

BaSCI Update

The Statewide Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Project

JUNE 2023

Project Funding Announcement

Following the development and submission of initiatives from BaSCI Hospital and Health Service (HHS) sites, the System Quality Safety and Performance Management Committee reviewed and endorsed proposals for funding under the BaSCI project to June 2025. Deputy Director General, Clinical Excellence Queensland, Dr Helen Brown, noted the high quality of proposals received. Endorsed proposals will support improved access to specialist spinal cord injury services and acquired brain injury rehabilitation in Queensland over the next two years.

Almost \$7 million has been allocated to successful projects to be implemented locally through the 5 BaSCI HHSs. The work includes:

- Continued investment in the **spinal inpatient in-reach service**, QuickStart, delivered through Metro South HHS by the Queensland Spinal Cord Injuries Service (QSCIS). The new service supports people with newly acquired SCI and their treating team while waiting for an admission to the Spinal Injuries Unit or alternative pathway.
- Extension of **capacity and capability in Townsville for expanded specialist SCI service** and improved access to specialist care closer to home for people in the north of Queensland.
- Development of a networked model with **key spinal portfolios embedded in other BaSCI HHS** (Metro North, Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast) to support patients with SCI and build capability with clinicians to improve the flow of patients through the most appropriate available service pathway for their needs.
- Development of a **networked model of specialist ABI community rehabilitation** across Queensland through greater availability of outreach and case management services closer to home with a focus on community integration after an injury.

These initiatives will be delivered through the HHSs to 2025 in parallel to statewide portfolios of work that

continue to mature. These include strategies to address inequity of access and patient flow issues by standardising care pathways and refining meaningful data capture for improved patient outcomes and better service planning of ABI rehabilitation and SCI services in Queensland.

Register for the SHOWCASE 2023

The BaSCI Project and clinical community is mindful of the significant body of work occurring with the review of spinal services at present. We collectively send our support to all the patients and staff involved in this work and hope it progresses to deliver improvements in service access in Queensland. Given the demands of the review and the current timeframes we have decided to delay the planned showcase.

The event will now be held on Monday 30 October 2023 in Herston at 15 Butterfield Street.

[You can still register here.](#)

If you have previously registered your details remain on our records and you do not need to resubmit the form. We apologise for any inconvenience and thank you for your understanding.

Project restructure and key contacts

The statewide team in Healthcare Improvement Unit recently reviewed the project structure and working group functions with the leads of each of the established working groups and all the funded BaSCI HHS project officer and clinical leads roles.

The significant progress of these groups was highlighted. However it was noted there was a need for alignment across the groups to improve communication and support stakeholder expectations on clear deliverables and timeframes.

In response we will restructure the project working groups and consolidate memberships across two core groups: The BaSCI ABI and SCI Working Groups. These new groups will be leveraging the funded BaSCI Clinical Lead and Project Officer positions in each service plus key additional clinical and operational experts. They will take stewardship of and carry forward the work produced to date in the Pathways and Data workstreams and continue to progress the project deliverables at a statewide level.

The team in Healthcare Improvement Unit would like to acknowledge the contributions and efforts of all the people that have invested time and expertise in the working groups to date. Continued engagement through our key project contacts will allow for efficient consultation with the clinical community.

Key BaSCI Project contacts

Gold Coast HHS	Dr Ben Chen and Jessica Dawber
Metro South HHS	Dr Claire Panagoda (SCI). Dr Ryan Bell (ABI), Donna Harre and Glenn Verner-Wren
Metro North HHS	Dr Sarah Anderson (SCI), Dr Cassandra McLennan (ABI), Leah Vegh and Brooke Wadsworth
Sunshine Coast HHS	Dr Neala Milburn and Kate Harvey
Townsville HHS	Dr Paul Chapman and Jen Quail
Healthcare Improvement Unit	Louise O'Reilly

Clinical Excellence Queensland

a division of Queensland Health
Queensland Government
15 Butterfield Street Herston Qld 4006

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