

Get to know us



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About us

Our vision

A healthy future for all
northern Queenslanders



Our purpose

We connect, fund, and support primary healthcare so that all northern Queenslanders can access the care and information they need to live healthier lives.

We do this by:



Commissioning targeted services that respond to local health challenges and opportunities.



Strengthening the primary healthcare workforce and supporting innovation, data and quality improvement, business sustainability, and reform.

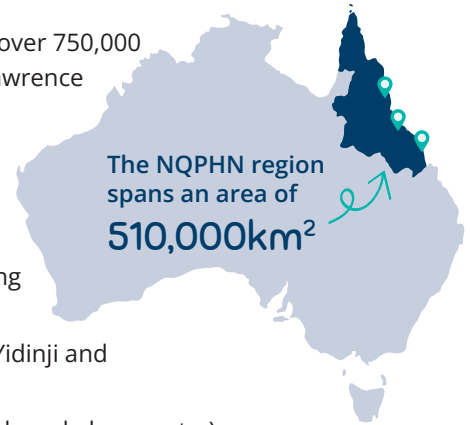
Capacity building



Coordinating and connecting care across the system to improve access as well as patient and provider experiences.

Coordinating

The NQPHN region is home to over 750,000 people, and extends from St Lawrence in the south coast, up to the Torres Strait in the north, and west to Croydon and Kowanyama.



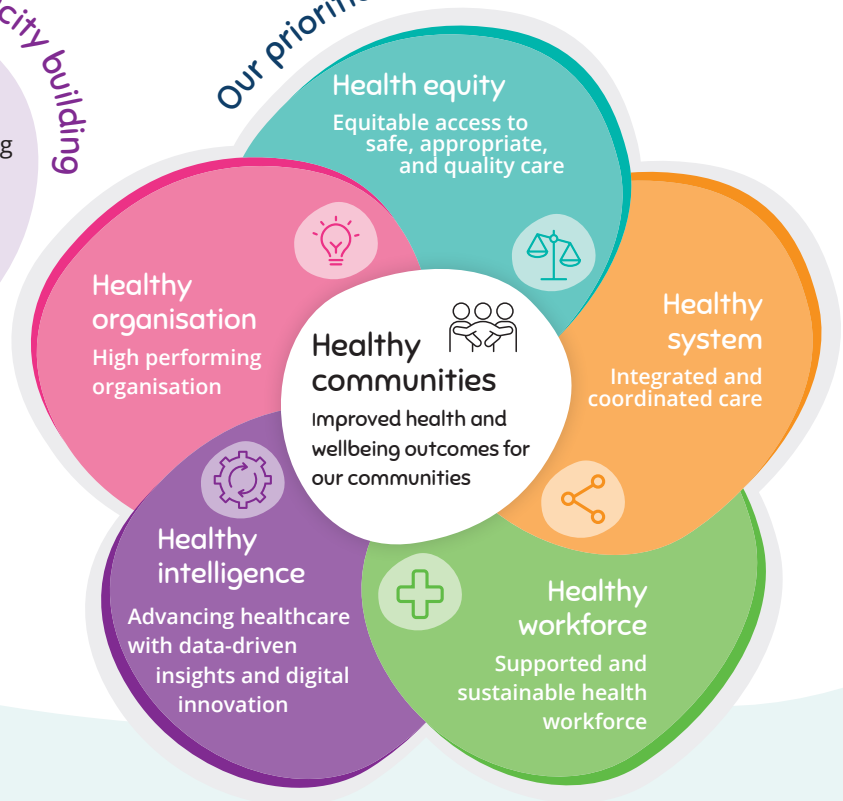
We have over 100 staff operating across three offices in:

- › Cairns (Gimuy-Walubura Yidinji and Djabugay Nation country)
- › Townsville (Bindal and Wulgurukaba country)
- › Mackay (Yuwibara country).

Our staff are committed to working in accordance with our values, which include collaboration, leadership, integrity, accountability, and respect.

We are one of 31 regionalised and independent PHNs established nationally by the Commonwealth Department of Health, Disability and Ageing.

Our priorities



Joint Regional Needs Assessment

Thriving communities need great health care, with chronic conditions effectively managed, mental wellbeing supported, and care that is accessible, culturally safe, and coordinated. To help achieve this, NQPHN has partnered with the region's four Hospital and Health Services (HHSs) to better understand and respond to local health needs using community insights, lived experience, and health data. Key themes identified across the region include:

- › access
- › child and maternal health
- › chronic conditions
- › equity
- › First Nations health
- › healthy living
- › mental health and wellbeing
- › older persons health
- › preventative health
- › workforce.

Scan the QR code to learn more.



Coordinating

As a health system coordinator, we work with local HHSs and partners to improve access to high-quality healthcare.

Our work includes:

- > integrating primary care, mental health, community, aged, disability, social, emergency, and digital health services
- > supporting emergency preparedness across general practice, pharmacy, and aged care
- > analysing health data to plan services and workforce needs
- > building connections across primary healthcare to facilitate multidisciplinary team care
- > using technology to increase access to healthcare
- > conducting population health needs assessments that address local, regional, state, and national priorities.

Commissioning

NQPHN does not provide health services directly. Instead, we plan, design, fund, and evaluate services based on community health needs, identified through the Joint Regional Needs Assessment.

Commissioning is an ongoing process that includes planning, service design, procurement, monitoring, and evaluation to improve health outcomes and strengthen provider capability. Scan the QR code to learn more.



Our commissioning work involves:

- > funding primary care and mental health services that meet local needs
- > partnering with Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs) to improve access and health outcomes for First Nations peoples
- > working with HHSs to support connected local health systems
- > supporting providers in underserved communities
- > codesigning services with local stakeholders
- > trialling innovative approaches to address unmet and emerging health needs
- > monitoring and evaluating services, and sharing learnings with local stakeholders, PHNs, and government.

Capacity-building

NQPHN supports the primary healthcare workforce in northern Queensland to meet evolving community health needs.

Our capacity-building work includes:

- > delivering Continuing Professional Development (CPD) training and education
- > supporting practices to improve quality, continuity, and integration of care and use of data and digital health systems
- > supporting practices to adopt continuous quality improvement and sustainable business practices
- > partnering with Health Workforce Queensland to attract and retain primary healthcare professionals. Scan the QR code to learn more.



In our region, there are...

Statistics current as at August 2026.

750,585

residents in northern Queensland, including

75,693



Indigenous people (**10.8%** of our population and **9.3%** of total Australian Indigenous population)

31

Local Government Areas (LGAs)

22

out of **31**

LGAs have people living in very remote areas

4



Hospital and Health Services

13



Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHOs)

55



Residential Aged Care Homes

72



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioners

179



General practices

189



Pharmacies

702



Psychologists

Our Region, Our People

Meet the faces of northern Queensland. The NQPHN Our Region, Our People good news stories highlight service providers and service users of NQPHN-funded programs. Their stories can be read at www.nqphn.com.au/news



Meet Kim

Meet Dr Gul



Meet Patsy-Ann

Meet Brooke



Meet Augustin

Meet Monique



Northern Queensland Primary Health Network 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.