Gold Coast Health

Emergency Care Research Strategy

2023 - 2027

Gold Coast Health acknowledges the traditional custodians of the Gold Coast, the Yugambeh-speaking people, whose land, winds and waters we all now share; and we pay tribute to their unique values, and their ancient and enduring cultures, which deepen and enrich the life of our community.

We pay respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and regonise those whose ongoing effort to protect and promote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures will leave a lasting legacy for future Elders and leaders.

Artwork produced for Gold Coast Health by Riki Salam, Weare27 Creative.

Our vision

To make research an integral part of clinical practice and education, and to create new guidelines and policies based on the results of our research.

Our mission

Provide a framework and strategic direction for the advancement of Gold Coast Hospital and Health Service (GCHHS) Emergency Care research, with a focus on supporting the research programs within the Emergency Department pillars of research.

Our goals

1. Organise emergency care research
2. Build and streamline research capacity
3. Promote excellence, relevance, and impact of research
4. Develop, strengthen, and sustain research partnerships

Our pillars

- Trauma and pre hospital
- Ultrasound
- Workforce
- Education/Simulation
- Vulnerable populations
- Appropriate emergency care
- Paediatrics

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Organise ED research

Develop a systematic and efficient process for conducting Emergency Care research that leverages existing resources and involves a wide range of stakeholders.

- Establish and annually re-assess emergency care research priorities (ideally aligned with GCHHS, Emergency Care, Queensland Health, Federal and international priorities);
- Prioritise projects, and allocate staff/students accordingly (considering capacity and capability to supervise/support/mentor);
- Review pillar structure and skills/resources exchange;
- Establish a sustainable research culture;
- Create a single database of projects, resources (aligned with HHS) to support a uniformed approach for research conduct;
- Develop a support framework (supervision, mentorship) to encourage ED staff to participate in research projects;
- Develop a system for measuring and evaluating project/pillar/EDCRG initiatives/projects.

Measures
1. Number of ED research initiatives undertaken each year.
2. Number of partnerships established with other organizations and institutions.
3. Number of ED staff involved in research projects.
4. Amount of funding secured for ED research.
5. Impact of ED research on patient outcomes, processes, and healthcare delivery.

Build and streamline research capacity

Build a robust research infrastructure and ensure that research capacity is sustained over time.

- Establish pathways to attract and retain qualified staff;
- Identify and train a new generation of Emergency Care researchers;
- Foster a culture of research within the ED, including promoting research literacy and encouraging staff to participate in research
- Develop and implement a succession plan to ensure that the ED research infrastructure is sustained over time, including identifying key personnel and creating a pipeline of future leaders;
- Increase investment in research infrastructure, including technology, data management systems, and research resources;
- Increase/sustain funding for ED research through grants, sponsorships, and other sources.

Measures
1. Create permanency for research staff positions
2. Develop rotations through research for clinical staff
3. Support HDR pathways for clinician-researchers
4. Number of ED staff involved in research projects and training programs.
5. Number of new researchers trained and mentored each year.
6. Number of staff pursuing advanced degrees and certifications in research.
7. Investment in research infrastructure and resources.
8. Funding income.

Promote excellence, relevance, translation, and impact of research

To ensure that ED research is of the highest quality and that its impact is optimised.

- Embed research in health services and systems;
- Provide and link in with opportunities for continued research education and development;
- Develop or adopt a framework for knowledge translation;
- Support and undertake Impact assessments (including health economics) of high priority projects and the ED CRG as a whole;
- Continued development of communications/media processes to increase visibility;
- Foster collaboration between researchers and clinicians to ensure research is relevant to the needs of the ED and that it informs clinical practice;
- Facilitate the translation of research findings into clinical practice/policies/guidelines/workplans through the use/development of implementation strategies, tools, and resources.

Measures
1. Number of collaborations between researchers and clinicians.
2. Number of projects used for implementation strategies, tools, and resources.
3. Number of local research findings incorporated in guidelines and policy.
4. Number of research findings disseminated through publications, presentations, and other means.
5. Impact of ED research on patient and health service outcomes, processes, and healthcare delivery.

Strengthen research partnerships, including consumers/end-users

To foster partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders to expand the scope and impact of ED research.

- Maintain and build research collaborations and partnerships with local and regional organizations, academic institutions, and other stakeholders to expand the scope and impact of ED research;
- Collaborate with GCHHS office of research, funders and community to identify opportunities for collaboration and funding;
- Encourage and support consumer engagement (from inception of projects) and increase the number of research projects that involve consumers/end-users;
- Ensure that research findings are disseminated to consumers/end-users.

Measures
1. Number of partnerships established with other organizations, academic institutions, and stakeholders.
2. Feedback from partners and end-users on the value and impact of research partnerships.

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