

Patient-Centred Health Services

Creating patient-centred healthcare solutions for the 21st century

Throughout the world, around 1 in 10 people are harmed as a result of the healthcare they receive.

Because of this, the World Health Organisation and many nations have identified improving the quality and safety of healthcare as a priority.

Patient-centred care including active patient participation has been identified as one key strategy to promote high-quality, safe care in Australia and internationally.

A patient-centred approach involves placing patients and their families at the centre of the care we, as health professionals, deliver.

It means we seek to understand patients' and family's personal histories, their values and their preferences for care, and involve them in decisions about their care.

Our research has the potential to transform health services across the continuum of care.

We study priority areas of health and involve members of health service organisations in our research teams, which help to ensure our interventions are feasible and sustainable in the real world.

Your generosity allows our research to continue. Please donate today.



Patient-Centred Health Services partners with a number of hospitals and universities to undertake innovative, cutting-edge clinical research aimed at improving patient outcomes. The Group has five key focus areas:

1 Patient safety in surgery: The operating room is a hazardous place, where the consequences of errors can be devastating for patients. The ability of surgeons, anaesthetists and nurses to communicate and work effectively in surgical teams is therefore vital in keeping patients safe. In collaboration with clinicians and consumers, our researchers focus on developing innovative, evidence-informed strategies that enhance teamwork in surgery and reduce the risk of injury to patients that can occur because of errors in information transfer.

2 Evidence-based surgical wound practice: Wound care is expensive and is heavily influenced by clever marketing practices in the absence of robust research evidence. Providing surgical wound care that is evidence-based plays a crucial role in reducing the social and economic burden that wounds have on the Australian healthcare system, patients and their families. Our researchers work closely with clinicians and health consumers to implement and rigorously test evidence-informed interventions in clinical trials. Ultimately, this knowledge will improve the experiences of surgical patients and their families.

3 Preventing pressure injuries in acute care: Pressure injuries, also known as pressure ulcers or bedsores are considered a preventable adverse event and are an indicator of the quality of nursing care. Our researchers collaborate with clinicians and health consumers to develop and test patient-centred strategies to reduce the occurrence of pressure injuries among hospitalised patients. Our findings are used to guide clinical practice in pressure injury prevention in acute care environments.

4 Nutrition care: We are working to make nutrition a prominent part of the ongoing care patients receive through their lives. We work with community members, health professionals, education providers and professional bodies to conduct research on how patients can be better supported to eat well. We implement interventions and programs so that doctors, nurses, dietitians, nutritionists, pharmacists and other health professionals feel confident in nutrition and have the skills to best meet patients' needs.

5 Improving cardiovascular care in Queensland: Identifying risk factors associated with the safety, efficiency and equity of patients with cardiovascular disease in Queensland is fundamental to improving the health of the population. We are mapping the use of health services and health outcomes for a cohort of patients admitted to any hospital in Queensland in 2010 with a first diagnosis of CVD.

Your generosity drives our research success. Please donate today.

For more information on supporting this research, contact:

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“Our goal is to transform health services across the globe to deliver improved patient care and optimised health solutions.”

— Professor Wendy Chaboyer

