

To fulfil its mission of helping people to better health and well-being, Queensland Health is guided by three strategic directions contained in its ten-year Strategic Plan: 1-addressing the burden of disease, 2-improving Indigenous health and 3-balancing the investment in health. Each strategic direction contains a number of individual strategies, each of which has a direct impact on patient care. These strategies represent our core commitments to the people of Queensland.

Strategic direction 1

Addressing the burden of disease

To reduce the burden of disease, Queensland Health has focused on:

- developing a corporate culture of evidence-based health care
- addressing the major causes of death and disability by developing and implementing Health Outcomes Plans
- developing strategic policy frameworks to address the specific health needs of population groups
- prevention and early intervention to reduce the incidence of illness and injury
- providing timely, safe and effective treatments where required, and ensuring continuing professional review of clinical pathways and protocols
- supporting the functional status and independence and maintaining the dignity and quality of life of frail older people and those requiring continuing care

Strategic direction 2

Improving Indigenous health

Queensland Health is committed to reducing the differences in health status and outcomes between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Queenslanders. Every day, we:

- actively promote the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across government and in the general community
- inform Indigenous people of their rights to accessible and equitable health services
- ensure the participation of Indigenous people in the planning and delivery of health services to achieve positive health outcomes
- implement the Queensland Health Indigenous Workforce Strategy, which will increase the number of Indigenous people employed in the department, including the number in decision-making positions

Strategic direction 3

Balancing our investment in health

A sustainable health system – one that responds to the challenges of chronic illness, an ageing and growing population, rising health care costs and new technologies – demands a balanced investment in health. Queensland Health is meeting these challenges by:

- balancing our investment in health to reflect our commitment to health-enhancing environments and communities, consistent with the Queensland Government's priorities
- working with other agencies to ensure effective whole-of-government policies that provide the essentials for health – healthy liveable environments, safe cohesive communities, access to quality education and paid employment
- attracting, developing and endeavouring to retain a highly skilled workforce
- expanding and maintaining the physical assets – buildings, medical technologies and information systems including telehealth – needed to support our workforce
- developing partnerships with general practice, other private providers and non-government agencies to improve access to effective health services for Queenslanders in all parts of the State