

Refugee Health Partnerships Advisory Group Qld

Summary from meeting held: Tuesday 30th January 2018



Representatives from:

Metro South Refugee Health Service, Mater Refugee Health, NAPHL, Metro North HHS, CHQ, QMHODB, MDA, TMSG, Access Settlement Services, QPASTT, BSPHN, DDWMPHN, BNPHN, Mater/UQ Centre for Integrated Care and Innovation, Multicultural Affairs Queensland, Dept. Social Services, NB: Due to videoconferencing technical difficulties many offsite attendees were unable to dial into the meeting.

<p>Qld Settlement Data</p>	<p>Humanitarian Settlement Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrival Data Qld Nov 2017 • Arrival Data Qld Jan 2018 • Brisbane North and Brisbane South data from Refugee Health Connect Oct – Dec 2017 <p>Download ALL reports here.</p> <p>Definitions of visa type: www.homeaffairs.gov.au/trav/refu/offers/refugee-and-humanitarian-visas</p>
<p>Updates/Issues</p>	<p>Outcomes/Details/Decisions</p>
<p>Refugee Health Pathway Development</p>	<p>A flow chart has been developed outlining the health pathway for recently arrived Humanitarian entrants in Toowoomba. Available online: https://www.ddwmpnh.com.au/attachments/Toowoomba-Health-Pathway-v9.pdf</p>
<p>Asylum seekers</p>	<p>Services reminded to support patients to provide documentation of their visa status upon presentation to hospital (e.g. copy of their Immigration letter or photo of their letter on their phone) to assist access to public health services to waive charges for asylum seekers without Medicare . https://www.health.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0033/676518/refugees-asylumseekers-infosheet.pdf</p>
<p>Clinical Advisory Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group is slowly progressing toward a state-wide Queensland Primary Care Clinical Advisory Group • The next Clinical Education Session will be held on 27th March, the topic will be NDIS with a focus on people from a refugee background. Flyer will be distributed via network.
<p>Mental Health Working Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group will be focussing on re-developing the pathways document, advocacy and MHIMHA once outcome of tender is known.
<p>Evaluation and Research Working Group</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mater UQ Centre for Integrated Care is coordinating the evaluation of the Qld Refugee Health Policy and Action Plan (2017-2020) in collaboration with QUT. Evaluation plan, study protocol and ethics application developed in December 2017. Toowoomba, Cairns and Brisbane will be survey sites for the patient experience survey and peer led interviews. There will also be a state-wide stakeholder survey. • The findings , will inform the next iteration of the policy beyond 2020

TB Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The publication of the Strategic Plan for Control of TB in Australia is pending, it has progressed through all approval processes and should be published shortly. Network working with Communicable diseases branch on a briefing document regarding options for testing and systems to support local services to access these.
Neuro Developmental Intervention & Cognitive Assessment Subgroup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified barriers with accessing clear and concise referral options for children from refugee background. Confusion noted regarding expectations of health service providers and different referral criteria across sectors/systems to access support. Working group developing a referral pathway document which will aim to streamline referral pathways and information. MAQ facilitated meeting with working group reps and Executive Director, State Schools – Disability and Inclusion Department of Education and Training which is specifically addressing the recommendations from the Deloitte Access Economics report looking at disability and inclusion for all children in Qld’s schools. The Working Group will work with Dept of Education and Training to ensure children from a refugee background with a disability will be identified and supported in Qld schools.
Interpreter Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpreter working group to be established, will link with QCOSS interpreter working group. Calling for nominations for those interested in being part of interpreter working group – contact Vicky.jacobson@mater.org.au. Working group to address: advocacy (letters develop on behalf of PAGQ), appropriate resources and education opportunities
Health Information Flow - Settlement reports (Health)/HAPLite and advocacy required.	<p><i>Regarding Settlement reports (Health):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DSS were generating the reports; however this stopped in November 2017. This is due to changes to the new HSP and the new data base created by DSS to support the settlement program. There is no automatic transfer of data between the Dept of Home Affairs (DHA) and DSS any extraction of health information needs to be manually generated by DSS. For Critical Health Alerts, there was agreement that DSS would continue to send the reports manually. Recent evidence by MDA that this process has not happened – not all health reports are being sent for those with critical or potential health alerts. Poses significant risk to health of incoming clients, as well as significant breakdown in communication between health services, settlement agencies and government departments. <p><i>Regarding Future Options:</i> DHA have offered the following potential solutions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> HAPLite system – nominate an organisation for the state to take administrator duties ie. grant access, administrate password changes, etc. OR Could the five refugee health services be granted user access (or administrator access)? <p>Unsure if either option would be sustainable in terms of resources required from an administrative point of view and risk management?</p> <p><i>Actions from the Network:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working collegially with Refugee Health Network of Australia (RHeaNA), DHA and DSS to work toward the best solution. Network writing letter to the Qld Minister for Health to flag the issue and potential risks in Qld.
Upcoming Events for the Network:	<p>26th March, 2018 - Refugee Nurses face to face meeting (by invitation)</p> <p>27th March, 2018 – Refugee Health and Wellbeing Showcase</p> <p>28th March, 2018 - QPASTT Healing in exile symposium (daytime), NDIS Clinical Education session (evening) (flyer to be distributed via network)</p>
Update of TOR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TOR and membership now updated for 2018 will be available soon on the website.