



Ensuring a strong, vibrant and well-governed research and health care environment

Our Purpose

This research strategy aims to strengthen and build current and future research efforts. The Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service (TCHHS) is working to ensure a strong, vibrant and well-governed research and health care environment, with an organisational culture that supports research.

The integration of high-quality health delivery, education and research is aimed for all healthcare provided in the TCHHS, with improved health outcomes in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous populations.

It is the TCHHS Board's intention to support and encourage research in a strategic and coherent way, with research that is well profiled, provides translational benefits to our communities and is positioned to take advantage of local, state, national and international opportunities.

Our Priorities

1. To achieve excellence, innovation and translation of research benefits in identified health and medical research priorities
2. To shape an environment that builds research capacity and fosters collaboration between HHS employees, partners and community stakeholders
3. To enhance resourcing of research to build a sustainable research future

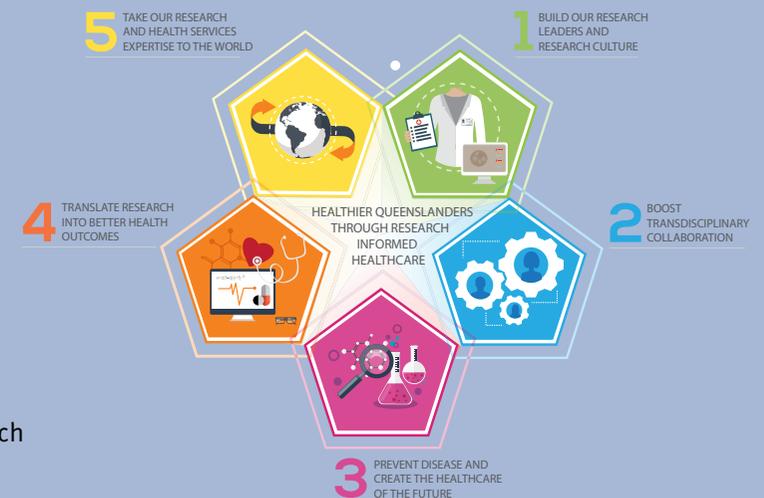


Alignment

Our Research Strategy is aligned with:

- TCHHS Strategic Plan 2019- 2023
- TCHHS Clinical Services Plan 2016-2026
- TCHHS Safety and Quality Framework
- Queensland Advancing Health Research 2026
- Clinical Operational Plan 2020-2021

This strategy addresses research priorities, collaboration activities, actions to support research capacity building, enhanced governance and reporting activities and aims to build corporate support for research undertaken in the Hospital and Health Service.



Torres and Cape Hospital and Health Service Research Strategy 2020 - 2024

Achieve excellence, innovation and translation of research benefits in identified health and medical research priorities.

Actions

- Foster links to support research with the best researchers in research priority areas of:
 - › Chronic disease
 - › Diabetes
 - › Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health
 - › Oral health
 - › Child and maternal health
 - › Rural and remote health
 - › Workforce design/Information sharing technologies
- Foster research in health service contexts to embed evidence-based diagnosis, treatment and preventative health approaches to improve clinical health services, health outcomes and to reduce the burden of chronic disease in communities and patients.
- Build on existing unique capabilities in the TCHHS to develop innovation in tropical diseases research.

Measures of success

- » Measure the number of targeted research projects which align with these TCHHS priorities.
- » Support externally initiated research which focuses on our identified work-force issues and diseases and aligns with our Strategic Plan 2019- 2023 revised 2020, the Clinical Services Plan 2019-2029, Clinical Operational Plan 2020-2021 and the TCHHS Safety and Quality Framework
- » As a founding member of the Tropical Australian Academic Health Centre (TAAHC), support and collaborate in research focusing on neglected tropical disease research. Continue to partner in research with other academic institutions

Build research capacity and foster collaboration between HHS employees, partners and community stakeholders.

Actions

- Develop strong research leadership within the TCHHS work profile which bridges academic and clinical contexts.
- Develop arrangements that assist academic researchers and clinicians to work together.
- Support training and other strategies to build capacity for research.
- Build local, regional and rural networks for practice based research across work streams.

Measures of success

- » Support and link Executives with Academic affiliations with external Principle Investigators with a view to linking researchers with TCHHS local site contacts. Initiating development of a TCHHS Research Community of Practice.
- » Promote inclusion of targets for research by work stream (facilitating time to allow collaboration)
- » Develop, deliver, and promote research ethics and training courses (also available as online modules). Lobby for inclusion of research activities in Career Success Plan discussions. Provide career pathways and development opportunities for staff intending to undertake research.
- » Engagement with Consumer Advisory Committee and Clinical Council enabling consultation and provision of feedback on research related issues

Enhance resourcing of research to build a sustainable research future.

Actions

- Develop the business capacity and financial sustainability of research activity in the TCHHS.
- Develop business support functions to ensure research is cost neutral or provides additional revenue.
- Aim for operational excellence and innovation in services and facilities for research purposes.
- Align TCHHS research priorities with the plans and strategies of our key stakeholders and partners, actively seeking engagement with them in research conducted in the HHS
- Establish opportunities for philanthropic donations to support TCHHS research activities through developing and implementing a research awareness strategy within the TCHHS Community Engagement strategy.
- Promote current research and researchers in the region and highlight the benefits of research in the TCHHS to researchers

Measures of success

- » Financial management of research continuing as identified as part of finance support role, with assistance for researchers in developing research budgets
- » Identify or lobby for teaching, education and research funds in budgets to support capacity building activities. Identify teaching, education and research funds in pooled funding. Lobby for development of research grant acquittal and reporting functions as part of business roles.
- » Lobby for new job descriptions to ensure research activity included with scope for research within clinical operations supported.
- » Participate in developing and collaborating in research with TAAHC partners.
- » Identify funding opportunities for donations to research, establishment of research grants program.
- » Dissemination of outcomes and links to research article in the TCHHS newsletter. Increase in use of social media platforms and research champions to promote benefits and opportunities from translation of research benefits to staff, stakeholders and communities.