

Queensland Health Consumers Collaborative

COMMUNIQUÉ

Communique No. 1 October 2016

Welcome to the Queensland Health Consumers Collaborative (Collaborative) newsletter. The Communique is a means for the Collaborative to inform the community of their role and ongoing progress.

The Queensland Health Consumers Collaborative is a joint initiative between Health Consumers Queensland and Queensland Health. This strategic, high level Collaborative is informing embedding of consumer partnerships at every level of planning, policy, delivery, monitoring and evaluation of services provided by Hospital and Health Services and the Department of Health.

The Collaborative was formed in November 2015 with significant interest following expressions of interest for the consumer positions. The chosen consumers provide a strong, effective and diverse voice across almost the full spectrum of health issues in Queensland.

Members of the collaborative are:

Chair: Mark Tucker Evans (Chair of Health Consumers Queensland)

Consumer members:

Andrew Blythe	John Gagen
Hamza Vayani	Douglas Porter
Dean Johnson	Helen Mees
Sharon Boyce	Harry Pitt

Queensland Health members:

Jeannette Young, Chief Health Officer and Deputy Director-General, Prevention Division
Kathleen Forrester, Deputy Director-General, Strategy, Policy and Planning Division
Nick Steele, Deputy Director-General, Healthcare Purchasing and System Performance
John Wakefield, Acting Deputy Director-General, Clinical Excellence Division
Ian Langdon, Chair of Chairs, Hospital and Health Boards
Lisa Davies-Jones, Chief Executives Forum, Hospital and Health Services
David Rosengren, Chair, Queensland Clinical Senate
Robyn Littlewood, Network Chair Representative, Clinical Networks

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Queensland eHealth strategy presentation
- Collaborative member profile: Doug Porter

For more information on the Collaborative and its work, please contact Anne Curtis, Project Manager - Health Consumers Queensland: anne.curtis@hcq.org.au

September 2016 Meeting Overview

The Collaborative has now met four times since its inception. The most recent meeting was held on 6th September and the following provides a brief overview of discussions:

- The Collaborative held a discussion around the barriers, constraints and solutions for Hospitals and Health Services partnering with consumers from a state-wide perspective. Chief Executive Forum representative Lisa Davies-Jones is keen to continue discussion with Hospital and Health Service Chief Executives in regard to the barriers and constraints they may be experiencing and working together to identify solutions for better engagement with health consumers.
- Consumer members also shared the achievements and challenges they are currently experiencing as consumer representatives on a variety of committees within health services and at a state-wide level.
- Collaborative members identified the need for services to be more empathetic to health consumers. It was suggested that consumers need to suggest solutions as well as highlighting issues and give constructive information to health services.
- Collaborative members discussed consumer led research as the future of health service delivery and how this has been neglected over the last 20 years.

Queensland eHealth Strategy

The development of an eHealth Strategy for Queensland commenced in March 2016 and was informed by stakeholders from across the health ecosystem. It is also closely aligned with the recently released Queensland Health vision and ten year strategy – *My Health, Queensland's Future: Advancing Health 2016*.

The Collaborative members were invited to provide feedback on a number of consumer scenarios prepared by eHealth as part of the strategy communication and engagement with the Queensland community.

Consumer Member profile: Douglas Porter



Douglas Porter is determined to help make life easier for all health consumers, but particularly for those with incurable chronic diseases, as he's had a lifetime of experience of this.

Douglas has been living with cystic fibrosis since birth; his lungs are now working at less than 35% of the predicted normal values, he's retired from being a community pharmacist to concentrate on his health and preparing for when the time is right for a double lung transplant.

Since retiring to maintain his health, Douglas is busier than ever partnering with health services to find ways to improve the lives of health consumers. He relishes his roles in continuing to be a voice for the consumer on various Metro North hospital committees at The Prince Charles Hospital, Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital and Redcliffe Hospitals. He's excited working on the Collaborative and hopes to lessen the strain on patients and families.