


Refugee Health Partnerships Advisory Group Qld

Summary from Meeting - Tuesday 26th February 2019

Representatives from: Mater, Metro South Refugee Health Service, Dept. of Health Strategic Policy Unit, Multicultural Affairs Qld, Brisbane South PHN, MDA, Children's Health Qld, Kobi House, Cairns HHS, NAPHL, Townsville HHS, Ipswich West Moreton HHS, TMSG, Metro North HHS, MHAODB, DSS, QPASTT, ACCESS

Settlement Data:	
Queensland Settlement Data State-wide Data Report and indicative referrals: www.refugeehealthnetworkqld.org.au/settlement-data/ (data available shortly)	
Region and state-wide Issues and Actions for discussion:	
Logan/Gold Coast/ Ipswich	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My Health Record - implications for consent for newly arrived families; also, ethnicity and interpreter field not included in the software – Noted there is work occurring in this space with the Clinical Advisory Group and BSPHN organising a meeting with the digital health agency • Progress on access to functional assessment for disability services • What are the impact of SRSS cuts and feedback re access to health services - MRCCC starting to track health advocacy for asylum seekers.
Brisbane	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed changes to the referral of new arrivals by MDA for a Health Assessment will impact on current model of care delivered through Refugee Health Connect /Mater in discussions with MDA to formalise referral relationship for health assessments for new arrivals to Brisbane • Brisbane North HHS – Completed a CALD data report and working on action plan for region – looking at how ethnicity and other CALD information is collected in various databases
Townsville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network plan to go to Townsville but deferred due to floods • Shortage of GPs in Townsville, some practices closing their books to new patients. • 30% general increase in presentations to ED. • Oral Health – Treatment van into TAFE areas – near completion • Ongoing interpreter issues i.e. availability of some emerging languages.
Cairns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed off shore pre-arrival vaccinations • Some cases of malaria – managed in hospital.
Toowoomba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing issues related to automated letter regarding overdue vaccinations and Centrelink pay being cut (mainly in Toowoomba and Cairns)
Asylum seeker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communitify /Asylum Circle consortium (with MAQ funding) have developed data base for distribution of material goods. Health advocacy is an identified issue. Asylum Circle consortium has put joint bid into MAQ to continue to deliver their HUB model. NOTE: This funding is only for the asylum seeker legacy case load and there is still some concern about other asylum seekers (E.g. plane arrivals, PNG women) • There will be an approach to Qld Health to support funding for medications for asylum seekers • RHNQ representatives met with MAQ Minister to raise awareness of Network, health and wellbeing issues and workforce/internships etc • DHS have made changes to the waiting periods for social services. Fact sheet outlining extended waiting periods for Centrelink payments https://www.dss.gov.au/living-in-australia-and-overseas-updates/encouraging-self-sufficiency-for-newly-arrived-migrants • MAQ are developing another multicultural action plan and have flagged pharmaceuticals and dental for asylum seekers

Working Groups and Advisory Groups Issues and Actions for discussion:	
Clinical Advisory Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further advocacy needed to improve access to audiology services • Ongoing difficulties especially in regional areas around capacity of general practices to see newly arrived refugees. • CAG representative met with Australian Digital Health Agency and recommended data items be included on software (MHR, GP software) • Upcoming education: August – HIV, September – Mental Health
G11 Refugee Health Advisory Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mater looking at sustainable funding moving forward after funding expires from St Vincent’s Hospital
Oral Health Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network will meet with Directors of Oral Health to raise awareness of refugee health needs and discuss the directive to provide services to asylum seekers.
Mental Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QPASTT are currently in negotiations with Mental Health Australia to trial MIMA Framework
Evaluation and Research Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft baseline report to be released shortly
Interpreter Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of the interpreter panel arrangements for whole of Government and NGOs continues to be challenging for multiple stakeholders • The IWG is assessing the level of support and appetite to develop booking system for whole of Govt and NGOs.
Network and National Updates:	
RHNQ Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual report www.refugeehealthnetworkqld.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/2018-Report-on-action-plan-Dec-2018-FINAL-1.pdf and Summary: www.refugeehealthnetworkqld.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Snapshot-Annual-Progress-Report-2018-FINAL-1.pdf • www.refugeehealthnetworkqld.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/RHNQ-RHPAGQ-Submission-to-PMC-15-Jan-2019-Final-with-amendment-16012019.pdf
RHeaNA Update	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>RHeaNA_Submission _Review_Settlement_</p> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RHeaNA 10 years celebration and open meeting to be held during FASSTT Conference 29th March – more details to come
Other business	
TOR annual review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOR reviewed, new TOR to be uploaded to Network website in April
Showcase Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning underway, date claimers currently: 20th June – Nurses Face to face and 21st June – Refugee Health Showcase Day
Qld Multicultural Advisory Committee Nomination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider Volunteers and nominations • Executive will meet on 6th March and look at guidelines. All agreed for Executive to decide on nomination from Network.