



Merry Christmas!

FROM  
Advancing Kidney Care 2026

December 2020 Communique

## AKC2026 Collaborative - Chair's Message

With an approaching new year comes opportunity to pause and reflect about the year that has been. Our December Collaborative meeting included an extensive review of our program and consideration of future priorities. With a refreshed directive, AKC2026 is looking forward to an exciting and productive 2021. To quote Henry Ford "Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success." Our key goal, and how we measure success, remains in continuing to improve kidney health and kidney health services in Queensland's public health system.

This month's Communique includes a special focus on the Darling Downs Nocturnal Haemodialysis Program together with updates from the Program and highlights from the last two years.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to members of the Collaborative and the fabulous AKC2026 project team, for their time and dedication in taking forward this important work. A huge thank you also to all the teams across HHSs who have worked so hard to provide exceptional care to our renal patients through what has been a very challenging time.

Wishing you all a very happy and peaceful holiday season and warm wishes for the coming year.

**Lisa Davies Jones**

**Chair, AKC2026 Collaborative**

## Updates

### AKC2026 two-year review and future priorities

The Collaborative agreed a number of work priorities in 2021 including progressing key opportunities identified by the Statewide AKC2026 kidney services survey and baseline mapping report and a re-focusing of available resources towards goals 2 and 3 of the [AKC2026 Plan](#).

The AKC2026 two-year review and future priorities report was finalised for the December meeting with the aims of assessing progress against the AKC2026 Plan, Collaborative terms of reference and

projects undertaken by AKC2026.

Some of the priorities include:

- Continued development of the statewide Advancing Kidney Care Information System (AKCIS) for the delivery of set 2 by mid-2021. Planned for inclusion in Set 2 are new data sources from Pathology Queensland; the Queensland Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages; the Specialist Outpatient Data Collection; and The Viewer.
- Continued monitoring of funded renal initiatives and opportunities. This work includes the \$27.8M pledged commitments by the Queensland Government during the Queensland state election campaign noted below.
- Supporting strategies to increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioners training, development, attraction and retention to work across kidney care services which will assist in providing access to culturally appropriate care in a culturally safe environment.

For a copy of the two-year report highlights, please see the attached document, which will also be housed on the AKC2026 [website](#).

### AKC2026 program update

- The Renal Transplant Expansion project invited Hospital and Health Services to submit expressions of interest to host a second kidney transplant site in late August 2020. Submissions have been assessed by a 12-person selection panel, including expert interstate clinicians and consumers. No decision or public announcement has yet been made on the site for the second kidney transplant site.
- During the 2020 Queensland state election campaign, the Queensland Government committed \$27.8 million for additional dialysis capacity in rural and regional areas, informed from the AKC2026 regional, rural and remote dialysis work undertaken in early 2020. These additional treatment spaces will be built and opened in locations including Kowanyama, Proserpine, Longreach, Clermont, Charters Towers and Ingham. AKC2026 will be working with the Capital and Asset Services Branch and Hospital and Health Services to progress planning from early 2021.
- The Advancing Kidney Care Information Solution (AKCIS) has published the final Set 1 report (dialysis), which is in addition to acute kidney injury and kidney transplantation. These are interactive statewide reports which are published in Power BI and are created to support improvements in kidney health service delivery. Queensland Health (clinical and non-clinical) staff are invited to apply for access, using the online form [here](#).
- Funding to support the AKC2026 Children's Health Queensland Adolescent and Young Adult Kidney Transition Framework project has been approved, with the project to commence in early 2021.

*Background:* Access to a well-planned transition process involving transfer of care from the paediatric renal health service to adult renal health services is essential in ensuring optimal patient care and outcomes. Currently there is no standardised or comprehensive Queensland framework to support a planned and considered transfer of care of adolescent and young adults from specialist paediatric kidney care to adult kidney care services in Queensland.

The Collaborative, at the October 2020 meeting, approved progression of the Statewide Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Kidney Transition Framework project to address this need,

in partnership with the Queensland Child and Adolescent Renal Service.

### Metro North kidney supportive care symposium: Registrations now open!

AKC2026, utilising part of the \$50,000 first prize from the 2019 Queensland Health Awards for Excellence; Minister's Award for Excellence, is a platinum sponsor of the 2021 MNHHS kidney supportive care symposium.

**Date:** Friday the 12th of March 2021 at the RBWH Education Centre.  
For details including registration, please [the website](#).

## Special Focus

### The Darling Downs Nocturnal Haemodialysis Program

The Darling Downs Nocturnal Haemodialysis program, identified as innovative provisioning of this model of care during the AKC2026 state survey, has been published on the Clinical Excellence Queensland Improvement Exchange [here](#).

Nocturnal Haemodialysis is a model of care that supports patient self-management and improved health and outcomes, in addition to being a (renal) service improvement.

The opening of the new DDHHS home dialysis renal facility in May of 2019 has enabled select patients to independently and safely dialyse overnight who would otherwise not have this option if their own home environment wasn't suitable. This option includes access, safety and security considerations, with patients provided with a swipe card or key card to enter, in addition to provision of items such as TV, phone and kitchenette.

It takes positive intent, communication, skills and resourcing to support a health service and a consumer voice. "Research shows that partnering with consumers delivers positive results for both health organisations and health consumers/carers, better health outcomes for all and more accessible and responsive services" (Reference: [Health Consumers Queensland](#) "Partnering with Consumers").

This model of care is made possible by the Darling Downs innovative, specialised and dedicated renal staff who support patients to access care that responds to their personal situation and choice.

## Contact us

Further information on AKC2026 is available at: <https://clinicalexcellence.qld.gov.au/priority-areas/service-improvement/advancing-kidney-care-2026>

Queensland Health staff: <https://qheps.health.qld.gov.au/caru/priority-projects/advancing-kidney-care-2026>

Any queries about AKC2026 can be emailed to [AKC2026Collaborative@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:AKC2026Collaborative@health.qld.gov.au)

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### Connect with us

Visit our AKC2026 website  
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