

Northern Queensland Primary Health Network

Activity Work Plan

PHN Pilots and Targeted Programs

2022/23–2026/27



NQPHN acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as Australia's First Nation Peoples and the Traditional Custodians of this land. We respect their continued connection to land and sea, country, kin, and community. We also pay our respect to their Elders past, present, and emerging as the custodians of knowledge and lore.



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Disclaimer

All activities captured in this Activity Work Plan are identified in the Health Needs Assessment conducted by Northern Queensland Primary Health Network and have been approved by the Department of Health and Aged Care.



PP&TP-GP – 1 – PHN Strengthening Medicare General Practice Grants Program

Activity priorities and description

Program key priority areas

Workforce.

Aim of activity

Northern Queensland Primary Health Network (NQPHN) will support and participate, as directed by the Department of Health and Aged Care (DoHAC), in the evaluation of the Strengthening Medicare General Practice Grants Program. The end date for the activity is 31 December 2024.

The activity includes establishing, administering, and managing the Strengthening Medicare General Practice Grants Program (the GP Grants Program), within the program guidelines, for all eligible general practices in the NQPHN region.

The GP Grants Program will provide one-off grants between \$25,000 to \$50,000 (based on practice size, as assessed by DoHAC) to support general practices to expand patient access and provide better, safe, and accessible quality primary care.

NQPHN will support and participate, as directed by DoHAC, in the evaluation of the Strengthening Medicare General Practice Grants Program.

Description of activity

- Administer and manage the Strengthening Medicare GP Grants Program.
- All general practices, as identified by DoHAC, are invited to participate in the Strengthening Medicare GP Grants Program.
- Manage the execution of Deed of Grants, monitor grant implementation, submission of outcome reports, and financial acquittals for each participating general practice.



PP&TP-EPP – 1 – Endometriosis and Pelvic Pain GP Clinics

Activity priorities and description

Program key priority areas

Population Health.

Aim of activity

The Program provides funding to support the establishment of targeted Endometriosis and Pelvic Pain General Practice Clinics (GP clinics) in primary care settings. Funding will be provided to administer and manage the Program on behalf of the Department of Health and Aged Care (DoHAC), in line with the objectives of the Program, including entering into agreements with successful GP clinics.

Description of activity

- Recruitment of specialised staff, including nurse practitioner/nurse navigator and allied health professionals.
- Pelvic physiotherapy areas and associated equipment.
- Development of new information/support resources and care pathways.
- Training/upskilling of staff and other general practitioners in endometriosis and pelvic pain management.

PP&TP-GCPC – 1 – Greater Choice for At Home Palliative Care (GCfAHPC) Project

Activity priorities and description

Program key priority areas

Population Health.

Aim of activity

The overall aim of this activity is to increase awareness of, and facilitate and coordinate access to, safe and quality palliative and end-of-life care at home across the Northern Queensland Primary Health Network (NQPHN) region, with the specific objectives to:

- improve awareness and access to safe, quality palliative care at home and support end-of-life care systems and practices in the community
- enable the right care, at the right time, and in the right place to reduce unnecessary hospitalisations
- generate and use data to support the continuous improvement of services across sectors
- use available technologies to support flexible and responsive palliative care at home including afterhours supports.

Description of activity

- Continue to undertake a mapping exercise of existing palliative care services and networks across the NQPHN region.
- Continue to maintain an up-to-date needs assessment highlighting gaps, target cohorts, and priority activities to facilitate and coordinate improved access to, and integration of, palliative care services at home. Establish governance groups for the project including interagency steering committees every eight weeks.
- Continue to collaborate with local Hospital and Health Service (HHS) specialist palliative care teams to increase awareness of, and facilitate and coordinate access to, safe and quality palliative and end-of-life care at home across the NQPHN region throughout 2022–25. NQPHN will collaborate with Program of Experience in the Palliative Approach (PEPA) to facilitate clinician and home care worker observational placements for over 40 participants across the NQPHN region.
- Continue to support compassionate communities' connectors in supporting and signposting families affected by life limiting illnesses to access services through leading and chairing the Northern Queensland Compassionate Communities Connectors Network.
- Continue to collaborate with Pharmaceutical Society of Australia to establish the Northern Queensland Community Pharmacy Palliative Support Network and co-facilitate primary workforce development training for general practitioners (GPs), residential aged care homes (RACHs), pharmacists as well as continuing supports to community pharmacists.
- Continue to collaborate with HammondCare to co-facilitate the Last Days Program workshop for carers of people with dementia at their end of life.

