

Joint Regional Needs Assessment

Key themes

*The numbers represent the total number of health or service needs, which are outlined on the following pages. Click on a theme to learn more or view the next page.

Chronic Conditions

Long-lasting conditions that can be controlled but not cured. Examples include diabetes, heart disease, arthritis, asthma, cancer, and mental health conditions like depression. Managing these conditions often requires ongoing medical care and lifestyle changes.

This refers to measures aimed at preventing disease or injury before it occurs, through actions like vaccination, healthy lifestyle promotion, and early detection screenings (e.g. cancer screenings).

Preventative Health

The ability of individuals to obtain necessary health services, which may include availability, affordability, proximity, and the quality of care.

Access

Older Persons Health

This refers to the health care services and policies designed to support the elderly population, typically those over 65. It includes managing age-related diseases, promoting healthy aging, long-term care, and palliative care.

This refers to the health and wellbeing of women during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period, as well as the health of their children from infancy through adolescence. It covers services like prenatal care, immunisations, and nutrition.

Maternal and Child Health

Social and Emotional Wellbeing (SEWB)

A holistic approach to health, particularly important in Indigenous contexts, which emphasises the interconnectedness of mental, physical, spiritual, and cultural health. SEWB recognises the importance of family, community, land, and ancestry.

In healthcare, equity means providing care that does not vary in quality because of personal characteristics such as gender, ethnicity, geographic location, or socioeconomic status. It aims for fairness in access, treatment, and health outcomes.

Equity

Healthy Living

These are actions that increase the likelihood of negative health outcomes. Examples include smoking, excessive alcohol consumption, poor diet, physical inactivity, and unsafe sexual practices.

Workforce

The healthcare workforce refers to all people engaged in actions whose primary intent is to enhance health. This includes doctors, nurses, allied health professionals, support staff, and administrators.

First Nations Health

This focuses on the unique health challenges and opportunities faced by Indigenous populations. It includes addressing cultural, social, and environmental determinants of health, as well as improving access to culturally appropriate healthcare services.

The Joint Regional Needs Assessment (JRNA) is a collaboration between:



Torres and Cape
Hospital and Health Service

Cairns and Hinterland
Hospital and Health Service

Mackay
Hospital and Health Service

