said the new Gamma Knife® Centre of Queensland service complimented PA Hospital’s reputation as a Centre of Excellence in cancer care and treatment and would establish a world-class radiosurgery facility for Queenslanders.

... If you missed the television coverage of the launch you can see it HERE

2015 Metro South Health Employee Survey

The results are in... and they’re very positive. Here’s the highlights

3534 people contributed to the PAH survey

16% increase in staff engagement

76% of staff reported that we are a “Truly Great Place to Work”

Cardiac Rehabilitation funding

PA Hospital welcomed Minister for Health and Ambulance Services, Hon Cameron Dick for the announcement of $5M in cardiac rehabilitation incentive payments as a strategy to reduce readmission to hospital.

Minister Dick said the program had been developed in partnership with the Heart Foundation with the aim of getting more patients who are discharged from public hospitals after a heart attack participating in cardiac rehabilitation programs.

“What we know is that a third of all heart attacks are repeat heart attacks that possibly could have been prevented with cardiac rehabilitation after the first event,” Mr Dick said.

“Cardiac rehabilitation has been shown to reduce a heart attack sufferer’s return visits to hospital within the first year by as much as 45 per cent and death within the first year by as much as 25 per cent.

“This funding will provide an incentive for our Hospital and Health Services to implement the right systems to boost referrals to the many cardiac rehabilitation services that are currently available and ensure that more patients can and do attend these services.”
Our Go Live Experience

My favourite thing about becoming a Digital Hospital is the easy access to legible charts. I would not want to go back to a paper chart – this is outstanding! However, I have noticed that nurse station conversations while completing charts have reduced. We need to make sure we keep communicating verbally because a lot of important information is exchanged during these chats.

Elizabeth McDonald, Team Leader – Social Work, Spinal Injuries Unit

A big advantage of using the digital system is the legibility of notes and that we don’t have to deal with handwritten paper charts. We can see notes and information from everyone in the patient care team right there on the screen and this is saving a lot of time.

Dr Jacques Eastment and Dr Amit Chacko, Medical Officers, 2C

Patient care and patient safety was always going to be the priority; we were a little worried that it might suffer while we learnt the new system but it didn’t. We knew we needed to trust our skills and expertise in assessing and caring for patients.

Now we have much quicker access to patient information. In particular, we are already seeing benefits in how quickly we can identify and manage patient deterioration.

Natalie Ryan, Nurse Consultant, Secure Unit

We are already seeing improved patient care due to having a medical record that is accessible, consistent and accurate. Improving the continuity of a patient record across wards and the organisation is also beneficial for staff and patients.

The transition period was challenging, however when staff develop a good grasp of the system we will see significant gains in patient documentation and charting.

Brad Cummins, Acting Nurse Unit Manager, Intensive Care Unit

I started my shift on the first day of Go Live for our area and I was here for the first four days. The experience of doing things for the first time was very positive, it felt good when it worked! It went well although there were some little things to be sorted out as we went along. Staff shared a lot of information as we went along and that was incredibly helpful in getting to know the system.

Erin Dewar, Clinical Nurse, MAPU

MAPU has really worked together and we are all getting used to the new system. It is good to be able to see the whole picture of what is happening in the ward.

Working with the new system is improving with each shift. There are still some things to be sorted out but we know they are being worked on for us.

Han-Byul Jang, Clinical Nurse, MAPU
PAH Staff Embrace Digital Hospital Training

In the one of the largest training programs ever undertaken within Queensland Health, almost 6,000 PAH staff completed Digital Hospital training during the ten weeks prior to Go Live.

Mel Tucker, Digital Hospital Business Delivery Director, said the PAH’s culture of innovation and commitment to patient care has never been more evident and underpinned the tremendous results achieved in every ward and work area during Go Live.

“Training all our staff in such a short time was a massive undertaking and everyone should be commended for their willingness to fit training and practice sessions into their busy schedules,” Mel said.

“In particular, there were several areas that led the way with 100 percent of their staff fully trained prior to Go Live, including the Spinal Injuries Unit, BIRU, MAPU, 5C and 4C.”

Mel said around 32,000 staff hours were spent learning the new system, in addition to the countless hours by the project team to develop the tailored training courses and materials.

“Making training sessions accessible to all staff members, in all disciplines, across the hospital campus, and catering for 24/7 shifts was a huge challenge,” Mel said.

“We ran supported training sessions seven days a week from 7am until 9pm, across ten training rooms and more than 200 dedicated computers.

“Most of the training was completed using web-based modules that were self-paced with training facilitators available, while allied health and admin sessions were led by instructors.

“The practice labs were also well utilised, showing that staff understood the benefits of practicing their skills and learning how the new system would require changes to ways of working,” Mel said.

Training for New Staff and Students

Hundreds of new starters and students in 2016 will have access to Digital Hospital training sessions until mid February. In the longer term, Digital Hospital training will return to the business-as-usual processes, incorporated into each streams’ induction program.

For more information about your Digital Hospital training requirements, please speak with your manager.

Returning from leave or want more practice?

DIGITAL HOSPITAL TRAINING

PAH Library | Ground Level, Building 1
Open Monday to Friday 7.00am - 6.00pm (Closed on public holidays)
National award for PA Hospital Pharmacist

Pharmacist Dr Christine Carrington has been awarded the Australian Clinical Pharmacy Award for 2015 for her outstanding contribution to clinical pharmacy practice.

Dr Carrington, a leader in cancer pharmacy at a local, state and national level, has been instrumental in helping patients access new medicines and rolling out the statewide oncology prescribing and medicines management system.

“This award truly recognises that the cancer pharmacist is a key part of the team and that we really can make a difference to patient care,” said Dr Carrington. “Patients are, and should be, the centre of everything we do.”

Dr Carrington led the Guidelines for the safe prescribing, dispensing and administration of cancer chemotherapy which have become an everyday part of clinical practice as well as the introduction of a number of efficiency projects that directly benefit patients.

“It was wonderful to be involved in the complex Pharmacy component of PAH’s pioneering efforts to deliver some chemotherapy in the home which has resulted in easier access to treatment for some of our patients and has paved the way for more of these types of innovations,” she said.

Christine is highly engaged in cancer care across all healthcare disciplines and shares her expertise through her membership of many committees and groups, chairing a number of them.

“I have had the privilege of working alongside some inspirational cancer clinicians from a variety of backgrounds, all with the drive to provide the best care we can for patients with cancer,” she said.

“I feel proud to be working with such a great team at the PAH.”

Pharmacy awards

Dr Andrew Hale

Dr Andrew Hale won Best oral presentation at the 41st Society of Hospital Pharmacist National Conference highlighting the outcomes of his PhD work in the PAH Preadmission clinic.

The presentation titled ‘Appropriate Pharmacist Prescribing Pays for Pharmacy Services in Pre Admission Clinic (PAC)’ discussed expanding the role of the preadmission clinic pharmacist.

The PhD outcomes showed that pharmacist prescribing in PAC is safe and appropriate as usual care with training for the future targeted to ensure consistent results across different models of care, and pharmacists’ used to their full potential in the Quality Use of Medicines.

Joan Semmler

Joan Semmler was awarded the William Harris Award which honours a pharmacist or pharmacy technician who has made an outstanding contribution to hospital pharmacy practice, resulting in the advancement of the profession or professional hospital pharmacy practice.

She has also been acknowledged from the National Society of Hospital Pharmacists of Australia (SHPA) for her years of service to the technician network and SHPA.

Radiography staff in the spotlight

Two members of the Radiography and Radiation Therapy team have won best paper for their category at the Australian Institute of Radiography’s Annual Queensland Graduate Papers Day in November.

Radiography

PAH Radiography provided four oral presentations and two poster presentations with Clare Gill’s Rotationplasty case awarded.

Her presentation of a novel, limb saving technique for a patient with a malignant bone tumour, outlined the procedure as well as the psychological journey for her patient as he came to grips with first the diagnosis, multiple tests, challenge of surgery and finally his recovery.

Other topics presented by PAH Radiographers were Alarm Fatigue by Lauren Fraser, Text neck and posture from Kaitlyn Joy; and Evidence based practice for trauma facial radiography by Penny Brooke.

Radiation Therapy

Fiona Page won the Radiation Therapy category with her oral presentation on stereotactic radiosurgery for paediatric arteriovenous malformation, highlighting a technique that is seen as a viable option for deep or eloquently located cerebral AVMs.

Other Radiation Therapy presentations included Alisha Wintour’s oral presentation, A Gray Area: treatment of multiple myeloma; and Mikaela Rosengren presented a poster on Sezary Syndrome: the various paths to remission.”

Two members of the Radiography and Radiation Therapy team have won best paper for their category at the Australian Institute of Radiography’s Annual Queensland Graduate Papers Day in November.
Queensland Health Awards for Excellence

Congratulations to Metro South Health’s Adam Lo who won a Highly Commended Award in the 2015 Queensland Health Awards for Excellence.

Adam, an Occupational Therapist for Addiction and Mental Health Services, received the award in recognition of his hard work bringing together the inaugural Positive Mindset Creative Arts Festival 2015.

Professor David Crompton, Executive Director Metro South Addiction and Mental Health Services, accepted the award on Adam’s behalf as he was unable to attend the event. Professor Crompton said he was pleased to see Adam’s hard work and dedication to supporting Metro South’s youth recognised by Queensland Health and the Minister for Health, the Honourable Cameron Dick.

Special mention also goes to Metro South Health’s finalists in the awards, the Better Cardiac Care Project (‘customer focus’ award) and the Clinical Services Evaluation Team (‘integrity and accountability’ award). Metro South Health is also leading the state in the smoke free healthcare initiative, which picked up the ‘patients come first’ award.

Clinical priority hotline

The InfoService Centre’s new clinical priority hotline is available to deliver immediate support to staff experiencing high priority, patient-care impacting IT issues.

This means that clinicians dealing directly with patients experiencing IT issues will be fast-tracked to getting an answer.

The priority hotline is available to clinicians between 7:30am to 4:00pm, Monday to Friday. Currently 95 per cent of calls to the clinical priority hotline are being answered within 30 seconds or less.

Nutrition and Dietetics Research

Research into the nutrition of premature babies has won the 2015 Nutrition and Dietetics Research Translation award with a $1000 prize.

Melissa Gilroy and Denise Page’s research into Practice Early Nutrition program at Mater Hospital focussed on optimal nutritional care for premature babies within the first 24 hours of life.

The $1000 prize was co-sponsored by the Mater Research Institute-UQ and the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics PAH.

Louise Cooney and Adam Gibson from PAH were awarded highly commended for their work in improving nutritional outcomes in radiation oncology and cardiac units.

Nutrition and Dietetics Director of Research Dr Ingrid Hickman, said the Nutrition and Dietetics Research Translation Award was initiated in 2014 as an award scheme for Clinical Dietitians to present examples of how they have translated research findings into practice.

“This initiative provides a platform to teach research translation skills to clinical staff, highlight evidence based practice that is occurring on campus and creating metrics to measure research translation in a hospital setting,” she said.

This year the award expanded across PAH and Mater Health Services with a showcase of 10 exceptional examples of research translation. “The award will continue to expand with additional sites joining the initiative for 2016,” Dr Hickman said.

The expert panel included Dr Ingrid Hickman, Director of Research at Nutrition and Dietetics at the PAH, Dr Shelley Wilkinson an NHMRC TRIP fellow at the Mater Health Service and Dr Susan DeJersey, Research co-ordinator at the RBWH Nutrition and Dietetics Department.
Spinal Injuries patients cooking their way through rehab

The Spinal Injuries Unit celebrated the opening of an equal-access electric BBQ for use by patients and families of the unit in November with its maiden grilling.

The BBQ and other landscaping items were donated to our team for the ongoing benefit of patients who need the divisional activities when friends and family visit them in their home away from home.

Nurse Unit Manager for Spinal Injuries Unit (SIU), Ben Hackwood, said the nature of spinal injuries mean a long term stay for any patient.

“Our patients could be in the unit for anything from three months to over a year,” Ben said.

“The responses from patients and their families to the new facility have been overwhelmingly positive. The equal access electric BBQ is providing a safer option for our patients with paraplegia and tetraplegia to learn important cooking skills, while delivering the opportunity to spend time with their family and friends,” he said.

The benefits to patients from practising motor skills in a way that is functional and helpful for their transition to independence at home is one of the key benefits to this introduction.

Deb Hemmings who is a nurse in SIU and owner of Wallum nurseries, was thrilled to plant the seed for this initiative with equal access BBQ supplier, Greenplate, and donate the landscaping supplies to make the new space a hit with the patients.

“Helping the patients to enjoy themselves was what we wanted to achieve – particularly on weekends when friends and family come to visit,” she said. “This has been missing since the old BBQ became difficult to maintain so this new option will renew that opportunity to interact socially and have a great time.”

Thank you to Deb and also to Raelene from Greenplate for their rare and well-done enhancement to rehab at the Spinal Injuries Unit.

A message from

Formerly Spinal Injuries Australia, we have changed our name to Spinal Life Australia.

We have changed our name before as we evolve through almost 60 years of providing specialist supports to people with spinal cord injuries and physical disability. Our name now reflects the depth to which we meet the needs of our members and clients.

The services we provide will not be affected by this change, and we remain a charity and non-profit organisation.

Goondiwindi stint for Permanent Nursing Pool staff

PA Hospital’s well equipped and highly skilled Permanent Nurse Pool has responded to the call to assist with incidental staffing pressures at Goondiwindi Hospital so that nurse-to-patient ratios could be managed.

Registered nurses Ashlee Hayes and Samantha Boustead embraced the one month stint in the Condamine town which proved to be a learning experience for all involved.

“Coming from a tertiary teaching hospital, our Permanent Nurse Pool is connected to all clinical areas across the hospital including intensive care, emergency, medical and surgical wards which provides a high level of knowledge, skills and confidence,” said Samantha. “This is essential preparation for a stint in a regional hospital which caters to all kinds of admissions.”

“What we didn’t expect was that the placement would teach us so much about autonomy,” she said. “There is less access to the multidisciplinary teams we are surrounded by at PAH which means a different kind of workload plus there’s the added dynamic of paediatrics and obstetrics in the regional setting.”

Manager of Permanent Nurse Pool, Phil Watman, said that PA’s Permanent Nurse Pool was proud to provide highly skilled and highly professional nurses, both experienced and graduate level, to meet the staffing demands of the clinical setting.

“We excel at providing nurses to fill the gaps in highly specialised areas such as renal and intensive care but we also have the skill-mix of exceptional nurses to suit generalist nursing positions,” he said. “It is great to be able to assist facilities outside of the Brisbane region with the amazing nurses that we have trained at PA Hospital.”

Ashlee Hayes said the experience of working alongside the friendly staff at Goondiwindi was a pleasure.

“It has been a great learning opportunity to experience the differences between working in a tertiary hospital and a rural hospital and to appreciate the experiences of the medical and nursing staff in that setting as an enhancement to our nursing practice.”
News < whispah

So this happened....

Division of Rehab Research Symposium

Transit Care Hub celebrated its first anniversary of services in the new space.

Purpose-built to improve the patient experience while they wait for admission to the hospital, discharge from the hospital, or pick up from transport providers, the new space has ensured safety as well as comfort for patients.

Transit Care Hub has provided learning support for other Transit Lounge facilities in Metro South Health with the strategic aim of improving patient flow while ensuring all patients receive safe and appropriate nursing care as they transition to and from treatment.

The Stats:
29th October, 2015 105 Staff attended
2015 video playlist will be added to the DOR website soon
3 key organisers to thank: Kiley Pershouse, Ray Quinn and Rob Moloney and all the other staff who helped make the Australasian Rehabilitation Nurses’ Association (ARNA)Conference a success

Heeding the advice of consumers:
Orthopaedic Unit waiting area refurbished

The Standard 2 Orthopaedic Action Group was delighted to unveil the refurbished Orthopaedic Unit waiting area for patients, families and friends in December.

The design and build was informed by consumer feedback with the new space now offering visitors a warm, interactive and engaging environment, designed to provide both physical and psychological comfort.

Division of Surgery invites staff to visit the new area and engage with the therapeutic colouring board.

Melbourne Cup Fun in 4D

Ward 4D took the opportunity to raise some awareness of breast cancer on Melbourne Cup Day with a pink morning tea. Breast Care Nurse Amanda Smith said that when the race stops the nation, let it serve as a reminder to stop and check your breasts for changes.
Christmas Festivities across the campus

Charlie’s angels

Charlie Grugan in his annual campaign for the local St. Vincent de Paul Society Conference is again saying ‘well done angels’.

Not only did six units across the hospital commit to the food drive which benefited 130 poor and disadvantaged families in the Annerley area, but the monthly bake off conducted by the Clinical Governance Unit yielded $1000 by year’s end.

“The continued support of St. Vincent de Paul by our PAH teams is so appreciated,” said Charlie.

“Not only are we helping to make Christmas a happy time for those families in the Annerley area, the contribution of funds from the bake off has resulted in more than 1000 poor and disadvantaged families receiving assistance over the course of the whole year.”


Carina State School sings for patients in Cancer Services

Patients and staff in Ward 2E and the Cancer Services outpatient area were delighted with the voices of angels on Tuesday 8 December.

Students from Carina State School brought some cheer to the busy outpatient area, Daycare, and the inpatient ward with music and carols as part of their ongoing relationship with Cancer Services.

Nurse Manager in Cancer Services Sue Schoonbeek said the visit was really special for the patients.

“There were so many smiles as well as happy tears,” she said. “Patients in Daycare were very invested in what was happening out in the corridor and patients seemed to materialise everywhere they went to be sure they didn’t miss out on the festivities.”
Pet Therapy for Christmas

Patients at Princess Alexandra Hospital received extra special visits this Christmas with Delta Dog Volunteers providing festive cheer with pet therapy.

PA Hospital Volunteer Services Manager Tanya Barton said the Delta Pet Program is an amazing opportunity to provide health and wellbeing for patients in the hospital setting.

“Animals are such amazing therapy for patients in our hospital – particularly those in long term rehabilitation,” Ms Barton said.

“The volunteers who share their best friends with us are wonderful and they really do brighten up our patients, not to mention our staff, when they visit.”

Margot Logan is a regular visitor to the general medicine wards at PA Hospital with her Golden Retriever Sonnet who just loves her job of being patted.

“The patients love having her and Sonnet makes it clear that she loves coming to bring on the smiles for the patients as well as the staff.”

Rescue Greyhound Cleopatra delighted patients in BIRU thanks to volunteer Miree Leslie; while Rough Collie Zulu and his owner Rosie Parker brought a smile to the faces of patients and staff in the Spinal Injuries Unit.
The PA Research Foundation’s annual Smiddy Fun Run has been run and won with participants pounding the pavement all in the name of raising funds for skin cancer research.

Celebrating its 10th year the charity run was held at the PA Hospital in memory of PA physiotherapist Adam Smiddy whose life was cut short by an aggressive melanoma at the age of just 26.

About 160 participants of all ages — from stroller-sized to 72 — took part in the Smiddy Fun Run, which raised $7,500 for skin research at the PA Hospital – home to the discovery of the world’s first cancer vaccine.

There were runners from beginners to more seasoned athletes, who stepped up the pace in the 5km Run; the walkers who strolled the pathways in the 2.5km Walk, and the teams challengers who battled it out over a tough 7.5km course.

PA Research Foundation COO Simone Plunkett says we’re delighted to see so many people continue to support the Smiddy Fun Run each year making it such a great success.

“Adam was a much loved PA Hospital physio who sadly lost his life too young. You’re support of the run not only helps raise funds but to also help spread awareness of skin cancer and the research needed,” says Simone.

“Skin cancer accounts for 80% of all newly diagnosed cancers each year in Australia. Approximately 1 in 11 Queensland men, and 1 in 9 Queensland women will be diagnosed with melanoma before the age of 85.

“The PA is leading the way in skin cancer research and we are fortunate to have a specialised Melanoma Unit, and also a state of the art Dermatology Research Centre here on our doorstep.

“A HUGE thankyou to everyone who took part if you were running, spectating, marshalling or helping in any other way, this is a great event and a fantastic step forward in the fight against skin cancer.”

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<td>First place male 5km</td>
<td>Peter Bracken 17.05 mins.</td>
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<td>First place female 5km</td>
<td>Clare Geraghty 17.57 mins</td>
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<td>Second place male 5km</td>
<td>Andy Churchman 17.23 mins</td>
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<td>Second place female 5km</td>
<td>Courtenay Henrys 19.38</td>
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<td>Third place male 5km</td>
<td>Rowan Foster 17.37</td>
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<td>Third place female 5km</td>
<td>Kelly Loffler 20.36</td>
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<td>1st PAH Physio (M/F)</td>
<td>Marc Nickels 18.12 / Gretta Palmer 23.15</td>
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<td>1st Team</td>
<td>Smiddy Supersonics 29.10</td>
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PA Research Support Scheme

Research grants 2016

The PA Hospital Centres of Health Research and the Boards of the PA Research Foundation and PAH Private Practice Trust Fund are pleased to announce the successful recipients of the 2016 funding round of the PA Research Support Scheme.

**Postgraduate Scholarships**

Postgraduate Scholarships provide a stipend for up to 3 years full-time (or 6 years part-time) towards a research masters or doctorate degree.

Dr Andrea Viccelli (SERTA funded)

Gastroenterology & Hepatology, PAH

Strategies to improve vascular access outcomes in haemodialysis patients

Ms Christine Ossenberg (SERTA funded)

Nephrology, PAH

Improving registered nurse capacity to provide feedback to build capability of new graduate nurses

Mr Moustafa Sherif (PARF funded)

The UQ Diamantina Institute

Genetic engineering of tumour-infiltrating monocytes to inhibit metastatic breast cancer

**PAH Senior House Officer Fellowship in Clinical Research**

The PAH Senior House Officer Fellowship in Clinical Research (12 months) provides funding of $75,000 for one year to enable medical graduates who have completed or are about to complete clinical training and who wish undertake research as part of vocational specialist training, or for a bridging period towards consideration of a doctorate degree.

Dr Rohit Gupta (SERTA funded)

Gastroenterology & Hepatology, PAH

Project Susceptibility to infection in patients with chronic liver disease and ascites

Dr Hu-Shan Lin (SERTA funded)

UQ Centre for Research in Geriatric Medicine, PAH

Project frailty and perioperative outcome

Dr David Sparks(SERTA funded)

Plastics & Reconstructive Surgery, PAH

Vascularised bone tissue transfer: Historical perspectives of bone vascularity and the introduction of dual energy computed tomography as novel means to quantify bone perfusion

Dr Nathan Adams (SERTA funded)

ENT Surgery, PAH

Enhancing the efficacy and understanding of EBC-46 in the treatment of head and neck squamous cell carcinoma

**New Appointment Grants**

The New Appointment Grant provides $75,000 pa for 2 years, to assist a new MSH-based clinical appointee set up their research program.

Dr Colm Keane (SERTA funded)

Haematology, PAH

Investigation of the unique immune microenvironment in Primary CNS Lymphoma (PCNSL)

**Project Grants**

Project Grants (12 months) provide $75,000 for defined studies demonstrating cross-disciplinary, MSH multi-site, or PAH-campus collaborative research with a potential to be translated into improved health outcomes.

A/Prof Warrick Inder (SERTA funded)

Diabetes and Endocrinology, PAH

Identification of glucocorticoid-responsive biomarkers – a proteomic approach

Prof Ken Ho (SERTA funded)

Diabetes and Endocrinology, PAH

Diet-induced thermogenesis and obesity: Friend or foe

Dr Erin Shanahan (SERTA funded)

Gastroenterology & Hepatology, PAH

Genetic dissection of mucosa-associated microbiota associated with functional gastrointestinal disorders

Prof Gerald Holtmann (SERTA funded)

Gastroenterology & Hepatology, PAH

Changes to the mucosa associated microbiota (MAM) during a 12 month nutrient diversion due to treatment with a duodenojejunal bypass sleeve

Dr Ben Cartmill (PARF funded)

Centre for Functioning & Health Research, MSH

Evaluating the implementation of a swallowing, nutrition and distress screening service model for patients with head and neck cancer and their carers undergoing (chemo) radiotherapy treatment

Prof David Johnson (PARF funded)

Nephrology, PAH

SYNERGY II: A randomised-controlled trial investigating the effects of pre- and probiotic supplementation on left-ventricular function in chronic kidney disease

A/Prof Ben Panizza (PARF funded)

ENT Surgery, PAH

Molecular mechanisms of perineural invasion in cutaneous squamous cell carcinoma of the head and neck

**Small Grants**

Small Grants (12 months) provide $25,000 in seed funding for studies that will have the potential to build capacity.

Mr Marc Nickels (SERTA funded)

Physiotherapy, PAH

CyCLIST – Critical Care Cycling Study

A/Prof Matthew Foote (SERTA funded)

Radiation Oncology, PAH

Gold nanoparticle enhanced radiotherapy for non-melanoma skin cancer

Prof Michael Stowasser (SERTA funded)

Endocrine Hypertension Research Centre, PAH

Quantitative mRNA analysis of thiazide sodium cotransporter from urinary exosomes in primary aldosteronism

The following Small Grants were awarded to studies in Health Systems and Health Economics.

Mrs Carolyn Brown (SERTA funded)

BreastScreen Queensland, QEQI

Evaluating the potential of the community pharmacy as a setting to promote bowel and breast cancer screening in the Metro South Health catchment

Dr Mary Boyde (SERTA funded)

Cardiology and NPDU, PAH

Patient preferences for the delivery of cardiac rehabilitation

Dr Michael Sinnott (SERTA funded)

Emergency, PAH

Determination of the strength of association between safety scores and sharps injuries to staff and safety scores and patient safety: A proof-of-concept study

**ALH Group Breast Cancer Project Grant**

The ALH Group Breast Cancer Grant Project (12 months) provides $75,000 support for research directed towards improving health and medical outcomes pertinent to breast cancer.

Dr Thomas Lloyd (PARF funded)

Radiology, PAH

Magnetic resonance and extracellular matrix studies of mammographic density

**Spirit Hotel Group Men’s Health Project Grant**

The Spirit Hotel Group Men’s Health Project Grant (12 months) provides $50,000 support for research directed towards improving health and medical outcomes pertinent to men’s health.

Prof Colleen Nelson (PARF funded)

Australian Prostate Cancer Research Centre – QLD, QUT

Investigation of the biological response to stereotactic radiation in oligometastatic prostate cancer in mouse intra-tibial human prostate cancer models

**NHMRC Near-Miss Grants**

Near-Miss NHMRC Grants (12 mth) provide $75,000 support for project grant applications submitted by MSH researchers to the NHMRC funding scheme.

Prof John Upham (SERTA funded)

Cardiology and NPDU, PAH

Investigation of the association between safety scores and sharps injuries to staff and safety scores and patient safety: A proof-of-concept study

Prof Colleen Nelson (PARF funded)

The Spirit Hotel Group Men’s Health Project Grant (12 months) provides $50,000 support for research directed towards improving health and medical outcomes pertinent to men’s health.
My name… Meghan Lawrence

Song I am humming… Hello it’s me…is it me you’re looking for? So many MEMEs have got me confused about which song I’m singing!

Number of years at PAH… I’m fresh bait…it’s only been 2 weeks

First Job… Retail Sales Assistant at Robins Kitchen, I was a 14year old super seller with an extensive recipe collection

First car… 1981 Toyota Corolla – ‘Penny’ … because she wasn’t worth more than a penny

Last Purchase… A pair of new shoes – Merry Christmas to ME!

Favourite movie… Sweet Home Alabama

Last dress up party I went as… 20’s flapper - it was Halloween 2014 & I left my costume to the last minute

Best thing about me… I collect friends from all over the world - my best friend and sidekick Grandma of 85years loves hearing about my adventures

My hobbies / interests… Travel, Country Music & Reading

My family… I’m the shortest of 33 family members… and NO they aren’t giant basketballers!  But I do have some hope with 4 great-grandchildren in our group coming up through the ranks

Looking forward to… Surprising my family for Christmas – it will be the first time in 2 years that my parents, younger sisters & I will be together

My ward / Unit / Role… Admin Relief Pool – coming to an OPD near you!

Staff Award

Patient Liaison Team: Karen Coates and Fe’ofa Taufa

The Patient Liaison Team were nominated for the Staff Award because of their superior skills in customer focus which has resulted in a KPI improvement from 89% to 95.5% for patient complaints completed within 35 days.

In addition, 100% of the 139 complaints received via the Office of the Health Ombudsman since July 2014 were processed within the statutory benchmark.

“This is the result of excellent abilities in patient focus including patience, an ability to purvey calm and excellent communication skills that are bolstered by empathy and positivity.

The team have proven to be excellent in following through with patients and assisting to meet deadlines set by both our internal processes as well as external agencies.

This role has a special application and they are commended for their dedication to the patient cohort and to resolving issues for our patients.

How to avoid the emergency department over Christmas

They don’t call it the silly season for nothing. For most people, the holiday season is a time to kick back, relax and enjoy a well-earned break with family and friends.

However, spare a thought for hospital Emergency Departments who are at their busiest time of year as alcohol and accidents keep doctors and nurses run off their feet during December-January.

“The summer holidays can be one of the busiest times of the year, but simple precautions can prevent complicated health accidents,” states PA Hospital Emergency Department Deputy Director Dr Andrew Staib

Dr Staib says too much alcohol, risky behaviour and not paying attention to your surroundings leads to people injuring themselves or others and recommends a good dose of common sense be used.

“Many of the injuries or illnesses were a result of trauma from car accidents, head injuries, breaks and strains. We also have a large amount of people being admitted due excessive alcohol consumption, chest pains, mental illness and others.

“We want everyone to have an enjoyable Christmas and New Year and celebrate with their family and friends without having the stress of a hospital visit so please take care.”

TIPS FOR SAFE HOLIDAYS

• Taking additional care on the roads and while participating in outdoor recreational activities
• Ensure that Christmas gifts such as bikes and skateboards are accompanied with protective equipment such as helmets and knee pads and are used under supervision
• On very hot days drink plenty of water, minimise physical activity, wear light clothing and avoid alcohol
• Keep a close eye on children, particularly around water
• Do not leave food out in the heat and only keep leftovers for a few days
• Moderate alcohol consumption, particularly on New Year’s Eve