# Research Excellence Strategic Plan 2024–2029

## Strategic **Vision**

Striving for excellence and innovation in research to enhance health care provision to and with the communities of Far North Queensland.

### Research **Priorities**

- · Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health
- Tropical health and medicine
- · Health service research
- Equity of access to health care





#### **Enhance** partnerships

- Facilitate opportunities for working with academic and research partners through appointment of staff with dedicated time for research as part of their role description, at a level that will increase research in the organisation.
- Increase conjoint appointments across the clinical professions with the academic partners in the Far North and elsewhere.
- Facilitate research partnerships and collaborations with First Nations research.
- Be proactive in leading collaborative research with our strategic, academic, and professional partners to improve health outcomes in the tropical north of Australia.

#### **Enhance research support** and engagement

- Build on partnerships with Tropical Australian Academic Health Centre (TAAHC), such as the Study Design, Epidemiology and Biostatistics Support Service (SEBSS).
- The provision of academic support through:
  - > The above conjoint appointments across the professional streams
  - > Establishing research fellowships in the professional streams to encourage academic pathways.
  - > Establishing formal research support structures across the organisation.
- Increase the educational and training opportunities for prospective researchers.
- Increase and improve organisational research capacity with a focus on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce.
- Leverage the digital hospital to improve data set collection.
- Showcase research from across the CHHHS.
- Promote interprofessional research.

#### **Excellence in research** ethics and governance

- Embrace efficient electronic practice with the establishment of end-to-end electronic preparation and submission to the Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC).
- · Integrate the ethics and research governance systems to deliver efficiencies.
- · Establish effective systems to manage multi-annual grants across financial years.

#### **Expansion of** research activities

- Establish an academic community to lead, promote and supervise research and education fellowships and postgraduate students.
- Consolidate research and attract further expertise to develop a suite of Centres of Excellence, initially in the four research priority areas.
- Develop interprofessional and crossdisciplinary research networks across preventative and clinical service streams.
- Build on the capability and capacity of the Tropical Australia Academic Health Centre.
- Increase research capacity in rural facilities.
- Attract additional funding from the Far North Queensland Hospital Foundation, and internal and external grants.
- Increase research visibility throughout the CHHHS and highlight research achievements.

#### **Engagement** with Community

- Increase community co-design. participation and evaluation of research.
- Ensure governance of research through community members on the Human Research Ethics Committee.
- Explore and examine the establishment of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander review group.

First People

Our care

#### **Emphasise translating** research into practice

- Statewide, national and international dissemination of locally developed, evidencedriven models of care and research.
- Develop a suite of research training opportunities and mentoring/support networks to encourage the next generation of thought leaders.
- Host interprofessional research symposia and acknowledge translation into practice.
- Promote the Clinical Research Unit to attract more industrysponsored clinical trials and competitive research funding.

ustainability

#### **Enable a local Research and Innovation Precinct**

- Establish a physical research and education facility close to the Cairns Hospital with collaborative space for our partners.
- Support research on the conditions that matter to our Far North communities, including translational research, supporting evidence to practice.
- Create resources to build knowledge and understanding of our unique tropical health environment to attract and retain our clinician researchers.

**Cairns and Hinterland** Hospital and Health Service

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