

ABI SCI Connect is a project to implement the short term (one – two year) actions of the Statewide adult brain injury rehabilitation and spinal cord injury health service plans 2016-2026 ([Statewide Plans](#)). The project team based at Metro South Health is working collaboratively with HHS and stakeholders across the state to achieve objectives of the plans.

Out and about with ABI SCI Connect

The project team has been getting out and about to key HHS across the state. So far the team has visited:

- Gold Coast University Hospital
- Sunshine Coast University Hospital
- The Townsville Hospital (and Alliance Rehabilitation)
- Metro North Hospital and Health Service

The team has also been busy presenting to key stakeholders and services within Metro South HHS including:

- Princess Alexandra Hospital Executive
- Brain Injury Rehabilitation Service
- Queensland Spinal Cord Injury Service (QSCIS)
- Spinal Outreach Team (SPOT)
- Transition Rehabilitation Program (TRP)

Recognising the importance of statewide collaboration the team has also presented to the Statewide Rehabilitation Clinical Network (SRbCN), Statewide Trauma Clinical Network (STCN) and will attend the Statewide Rural and Remote Clinical Network in May. Please get in contact if you would like the team to provide information, deliver a presentation or connect with your organisation.

Call for consumers

ABI SCI Connect is recruiting consumer or carer representatives with lived experience of spinal cord injury or brain injury to contribute to the clinical advisory networks.

Consumers and carers are also encouraged to register interest to be involved in project focus groups, forums and events or receive project updates. Please contact the project team:

abi.sci.connect@health.qld.gov.au

or

07 3176 7876

for more information

Steering Committee

The ABI SCI Connect Steering Committee has been established and will meet on 29th March. The role of the project steering committee is to provide strategic advice and direction in line with the service directions outlined in the statewide adult acquired brain injury (ABI) and spinal cord injury (SCI) rehabilitation health service plans. Current membership includes nominated executive and clinical leaders representing key Hospital and Health Services (HHS), the Department of Health (DoH), medical, nursing and allied health professions.

Name	Position	Representing
Kate Wood	Nursing Director, Division of Rehabilitation, Metro South HHS	ABI SCI Connect
Prof. Tim Geraghty	Medical Chair, Division of Rehabilitation, Metro South HHS	ABI SCI Connect
Melleesa Cowie	A/Director, Healthcare Improvement Unit, Department of Health	Clinical Excellence Division, Department of Health
Paula Duffy	Executive Director, Diagnostic and Emergency Medicine, Gold Coast HHS	Gold Coast HHS
Yvonne Elliott-Kemp	Service Director, Neurology and Rehabilitation, Gold Coast HHS	Gold Coast HHS
Colleen Jen	Executive Director, Health Service Strategy and Planning, Metro North HHS	Metro North HHS
Dr Julia McLeod	Rehabilitation Physician Metro North HHS	Metro North HHS
Kathy Grudinkas	A/Executive Director Allied Health, Metro South HHS	Metro South HHS
Dr Ryan Bell	Medical Director, Brain Injury Rehabilitation Service, Metro South HHS	Metro South HHS
Dr Sridhar Atresh	Director, Queensland Spinal Cord Injury Services, Metro South HHS	Metro South HHS
Terri Price	Director, System Planning Branch, Department of Health	Strategic Policy and Planning Branch, Department of Health
Jodie Green	Director Planning and Commissioning, Planning & Capacity Development, Sunshine Coast HHS	Sunshine Coast HHS
Dr Neala Milburn	Rehabilitation Physician, Sunshine Coast HHS	Sunshine Coast, HHS
Dr Paul Chapman	Medical Director, Rehabilitation, Townsville HHS	Townsville HHS
Danielle Hornsby	Executive Director, Allied Health, Townsville HHS	Townsville HHS

Spotlight on - Kate Wood

Kate Wood is the Nursing Director for the Division of Rehabilitation (DoR) at the Princess Alexandra Hospital (PAH) and one of the ABI SCI Connect project leads.

How long have you been nursing for?

I have been nursing for 36 years and have always had an interest in rehabilitation, since doing my care of the aged certificate in 1990.

How long have you worked with the Division of Rehabilitation?

I have worked in the DoR at PAH since 2008

What do you see as the benefits of ABI SCI Connect?

a coordinated approach for the patient, access to services across the continuum, and being person centred

How do you feel ABI SCI Connect will help consumers?

By providing a consistent approach to rehabilitation and keeping consumers informed of the services available

What is your vision for brain and spinal cord injury services in Queensland?

Access to services and information for all no matter your location in QLD and enabling timely person centred care, at the right time, in the right place.

Sign up!

to join the ABI SCI Connect Mailing list email:

abi.sci.connect@health.qld.gov.au

with your name and role and contact details.

Project Team:

Prof. Tim Geraghty - Project Lead

Kate Wood – Project Lead

Jessica Dawber – Principal Project Officer

Christina Kerr – Principal Project Officer

Karleigh Kwapil – Principal Project Officer

Clinical Advisory Networks

Clinical Advisory Networks – ABI-CAN and SCI-CAN will commence in April to provide expert clinical advice to the steering committee and project team. Membership includes:

ABI-CAN

Annetta Palfrey Nurse Manager, Neuroscience Rehabilitation Unit, Gold Coast HHS

Areti Kennedy Manager, Acquired Brain Injury Transitional Rehabilitation Service, Metro South HHS

Ashlea Walker Allied Health Lead - Neurology and Rehabilitation, Gold Coast HHS

Dr Ben Chen Medical Director, Rehabilitation Services, Gold Coast HHS

Dr Ben Turner Rehabilitation Coordinator- Occupational Therapist, Acquired Brain Injury Outreach Service, Metro South HHS

Dr Julia McLeod Rehabilitation Physician, Metro North HHS

Janelle Gesch Clinical Team Leader, Neurosciences, Physiotherapy, Metro South HHS

Janelle Griffin Advanced Occupational Therapist -Team Leader, Brain Injury Rehabilitation Services, Metro South HHS

Kirsty Gray Clinical Nurse Consultant, Brain Injury Rehabilitation Unit, Metro South HHS

Margie Rae Program Manager, Queensland Paediatric Rehabilitation Service

Melanie Clair Clinical Manager, Alliance Rehabilitation, Townsville HHS

Dr Michele Grant Clinical Neuropsychologist, SCUH Rehabilitation, Sunshine Coast HHS

Dr Paul Chapman Clinical Director, Rehabilitation, Townsville HHS

Dr Ryan Bell Medical Director, Brain Injury Rehabilitation Service, Metro South HHS

Sarah Webb Clinical Neuropsychologist, Sub Acute Care Unit, Townsville HHS

SCI-CAN

Alli McClean Senior Rehabilitation Physiotherapist, Spinal, Townsville HHS

Carey Bayliss Advanced Physiotherapist, Spinal Outreach Team, Metro South HHS

Dr Claire Panagoda Staff Specialist, Queensland Spinal Cord Injuries Service, Metro South HHS

Dr Hilary Taylor-Evans Staff Specialist, Rehabilitation Services, Gold Coast HHS

Emilie Gollan Acting Clinical Team Leader - Advanced Physiotherapist, Spinal Injuries Unit, Metro South HHS

Glenda Price Team Leader - Advanced Occupational Therapist, Spinal Injuries Unit, Metro South HHS

Greg Ungerer Manager – Physiotherapist, Transition Rehabilitation Program, Metro South HHS

Jennifer Quail Assistant Director, Physiotherapy, Rehabilitation Service, Gold Coast HHS

Richelle Carta Advance Social Worker – Team Leader, NQ Spinal Service – Rehabilitation Service, Townsville HHS

Tracey Tattam Nurse Educator, Spinal Injuries Unit Metro South HHS