# **BRISBANE**INTERACTIVE





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### SOUTH EAST QUEENSLAND Coast Children's Health Darling Torres North West Townsville Mackay **Central West** Central Queensland Wide Darling South West Downs

# Integrated/Collaborative Eyecare Queensland

## CHQ: PAEDIATRIC OPTOMETRY ALIGNMENT PROGRAM

**Objective**: Partner community optometrists with QCH ophthalmology to improve paediatric eye care access.

Scope of Care: Community optometrists provide follow-up care post-hospital discharge

#### **Key Elements**:

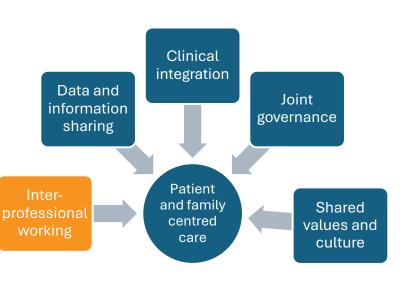
- Collaboration: Optometrists manage stable conditions; ophthalmologists handle complex.
- Governance: Multidisciplinary input to protocols and referral pathways.
- Education: CPD workshops and masterclasses build optometrists' skills in paediatric eye care.

#### **Evaluation and Outcomes:**

- Waiting Times: Reduced from 72% to 36%; decreased patient backlog.
- Satisfaction: High among families and optometrists.
- Improvements: Addressed communication barriers for better clinical handover.

#### **Current and Future Potential:**

- **Expansion**: Over 150 aligned optometrists; potential for national scalability.
- Adaptation: Model considered for other paediatric specialties and regions.



## MSHHS PAH: Optometrist and GP Alignment Program

**Objective**: Enhance eye care by aligning community optometrists and GPs with PAH specialists for managing low-risk, review patients.

#### **Key Benefits:**

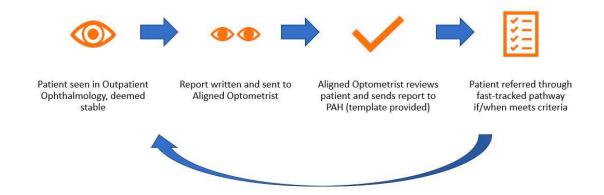
- Upskills local clinicians to manage stable eye conditions, reducing hospital referrals.
- Expert-led workshops improve community clinicians' capacity for comprehensive care.

**Improved Access**: Reduces wait times for complex cases by empowering local practitioners to manage stable conditions.

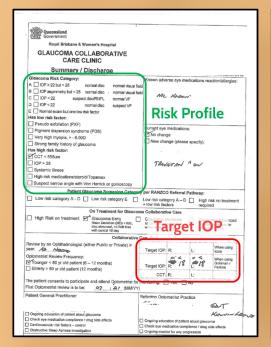
**Collaboration**: Strengthens partnerships between PAH specialists and community clinicians for seamless care pathways.

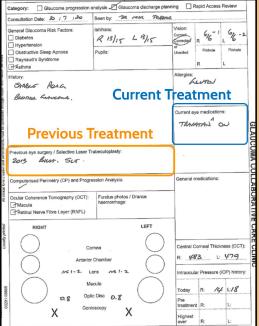
**Long-Term Impact**: Provides sustainable improvements in local eye care, benefiting both patients and clinicians.

### Alignment Program Model of Care



## MNHHS: RBWH Glaucoma CCC, IIH





This program aims to improve patient outcomes:

- by enhancing access to appropriate care for patients with glaucoma.
- by providing details of our relevant glaucoma findings which can be found in the attached copy of the Glaucoma Collaborative Clinic Form and test results.
- we also outline a minimum suggested follow-up schedule as well as target pressures and your patients' current treatment.

#### RAPID REENTRY RED FLAGS



- . Uncontrolled increased Intra Ocular Pressure 20% above target despite appropriate treatment
- 2. Significant progression on field test, O.C.T. or clinical parameters



- Intolerance or reaction to prescribed ophthalmic drops.
- 4. Any need for change to the R.B.W.H. glaucoma management.

N.B. other clinical changes that are not clearly related to glaucoma management should be referred by the usual pathways e.g. decreased vision for other ocular causes such as retinal vessel disease or cataract.

#### **ACTIONS REQUIRED FOR RAPID REENTRY RED FLAGS**

#### If Red Flag criteria:

- Send a NEW referral to CPIU for the Ophthalmology Department
- Include the following words on the new referral: RAPID REENTRY Red Flag urgent
- Include (specialised tests such as imaging reports / pathology reports as required)
- If the patient is experiencing acute, concerning deterioration, contact the on-call Ophthalmology Registrar for advice on 3646 8111.

contact the GCCC team via RBWH-OPHTHALMOLOGY-GCCC@health.qld.gov.au

## MNHHS: STARS Cataract Service

Cataract (and pterygium) surgical service

Referrals for cataract patients without co-morbidities

GP referrals require an accompanying Optometrist referral

Optometrist referrals do NOT require an accompanying GP referral

Referrals DIRECT to STARS

CAT 3: Documented cataract with significant impact on ADL, BCVA equal to or worse than 6/9 in either eye AND score of greater than or equal to 3 on the Visual Disability Assessment (VDA) Questionnaire

https://metronorth.health.qld.gov.au/specialist\_service/refer-your-patient/ophthalmology/cataracts



Community Optometry Review of Queensland Neurology Patients

**Trial:** Community optometrists review of stable IIH Px

Aims: Improve patient experience by receiving care closer to home

**Patient Identification:** Clinically suitable patients selected by RBWH Neuro-Ophthalmologist for inclusion in the trial.

**Optometrist Involvement:** Participating community Optometrist reviews patient and uses specialized software to send clinical data and images to RBWH Neurology.

**Treatment Plan:** Neuro-Ophthalmologist develops ongoing treatment plan and sends it back to the Optometrist.

Future Reviews: Scheduled with the participating Optometrist or at RBWH.

**Medicare & Fees:** Patients eligible for Medicare billing, and Optometrist receives a fee to cover imaging and reporting costs.

MetroNorthGPLO@health.qld.gov.au for EOI/further info



## Central Qld: Rockhampton ED Model

**Triaging Service:** Collaborates with RBH and RBWH to triage and manage patients, supporting emergency departments and post-discharge care.

**Paediatric & Neurology Care:** Assesses children referred from paediatric and neurology departments.

**Retina Care:** Pilot program for post-surgery retina patients, reducing the need for travel to Brisbane.

**Referral Criteria:** Developed criteria for eye condition referrals and treatment at RBH, aiming to embed optometrists at the hospital.

**Education:** Hosts medical students for eye rotations, supporting education and clinical training.

## Optometrists within Qld Health

- Optometry led clinics within Ophthalmology Departments
- Multi-disciplinary team clinics Ophthals, Orthoptists, Registrars,
  - CHQ: QCH
  - Metro South: PAH, Gunda Pa (RLH Redlands)
  - Metro North: STARS, Woodford correctional, GPLO
  - GC: GCUH
  - SC: Caloundra
  - Townsville: TH

#### The Viewer: Access to Patient Records in Queensland

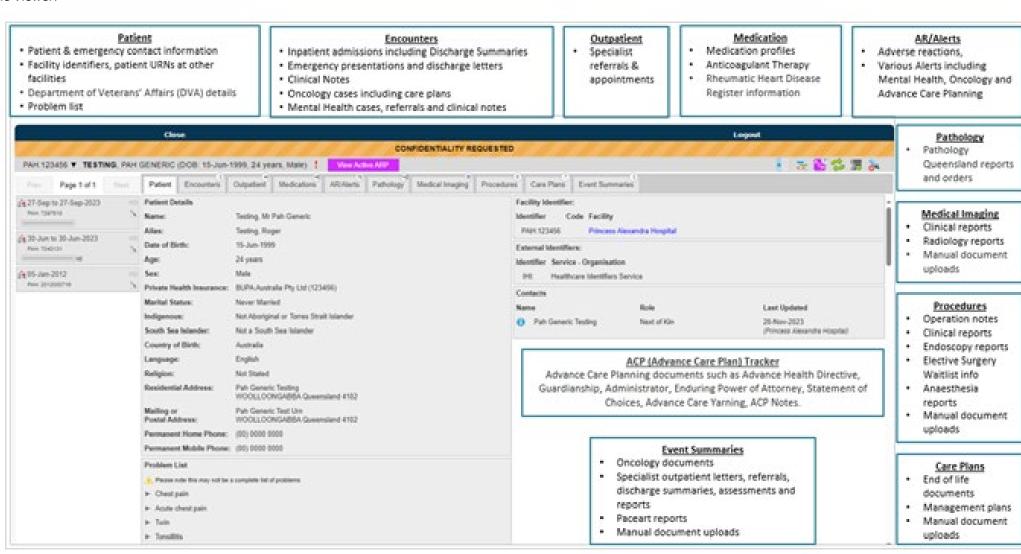
The Viewer is a Queensland Health application that collates patient information from more than 65 Queensland Health administrative and clinical applications.

How to access the Viewer: <a href="https://www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-practice/database-tools/the-viewer-for-external-providers/accessing#:~:text=To%20access%20The%20Viewer%2C%20you,only%20access%20the%20Viewer.">https://www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-practice/database-tools/the-viewer-for-external-providers/accessing#:~:text=To%20access%20The%20Viewer%2C%20you,only%20access%20the%20Viewer.</a> OR

https://www.health.qld.gov.au/ data/assets/pdf file/0020/1364501/TV-HPP-Quick-Guide.pdf

How to use the Viewer: https://www.health.gld.gov.au/clinical-practice/database-tools/the-viewer-for-external-providers/using#viewing

What is in the Viewer:



## Your Point of View:

Public and private pain points for provision of premier patient care

- Acute Sight-Threatening Emergency Care
- Chronic Care (Glaucoma, Diabetic Retinopathy)
- Aging Eyecare (e.g. Cataract, ARM)
- What is working well in your region?
- What are challenges
- Can you see some solutions?

## Acute Sight-Threatening Emergency Care:

- 1. What are the key challenges in coordinating care for acute sightthreatening emergencies in your area, and what's currently working well?
- 2. How can collaboration between optometrists and ophthalmologists be improved to ensure faster response times and better patient outcomes?
- 3. What role do optometrists currently play in emergency care, and how can this be expanded or improved?



- 1. What aspects of chronic eye care management are working well in your region, and where do you see opportunities for improvement?
- 2. How can we strengthen the partnership between optometrists and ophthalmologists to enhance long-term care for chronic conditions?
- 3. What are the biggest barriers to effective chronic care, and how can we address them collaboratively?



- 1. What's working in your region to meet the needs of aging populations with eye conditions like cataracts, and where are the gaps?
- 2. How can optometrists and ophthalmologists collaborate more effectively to improve care for aging patients across Queensland?
- 3. What innovative solutions have been successful in improving access and quality of care for aging populations in your area, and how can these be scaled?

## Your Thoughts.....