

About the NQPHN RACH Bed Tracker

Northern Queensland Primary Health Network (NQPHN) is implementing a Residential Aged Care Home (RACH) Bed Tracker system to enhance coordination and communication among RACHs, local hospitals, and health services. The primary goal is to optimise the utilisation of aged care beds and reduce waiting times for patients transitioning from hospitals to RACHs.

Below is a breakdown of key points.

1. What is the NQPHN RACH Bed Tracker?

- » The system aims to track and update key data related to bed capacity in RACHs.
- » NQPHN will prompt RACHs to update their data quarterly, however the tracker can be updated more frequently if desired.
- » Updates are expected quarterly from all RACHs, ensuring that the information is current and reflective of the changing needs and capacities.

2. Who has access to the data?

- » The collected data will be shared with local Hospital and Health Services (HHSs) to provide a comprehensive overview of bed capacity within each HHS catchment area.
- » This sharing of information helps in understanding the overall system-wide bed capacity and aids in strategic planning.

3. How will the tracker improve patient transfers?

- » The shared data will include information on expected wait times for patient transfers from hospitals to RACHs.
- » This facilitates better coordination between healthcare providers and reduces waiting times for patients, enhancing the overall efficiency of the healthcare system.

4. What are some of the benefits of the tracker?

- » The initiative promotes collaboration and coordination among different healthcare entities, fostering a more integrated and patient-centered approach.
- » Patients benefit from timely transfers and reduced waiting times.
- » Healthcare providers can make informed decisions based on real-time bed capacity data.
- » The system contributes to a more efficient and responsive healthcare network.

5. How will we measure the tracker success?

- » The ultimate goal is to measure and achieve reduced waiting times for patients entering RACHs from hospital settings.
- » Regular assessment and analysis of the system's performance will help in refining strategies and ensuring continuous improvement.

6. How will we support the success of the tracker?

- » Ensure clear communication with RACHs, hospitals, and health services regarding the purpose and processes of the Bed Tracker System.
- » Provide necessary training and support to stakeholders for seamless implementation and utilisation of the system.
- » Establish a feedback mechanism to gather input from stakeholders and make improvements based on their experiences and suggestions.

By implementing and maintaining such a system, NQPHN aims to contribute to improving the exchange of key information to support older persons health across northern Queensland.

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