



Overseas travel

In the health industry, travel by clinical and professional staff is critical to upgrade knowledge and skills, keep up with trends in health care particularly in relation to health systems and medical technology and to transfer Queensland

Approximately 99 per cent of the trips were to attend conferences, congresses and seminars to present papers or to participate in training, study tours and visits to international health facilities. The remaining one per cent of travel related to health administration and management outcomes.

Seventy-five per cent of all trips (372) were for award-based travel with a total expenditure of \$1,736,089.18 and 126 trips were for non-award based travel at a cost of \$427,958.62, of which 52 per cent was from trust funds.

Funding sources for all travel comprised \$1,841,171.29 from operational budgets with 15 per cent of all costs for travel coming from trust funds. Additional funding amounting to \$57,859.37 came from external sources and is not included in the below figures.

<i>Destinations</i>	<i>Number of trips</i>	<i>% of trips</i>
Europe	151	30
New Zealand	149	30
North America	135	27
Asia	44	9
Africa	10	2
South America	9	2

Consultancy expenditure

<i>Consultancy category</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
Administration	1,219,042.34
Financial and Accounting	0.00
Information and technology	0.00
Human Resource Management	552,028.18
Communications	0.00
Professional and technical	418,548.51
Total	2,189,619.03

Clinical drug trials

Queensland Health participates in a wide range of clinical trials sponsored by the pharmaceutical industry. These trials contribute significantly to the continuing progress of medical treatment.

In 2003-04, 11 health service districts participated in clinical drug trials worth over \$4 million in sponsorship from a wide variety of pharmaceutical companies.

In accordance with the National Statement on the Ethical Conduct of Research Involving Humans, all research, including clinical trials carried out in Queensland Health facilities are subject to stringent examination by the Human Research Ethics Committee.

Researchers are required to demonstrate that informed consent is obtained from all participants before they are recruited into trials. Research protocols must include close monitoring of patients involved. All serious adverse incidents are reported to the Human Research Ethics Committee.

All funds received from pharmaceutical companies to conduct research are managed according to Queensland Health financial practice management standards.

The Office of the Chief Health Officer's responsibilities in relation to clinical drug trials include:



- ensuring appropriate and efficient ethics review and supervision;
- developing systems to ensure uniform financial management practices associated with clinical drug trials;
- enhancing monitoring and reporting process of clinical drug trials, including the development and maintenance of the Queensland Health Research Registry which records all clinical drug trials conducted in Queensland Health facilities.

Sponsorship for clinical drug trials in Queensland Health facilities 2003-04

<i>Health Service District</i>	<i>Amount received \$</i>
<i>Northern Zone</i>	
Cairns	471,279
Sub-total	471,279
<i>Central Zone</i>	
Redcliffe-Caboolture	179,577
Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital	1,662,748
Royal Children's Hospital	55,000
Sunshine Coast	182,770
The Prince Charles Hospital	346,381
Sub-total	2,426,476
<i>Southern Zone</i>	
Bayside	45,165
Gold Coast	392,925
Logan-Beaudesert	155,605
Princess Alexandra Hospital	485,977
Queen Elizabeth II	43,759
Sub-total	1,123,431
Total	4,021,186

Native Title

The Queensland Government Native Title work procedures ensure that Native Title issues are considered in all departmental land and natural resource management activities.

All dealings pertaining to land held by or on behalf of Queensland Health must take Native Title into account before proceeding. These dealings include disposal, acquisition, development, redevelopment, clearing, fencing and the granting of leases, licences or permits.

Dealings may proceed on departmental land, where Native Title continues to exist, provided native title holders or claimants receive the necessary procedural rights.

In accordance with State Government land policies, in most cases once Native Title over a particular holding is cleared, Queensland Health is required to convert the title to Crown freehold.

The Asset Management Unit, Capital Works and Asset Management Branch has completed Native Title assessment of a total of 77.3 per cent of departmental land holdings, 93.5 per cent of which have been cleared of Native Title. Some 88.3 per cent of those sites cleared of Native Title have now been converted to freehold tenure.

Native Title claims lodged in Queensland Health Service Districts 2003-04

<i>District</i>	<i>Number of claims</i>
Cairns	3
Cape York	5
Charleville	1
Charters Towers	2
Charters Towers/Tablelands	1
Innisfail	1
Moranbah	1
Mt Isa	3
Toowoomba/West Moreton/ Logan-Beaudesert/Princess Alexandra Hospital/ Bayside	1
Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula	1
Total Claims	19