

CE Report



Health
Northern Sydney
Local Health District

**Chief Executive's Report to the NSLHD Board,
the Finance, Risk & Performance Committee,
and the Board, Audit & Risk Committee
July 2021**



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NSLHD PERFORMANCE

According to the NSW Health Performance Framework, NSLHD remains at Performance Level 0 – 'No Performance Issues.' This is the highest Performance Level attainable.

SAFETY AND QUALITY INDICATORS (June 2021)

Safety and Quality	MONTH				YTD			
	T	Target	Actual	Var	T	Target	Actual	Var
SA-BSI ^{1*}		≤ 1.0	0.3	0.7		≤ 1.0	0.9	0.1
ICU CLAB Infection Rate ^{1*}		= 0.0	0.0	0.0		= 0.0	0.2	0.2
Incorrect Procedures: OT		= 0	0.0	0.0		= 0	0.0	0.0
MH: Readmissions within 28 Days ²		≤ 13.0%	8.5%	4.5%		≤ 13.0%	9.1%	3.9%
MH: APDC Follow Up Within 7 days ²		≥ 75%	83%	7.5%		≥ 75%	85%	10%
Unplanned Hospital Readmissions [#]		6.4%	5.8%	0.6%		6.6%	6.4%	0.2%

¹Data 1 month delay

²Data 2 month delay

[#] Unplanned Hospital Readmissions targets are prior year actual.

SAFETY AND QUALITY

Consumer Participation and Patient Experience

What Matters to You (WMTYD) Day, aimed at encouraging patients to share what matters to them when receiving health care, was celebrated across the District on 9 June 2021. All staff were encouraged to discuss WMTY Day and the patient experience in team meetings, display WMTY Day posters in their ward or unit and engage in meaningful conversations about WMTY with patients, families and carers and collect feedback. A report is being prepared to document the collated key comments, themes and actions.

The NSLHD Cancer Care Clinical Network hosted a NSLHD Cancer Plan 2021-26 Consumer Workshop on 18 June 2021. The purpose of the Workshop was to invite consumers with a lived experience of cancer to co-design, provide feedback and identify any gaps in the NSLHD Cancer Plan and to discuss the goals and vision for cancer care in NSLHD over the next five years.

Prompt Document Implementation

The Prompt Document system went live on 29 June 2021. NSLHD is the first local health district in NSW to implement the system as a specialised health care repository for all NSLHD Policies, Procedures and Guidelines (PPGs), standing orders and relevant NSW Health policies and guidelines. The Prompt Document system has replaced the former NSLHD PPG Intranet page and is accessible by all staff.

NSLHD Quality and Improvement Awards 2021

The NSLHD Quality and Improvement Awards scheduled to take place on 29 June 2021 were cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions. The Clinical Governance Unit are exploring alternate options to virtually celebrate winning projects with the 15 finalist teams.

Patient Safety Culture Survey (PSCS)

Staff across NSLHD (including HealthShare NSW and NSW Health Pathology) were invited to complete the PSCS from 1 June to 22 June 2021. The PSCS is a widely utilised and

validated tool designed to measure the attitudes and perceptions of health care staff on patient safety. The Survey had a response rate of 37% and it was found that 70% of staff rate patient safety in NSLHD as 'very good' or 'excellent.' It was also found that 89% of staff would recommend being treated in NSLHD to their friends and relatives. The Project Team will be hosting a virtual PSCS Roadshow with each Hospital and Service to discuss strengths and improvement opportunities and to provide an in depth analysis of individual results.

PATIENT FLOW AND SERVICE ACCESS¹

The 2020 data provided reflects the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on Emergency Department (ED) activity. Data from 2019 has been included for comparative purposes.

Across NSLHD, there were 14,718 presentations to EDs in May 2021, an increase of 44.3% (4,520) compared to presentations in May 2020. When compared to May 2019, this demonstrates an increase of 8.7% (1,185) ED presentations.

NSLHD achieved 89% for Transfer of Care (ToC) in May 2021. Emergency Treatment Performance (ETP) for the month was 62%. Within this, Royal North Shore Hospital (RNSH) achieved 50%, Hornsby Ku-ring-Gai Hospital (HKH) achieved 78% and Ryde Hospital achieved 76%.

NSLHD has 11 patients overdue for elective surgery at the end of May 2021, a continued reflection of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Temporary measures have been introduced across the District to ensure patients continue to receive timely access to elective surgery including:

- Centralisation of elective surgery bookings across NSLHD
- Clinical prioritisation of Category A, Emergency and Cancer surgical cases
- Clinical review of Category B and C patients currently on the waitlist
- Selected Category A elective surgery cases performed at North Shore Private Hospital

ED Presentations

ED presentations to NSLHD in May 2021 increased by 44% (4,520 patients) when compared to May 2020. ED presentations to NSLHD in May 2021 increased by 7% (1,185 patients) when compared to May 2019.

There were 7,928 ED presentations to RNSH in May 2021. This is an increase of 39% (2,242 patients) when compared to May 2020, and an increase of 5% (438 patients) when compared to May 2019.

There were 4,159 ED presentations to HKH in May 2021. This is an increase of 37% (1,144 patients) when compared to May 2020, and an increase of 16% (574 patients) when compared to May 2019.

There were 2,631 ED presentations to Ryde Hospital in May 2021. This is an increase of 77% (1,152 patients) when compared to May 2020, and an increase of 3% (83 patients) when compared to May 2019.

Emergency Treatment Performance (ETP)

ETP for NSLHD was 62% in May 2021 against the target of 81%. This demonstrates a decrease of 9% when compared to May 2020 (73%). This also demonstrates a decrease of 8% when compared to May 2019 (70%).

¹ This data is for RNSH, HKH and Ryde Hospital. Northern Beaches Hospital data is contained within a separate section.

ETP at RNSH was 50% in May 2021, a decrease of 16% from May 2020 (66%). Presentation numbers increased by 39% (2,242 patients) when compared to May 2020. This was a decrease of 13% when compared to May 2019 (63%), with presentation numbers increasing by 5% (438 patients).

ETP at HKH was 78% in May 2021, a decrease of 5% from May 2020 (83%). Presentation numbers increased by 37.9% (1,144 patients) when compared to May 2020. This was a decrease of 1% when compared to May 2019 (79%), with presentation numbers increasing by 16% (574 patients).

ETP at Ryde Hospital was 76% for May 2021, a decrease of 7% from May 2020 (83%). Presentation numbers increased by 75% (1,134 patients) when compared to May 2020. This was a decrease of 3% when compared to May 2019 (79%), with presentation numbers increasing by 7% (173 patients).

Transfer of Care (ToC)

ToC for NSLHD was 89% in May 2021 against the target of 90%.

ToC at RNSH was 77% for May 2021, this is alongside a 14% increase in ambulance arrivals (265 ambulances) when compared to May 2020 and a 0.2% decrease in ambulance arrivals (4 ambulances) when compared to May 2019.

ToC at HKH was 88% for May 2021, this is alongside a 31% increase in ambulance arrivals (191 ambulances) when compared to May 2020 and a 5% increase in ambulance arrivals (45 ambulances) when compared to May 2019.

ToC at Ryde Hospital was 97% for May 2021, this is alongside a 36% increase in ambulance arrivals (173 ambulances) when compared to May 2020 and an 11% increase in ambulance arrivals (66 ambulances) when compared to May 2019.

ED Triage

NSLHD met the target for Triage Category 1 in May 2021. Within this, all facilities achieved 100%.

NSLHD achieved 79% for Triage Category 2 against the target of 95%. Within this, RNSH recorded 73%, HKH recorded 88% and Ryde Hospital recorded 88%.

NSLHD achieved 67% for Triage Category 3 against the target of 85%. Within this, RNSH recorded 58%, HKH recorded 75% and Ryde recorded 81%.

NSLHD achieved 73% for Triage Category 4 against the target of 70%. Within this, RNSH recorded 67%, HKH recorded 79% and Ryde recorded 82%.

NSLHD achieved 89% for Triage Category 5 against the target of 70%. Within this, all facilities met the target.

Elective Surgery Access Performance (ESAP)

At the end of May 2021, there were 11 patients overdue for elective surgery across NSLHD reflecting the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. District waitlist sessions continue across all sites to prioritise overdue patients for surgery where clinically appropriate.

ESAP for Category 1 patients was 99% against the target of 100%. Category 2 ESAP was 93% against the target of 97%, and Category 3 ESAP was 95% against the target of 97%.

A project focused on the management of surgical waitlists is currently being undertaken in an effort to improve surgical performance.

Average Length of Stay (ALOS)

The ALOS (rolling 12 month) at RNSH for May 2021 was 5.19 days. This is above the target of 4.82 days.

The ALOS (rolling 12 month) at HKH for May 2021 was 3.55 days. The ALOS at HKH has been consistently below the target of 3.92 days for 12 months.

The ALOS (rolling 12 month) at Ryde for May 2021 was 4.55 days. This is above the target of 3.74 days.

NORTHERN BEACHES HOSPITAL (NBH) REPORT

ED Presentations

ED presentations to NBH for May 2021 (6,574 presentations, excluding COVID-19 Clinic presentations) increased by 438 presentations when compared to April 2021 (6,136 presentations). NBH recorded 2,815 COVID-19 Clinic presentations for May 2021.

Transfer of Care (ToC)

NBH continues to perform strongly against ToC targets, achieving 99.2% in May 2021.

Emergency Treatment Performance (ETP)

As COVID-19 Clinic presentations are registered as Category 5 ED Activity, ETP accuracy may be affected.

Overall ETP at NBH was 79.3% in May 2021, an increase of 3.1% from April 2021 (76.2%).

Admitted ETP at NBH was 44.2% in May 2021, a decrease of 0.3% from April 2021 (44.5%).

SERVICE IMPROVEMENT AND INNOVATION

Virtual Care

A number of services across NSLHD continue to be supported to introduce new models of care using Telehealth. Services include the RNSH Ambulatory Care Centre, Palliative Care, Oral Health, Ryde Endocrinology and RNSH Women's Health Ambulatory Care.

Outpatients

NSLHD is partnering with HealthLink to roll out electronic referrals between GPs and District services. The electronic GP referral solution will improve the delivery of comprehensive, clinically relevant patient referrals between GPs and outpatient services. The HealthLink solution will first be piloted with the Acute Post-Acute Care (APAC) service before being rolled out to Outpatient Clinics.

INTEGRATED CARE

Planned Care for Better Health (PCBH)

Progress against the NSW Health integrated care key initiative, PCBH continues. PCBH focuses on the coordination of care between the patient, primary care and community health, providing people with a better healthcare experience closer to home. The PCBH Project Team have now implemented a standardised patient goal setting document that defines the care intervention and outlines a standardised set of discharge criteria that is discussed with the patient every 12 weeks. Work is underway to utilise the Patient Flow Portal to identify, assess and select suitable patients for the initiative.

Collaborative Commissioning

The Rapid Care for Frail and Older People Pathway has undergone initial sustainability testing with the Ministry of Health (MoH). A Heads of Agreement between NSLHD, Sydney North Health Network and the MoH is being developed and will be finalised in August 2021. The Heads of Agreement will provide a record of expected outcomes, anticipated financial support and planned use of funds to achieve outcome targets.

Specialist Outreach to Primary Care (SOFC)

The SOFC initiative was launched in April 2021, aimed at building the capability of GPs to assess and manage a variety of medical conditions, and provide their patients with specialist assessment and care in the community. Over 130 referrals have been received since the initiative was launched and outcome reporting is underway.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

General Fund

Overview

Including COVID-19 and vaccination costs, the District concluded the financial year with a Net Cost of Service (NCOS) of \$2.2m (0.9%) favourable for the month and \$25.6m (-1.5%) unfavourable for the full year.

Excluding COVID-19 and vaccination costs, the NCOS result was \$5.2m (-2.2%) unfavourable for the month and \$26.0m (-1.6%) unfavourable for the full year.

The financial year result includes COVID-19 and vaccination costs of \$106.8m funded by the MoH.

The District was able to achieve \$10.7m worth of Roadmap savings out of the \$11.7m initial Roadmap target. The District will continue to rigorously pursue further Roadmap saving opportunities throughout 2021/22.

District Finance continuously monitor the District's COVID-19 response and is working closely with the MoH to assess its impact on the financial results for 2021/22.

Total Expenses

Total Expense after adjusting for COVID-19 impact was \$1.9m (-0.1%) unfavourable for the full year.

From July 2020 to May 2021, Acute Inpatient Services was 685 NWAU (-0.7%) below Target. NSLHD Emergency Departments were 712 NWAU (-3.2%) below Target. Acute Separations activity as at June 30, was 10,289 below target (-8.9%) for the full year along with Emergency Department presentations being 5,479 below target (-3.4%).

Revenue

Total Revenue for June 2021 was \$2.7m (-11.4%) unfavourable, resulting in \$19.7m (-6.3%) unfavourable YTD. After adjusting for COVID-19, Total Revenue was \$20.5m (-7.1%) unfavourable YTD.

SERVICE UPDATES

Aboriginal Health Service

NAIDOC Week was celebrated from 4 July – 11 July 2021. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, all staff were encouraged to celebrate in a COVID-19 safe way by virtually attending online events available in the NAIDOC Week Official Calendar, displaying NAIDOC Week posters in their ward or department and supporting their local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

The construction of a Yarning Circle at Ryde Hospital is underway, with anticipated completion by July 2021. The Yarning Circle will be located next to the Ryde Community Mental Health Centre under a jacaranda tree. Yarning Circles have been used by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people for thousands of years and create a culturally safe and welcoming environment to build respectful relationships and pass on wisdom and knowledge.

Allied Health

Senior Allied Health clinicians and managers have been engaged in the ICT Comprehensive Care electronic Medical Record (eMR) project. NSLHD has been selected as the pilot site for the project, aimed at enhancing and redesigning eMR functionalities to meet the National Safety and Quality Health Service (NSQHS) Comprehensive Care Standard. Allied Health clinicians have completed discipline specific interviews and participated a current state review workshop for the Risk Screening and Assessment solution. A future state review workshop involving Allied Health will take place in July 2021.

Mental Health, Drug & Alcohol (MHDA)

The Child and Youth Mental Health Youth Response Team (YRT) commenced operation on 21 June 2021. The YRT will provide outreach to young people aged 12-17 years who are in psychological distress, mental health crisis, or with suicidal ideation or behaviour. The outreach will include a face to face response by two staff, a risk assessment, safety plan, and referral or reconnection with support services ongoing. Where required, the YRT will assist with the admission process if the young person is not safe in the community.

The MHDA Consumer Peer Worker Scope of Practice Guideline (GE2021_006) was published on 25 May 2021. The Guideline outlines the role and scope of practice for Consumer Peer Workers employed in NSLHD MHDA.

Primary & Community Health (PACH)

The ComPacks suite of programs including Healthy at Home (HaH), Safe and Supported at Home (SaSH) and End of Life (EOL) have been renamed by the MoH as the Out of Hospital Care (OHC) Program. The new Program now offers improved opportunities to care for people at home after hospitalisation and to prevent avoidable hospital admissions. OHC packages deliver low to medium levels of care which include non-clinical case management and home care services such as personal care, domestic assistance, meals, transport, respite and social support.

The EoL packages commenced on 1 July 2021, aimed at support patients with a progressive life limiting illness or condition. The packages are designed for patients who are in the deteriorating or terminal phase of their illness or condition, require assistance with daily living tasks and wish to die in their own home or to remain at home for as long as possible. The package can also support family members or carers. Referrals can be made from the inpatient or outpatient settings and from local health district community-based teams, including (but not limited to) Specialist Palliative Care, Community Nursing, Chronic Disease and Aged Care Assessment Teams.

Counter Disaster

Background testing of the Government Radio Network (GRN) radio coverage and scoping of the backup phone locations at HKH are underway.

In partnership with the regional Welfare Services Functional Area, an educational video has been created to build on the evacuation centre suitability assessments and showcase the role of NSW Health in assisting with in the delivery of Welfare Services. The video showcases the operational requirements and functions of an evacuation centre and will be used in Resilience NSW training programs.

COMMUNICATIONS

Internal All-Staff Media

- Two NSLHD newsletters published in June 2021
- Chief Executive broadcasts on COVID-19 including Astra-Zeneca vaccinations, COVID-19 restrictions, COVID-19 leave provisions and stay at home orders, COVID-19 and flu vaccination waiting period change, mask wearing and priority vaccinations for staff, and Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) High Transmission (AMBER and RED Alert) updates
- Chief Executive broadcasts on the RNSH COVID-19 event and staffing updates
- Chief Executive broadcast on resignation of NSLHD Medical Executive Director
- Chief Executive broadcast on the NSLHD and NORTH Foundation Grants Program
- Chief Executive broadcast on the Patient Safety Culture Survey
- Chief Executive broadcast on the NSLHD Senior Leadership Development Program
- Announcement of NSLHD Quality and Improvement Awards 2021
- Promotion of Ramsay Health grants

Social Media

- The NSLHD Facebook page has reached 192,000 people and 76 posts were published in June 2021
- The NSLHD Twitter page had 6,000 views in June 2021
- The NSLHD LinkedIn page had 150 new followers in June 2021
- The NSLHD Instagram page reach increased by 50% to almost 1,900 unique users

External Media

- Meningococcal update on cases provided to Manly Daily
- Leptospirosis statement provided to Manly Daily
- Story pitched to Channel 9 News on a new book for parents in the NICU (story to be filmed when COVID-19 restrictions ease)
- Story pitched to The Bush Telegraph on the new Parkinson Rehabilitation Clinic at HKH
- Ryde Hospital redevelopment communications to the community, including website and newsletter material
- Channel 9 News broadcast on international trial investigating the effectiveness of knee transplant surgery lead by Associate Professor Manuela Ferreira, Senior Researcher, Kolling Institute
- Publication of NSLHD clinicians, volunteers and researchers who were recognised on the Queen's Birthday 2021 Honour List
- The Medical Republic published an article on an online exercise program for those with knee osteoarthritis lead by Professor David Hunter
- North Shore Living published research on the long term health impacts of minor car crashes by Professor Jim Elliott, A/Executive Director, Kolling Institute
- Promotion of an Australian Government 2021 Comcare National Work Health and Safety Award for a Kolling Institute research team who developed a program to support people who return to work after injury
- Promotion of funding for Kolling Institute and NSLHD researchers Professor Sarah Hilmer and A/Professor Fiona Robinson, who will drive a national project to improve the use of medicines in the community

Upcoming Events

- NSLHD Exceptional People Awards open
- NSW Health Awards open
- NAIDOC Week (4 July – 11 July 2021)

Projects

- NSLHD Website developments and enhancements

- COVID-19 support to vaccination hubs and hospitals
- COVID-19 historical book
NSLHD 2021 Research Annual Report

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

Clinical Informatics Projects

Electronic Medical Record (eMR) enhancements

As NSLHD and eHealth NSW continue to collaborate on several eMR solutions, the governance, change management and training approach have been aligned under the one eMR enhancements banner to ensure the success and effective delivery of each solution. These include:

- **Comprehensive Care:** The pilot aims to develop eMR tools that better collect and document comprehensive care information and plans. Current focus is on risk screening, assessment and diagnosis solutions.
- **Smoking Cessation:** The project is aimed at supporting the delivery and documentation of smoking cessation interventions. The Smoking Cessation Steering Committee continues to meet regularly and planning for change and adoption activities has commenced. It is anticipated that the project will go-live in November 2021.
- **eMeds Solutions:** Enhancements to IV Fluid Management and Patient Friendly Medication Lists will go-live in 2022.

NSLHD continues to partner with eHealth NSW to implement a number of key ICT projects. Key project updates include:

- **Waitlist Optimisation Project:** Work on a state-wide initiative to modernise the current waitlist functionality is underway and is expected to be implemented by November 2021.
- **End of Life Care:** Work is underway with the Palliative Care community team to establish clinics for the delivery of End of Life Care services and to automate the Palliative Care Outcomes Collaboration (PCOC) reporting using the eMR platform.
- **Drug Burden Index (DBI):** The DBI pilot is undergoing an evaluation that will be complete by August 2021.
- **Electronic Record for Intensive Care (eRIC) and eMR Interoperability:** The Proof of Concept between eRIC and eMR has been successfully implemented at RNSH and HKH. The evaluation phase will be complete by July 2021 and will include system enhancements.

State-wide RIS/PACS Program (Medical Imaging System Replacement/Upgrade)

The new RIS-PACS solution was implemented at RNSH on 1 June 2021. Performance issues will be addressed by a version upgrade that will be tested and implemented in July 2021. The Project Steering Committee have endorsed an extension to complete implementation of additional application functionalities.

Cyber Security

Work has commenced in partnership with eHealth NSW on the annual attestation against the NSW Cyber Security Policy documents which assess maturity against the security controls defined in the Policy. The attestation reports will be provided to the Chief Executive for approval prior to submission to eHealth in July 2021.

Annual network testing was completed in May 2021 to proactively scan for network vulnerabilities. The testing report was released in June 2021 and ICT is prioritising identified remediation tasks.

NSLHD Cyber Security Roadmap activities continue with a current focus on improving the technology and configuration of the ICT network to better manage and monitor ICT systems. Planning is underway to develop the Cyber Security Roadmap for 2021-22 with a focus on protecting core infrastructure and frequently used patient applications.

Active Directory Migration

The NSLHD and eHealth project to migrate computers to the NSW Health (state-wide) Active Directory continues and is currently at 62% completion as of 30 June 2021. All computers at RNSH, HKH, Ryde Hospital, MVH, Macquarie Hospital and Northern Sydney Community Health Centres have been migrated.

MEDICAL SERVICES

Junior Medical Officers (JMO)

The JMO Annual Medical Recruitment Campaign for the 2022 Clinical Year has commenced and will include 700 JMO positions. Early Round positions are in currently being advertised and all other positions will be advertised from 22 July 2021.

Senior Medical Officers

Staff Specialists have submitted their annual Private Practice Level Election change using the new Electronic Rights of Private Practice (eRoPP) system. There were 17 election change requests made.

NURSING AND MIDWIFERY

Nursing and Midwifery Unit Manager Professional Development Day

The Nursing Unit Managers (NUMs) and Midwifery Unit Managers (MUMs) Professional Development Day was held on 18 June 2021, facilitated by Professor Emerita Mary Chiarella AM. 66 NUMs and MUMs from across the District were in attendance and were acknowledged for their resilience during the COVID-19 pandemic and their role in continuing to lead the delivery of high quality nursing and midwifery care.

COVID-19 Response Services

Vaccination Hubs

COVID-19 Vaccination Hubs at RNSH, HKH and MVH remain operational and vaccinate an average of 5,000 people per week. NSLHD also continues to provide additional nursing staff to support the NSW Health Homebush Vaccination Centre and state-wide Casual Nurse Immuniser Pool.

Nursing and Midwifery Workforce

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) Registrations

All Nursing and Midwifery AHPRA registrations were due for renewal on 31 May 2021. Ongoing monitoring is being undertaken to ensure that all nurses and midwives have re-registered and are compliant with professional standards.

Casual Recruitment

Recruitment is underway for Casual Assistants in Nursing (AINs) for both the acute and MHDA casual pools.

GradStart: Graduate Nursing and Midwifery Recruitment

The July intake of GradStart nurses commenced across NSLHD on 12 July 2021. A selection of GradStart nurses will undertake their first rotation within an NSLHD facility or service, and the second rotation will be in one of the NSLHD COVID-19 Clinics or Vaccination Hubs.

Maternity Services

The Clinical Excellence Commission launched the new Maternity and Neonatal Safety Program on 21 June 2021. The Program addresses systematic safety and quality issues for mothers and babies in NSW and has been rolled out across the NSLHD Maternal, Neonatal and Women's Health Clinical Network.

The Australian Government have produced a COVID-19 Vaccination Decision Guide for women who are pregnant, breastfeeding or planning pregnancy. The Guide is designed to assist women in making informed decisions about being vaccinated for COVID-19 and is now being utilised by women and their maternity care providers in NSLHD.

Patient Access and Logistic Unit (PALS)

In collaboration with HealthShare NSW, PALS will be assessing the potential for a proposed Patient Transport Service (PTS) led Taxi service for transferring clinically appropriate patients out of the RNSH ED. The goal of this program is to achieve financial savings and reduce the overall demand for PTS transport crews and improve patient flow.

PEOPLE AND CULTURE

Staff COVID-19 Vaccinations

Over 80% of NSLHD staff have now been fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

People Matter Employee Engagement Survey

Preparations for the 2021 NSW Public Service Commission People Matter Employee Survey are underway. The survey will be available from 23 August 2021 and 17 September 2021.

Moments that Matter

An online resource titled 'Moments that Matter' will launch in August 2021. Moments that Matter will staff with access to a new and existing range of resources and programs on wellbeing, diversity, inclusion and belonging and, organisational culture.

Paid Parental Leave Scheme

Enhancements to the NSW Government's paid parental leave scheme came into effect from 1 July 2021. The enhancements expand on the previous parental leave provisions and provide greater access to paid parental leave to eligible employees, regardless of gender. Entitlements for Other Parent paid parental leave have now expanded to enable up to two weeks paid leave at the time of birth, adoption or surrogacy (an increase of one week) and up to 12 weeks paid parental leave if the Other Parent takes on primary responsibility for the care of their child during the first 12 months.

RESEARCH

Sydney Health Partners (SHP)

Documentation for the Research Passport has been finalised between the health service partner organisations, and a trial will commence across NSLHD and Western Sydney Local Health District.

NSLHD Research Strategy 2019-2024

All short-term initiatives identified in the NSLHD Research Strategy 2019-2024 will be shortly completed. NSLHD has moved into the mid-term initiatives, in conjunction with the NSLHD Research Advisory Committee. The mid-term initiatives are more strategic, and include developing priority areas and continuing to grow our research impact and culture.

Nursing Research and Practice Development

Key updates for Nursing Research and Practice Development include:

- 36 peer reviewed Nursing and Midwifery (N&M) publications for 2021
- NSLHD Ramsay Grant awarded to Julia Pilowsky RN for PhD study
- Two NSW Health Nursing and Midwifery Operations (NaMO) Nurse Strategy Fund 2021-2022 applications submitted
- Four NSW Health NaMO Nursing Innovation Scholarship 2021-2022 applications submitted
- Nurse Practitioner intranet website updated to include MoH policy release

- Researcher education program for 2021 sessions via Skype continue
- Clinical Researcher Development Program underway
 - Workshop 1: Translating Research into Practice
 - Workshop 2: Exploring The Research Question & Research Design
 - Workshop 3: Research Methods & Data Collection
 - Workshop 4: Exploring Data – Qualitative Data Analysis
 - Workshop 5: Writing Reports & Publishing Your Work
- Health Informatics Mentorship Program progressing well; 12 CN/MCs, CN/MS and CNEs are and will be completed as at 28 June 2021
- NSLHD N&M Research and Practice Development Monthly Newsletter
- Research/practice inquiry consultations provided to nurses and midwives included improving the continuity of care for orthopaedic patients and quality improvement processes.

Kolling Institute

The Kolling Executive Committee is in the process of finalising the Kolling Research Strategy Implementation Plan that will guide the operationalisation of the strategy and associated prioritisation of tasks. A Priority Research Area (PRA) cohesive research plan is also being finalised.

Kolling Institute researchers have contributed to the development of a strategic research infrastructure roadmap that will help inform infrastructure investment from the joint venture partners over the next 5 years. Further work is progressing on an equipment support model to optimise the technical assistance and training available to researchers and students.

NORTH FOUNDATION

End of Financial Year Results

The NORTH Foundation raised over \$13.3 million over the last 12 months, making the 2021/22 financial year their most successful fundraising year. In addition, over \$320,000 has been raised in the 2021 Tax Appeal.

NSLHD and NORTH Foundation Grants Program

The first round of the NSLHD-NORTH Foundation Grants Program closes on 18 July 2021. 18 applications have been received to date from a broad range of clinicians and researchers across the District.

HOC MÃI - THE AUSTRALIA VIETNAM MEDICAL FOUNDATION

The Học Mãi Foundation will officially established as a business unit of NSLHD in July 2021. Học Mãi are a not-for-profit organisation who work to improve the quality of healthcare in Vietnam through the ongoing education and leadership development of healthcare professionals via exchange and in-country support. The new partnership builds upon an already strong and established relationship between Học Mãi and NSLHD where students from partner institutes and medical universities across Vietnam have been undertaking clinical placements at the Northern Clinical School, Royal North Shore Hospital.



Deb Willcox
Chief Executive
Date: 13/07/2021