

Queensland Health Rheumatic Heart Disease Register

Information for healthcare professionals

The Queensland Rheumatic Heart Disease Register

The Queensland Rheumatic Heart Disease (RHD) Register (Register) is a secure statewide disease database that supports healthcare providers with the long-term management of patients living with Acute Rheumatic Fever (ARF) and RHD.

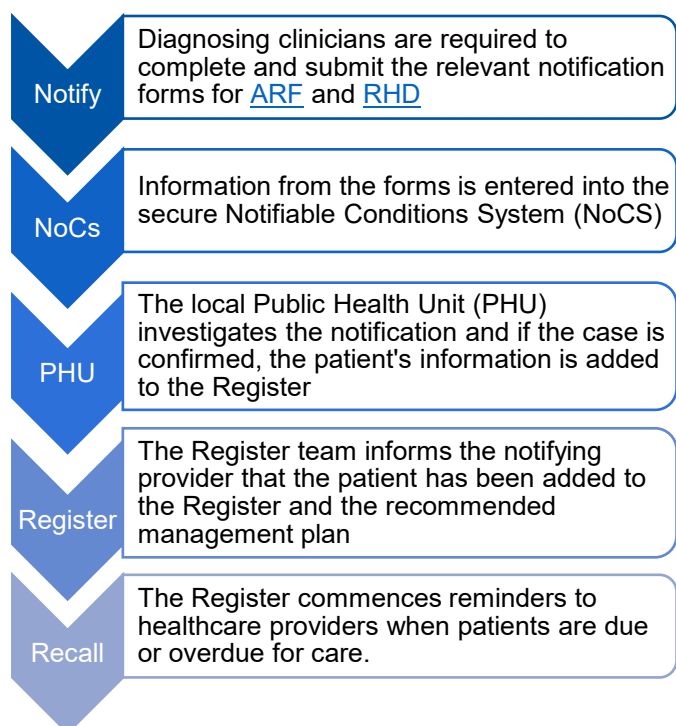
The role of healthcare providers

Healthcare providers play an important role in addressing ARF and RHD by:

- Notifying new diagnoses of ARF and RHD
- Informing patients about the Register
- Treating and managing patients in accordance with [National Guidelines](#)
- Updating the Register with patient treatment, management and movement updates

How is a patient added to the Register?

ARF and RHD are notifiable conditions in Queensland under the *Public Health Act 2005*.



Patient management plans on the Register

- A patient's age and current diagnosis determines the recommended management plan, including the need and duration of secondary prophylaxis, in accordance with [National Guidelines](#).
- Updates to patient management plans on the Register are informed by surveillance echocardiograms and medical and specialist reviews received by the Register from healthcare providers.

Information collected on the Register

- Patient demographic and primary healthcare provider information.
- Diagnosis information, patient management plans, disease severity, follow-up frequency, and secondary prophylaxis recommendations.
- Dates of secondary prophylaxis injections, echocardiograms and specialist reviews.
- Pregnancy and surgery details relating to RHD.

Updating the Register

The Register relies entirely on healthcare providers sharing patient treatment, management and movement updates to maintain accurate patient records.

Updates can be made to the Register by:

- completing and returning the monthly Benzathine Benzylpenicillin recall list.
- completing and returning the quarterly echocardiogram recall list
- informing the Register of patient updates at time of care
- sharing relevant medical correspondence, including echocardiogram reports, specialist review letters and updates to secondary prophylaxis requirements

For more information visit [Update the Register | Queensland Health](#)

Inform patients about the Register

The Register uses an opt out participation model. This means that people are included on the Register unless they choose not to be.

It's important that healthcare providers inform patients about the Register. This includes explaining that a patient diagnosed with ARF and/or RHD is automatically added to the Register, what the Register is, how it supports their care, and that patients can opt out at any time.

Patients can opt out and rejoin the Register by:

- completing the forms
 - [Opt out of the RHD Register](#)
 - [Rejoin the RHD Register](#)
- asking their healthcare provider to submit a request on their behalf.
- contacting the Register directly

For more information visit [Informing patients about the Register](#).

Accessing patient information on the Register

- ARF and RHD information including disease history, management plans and secondary prophylaxis is available on [The Viewer](#) which can be accessed by all Queensland Health employees and eligible health practitioners working external to Queensland Health.
- Healthcare providers can request patient information relevant to patient care by contacting the Register.
- Direct access to the Register is available to Queensland Health employees managing patients with ARF or RHD by submitting a [request form](#) and completing the training.
- For more information visit [Access information on the Register](#).

Privacy collection notice for healthcare providers

Queensland Health collects limited personal information about healthcare providers for the purposes of ensuring appropriate patient follow-up and coordination of care for individuals living with ARF or RHD.

For more information visit [Privacy collection notice for healthcare providers](#)

Contacting the Register

The RHD Register can be contacted during business hours to assist healthcare providers with patient enquiries and guideline-based treatment and management of patients. The Register does not communicate directly with patients except when processing patient opt out/rejoin requests.



Phone: 1300 135 854



ArfRhdRegister@health.qld.gov.au



Fax: 1300 429 536

Resources

More resources are available online for the prevention and management of ARF and RHD.

