



RESEARCH DIGEST ISSUE #32

March 23rd 2026

Research Highlights

Congratulations to the **Allied Health Research Team** on another remarkable year as highlighted in their recent [Allied Health Research Report 2025](#). The report showcases strong clinician engagement and research output across 2025, reflecting the team's ongoing commitment to advancing evidence-based care.



Congratulations to **Dr Dominic Chow** and team, who as part of his PhD conducted the world's first randomised controlled trial in a new form of 'physiological pacing'.

Patients at Northern Health have had access to this pioneering approach since it was first introduced by Associate Professor Uwais Mohamed in 2017. This early adoption continues to deliver meaningful benefits for our patients and reinforces Northern Health's commitment to leading-edge, patient-centred care. This work has been recognised internationally with Dr Chow being awarded the William W. Parmley Young Author Achievement Award by the American College of Cardiology, a prominent international scientific journal.

Webinars

MACH EMCR Research Design Webinar Series 2026

Designed specifically for early and mid-career researchers, a series of eight webinars will be



conducted by experts from the University of Melbourne covering the fundamentals of Research Design.

[More information here](#)

PhD Opportunity- Nursing & Allied Health

**Clinician – Researcher PhD Scholarships now open for applications.
Applications Close: Monday April 13th 2026**

Key Information:

Stipend: \$60,000 p.a. (tax-free) for 3.5 years

Tuition fees: Covered for up to 4 years

Eligibility: Current Northern Health Nursing or Allied Health employees

[Full Details Here](#)

NCTGF Nudge | March Focus: Who's Delegated? (Action 1.1)

NCTGF Action 1.1e

“Ensures that roles and responsibilities are clearly defined for the governing body, management, clinicians and the workforce.”

Clear delegation of authority is more than paperwork, it is evidence of governance in action.

As the year settles in, take a moment to review your **Study Delegation Log**:

- Have new team members been added?
- Have roles changed?
- Has anyone left the study?
- Has there been any addition or removal of Investigators?
- Is training linked to delegated tasks current?

Nudge to action

Take 10 minutes this week to review and update your Delegation Log.

Reminder: Please ensure any addition or removal of Investigators is communicated to RDGU with your next amendment or progress report submission.

Improving understanding and access to cancer clinical trials for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People: Lotjpa Yapaneyepuk Video Resources!

The ReViTALISE Project in partnership with Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-operative and Goulburn Valley Health has launched three videos on the Lotjpa Yapaneyepuk YouTube channel, created with mob, for mob.

[Watch here](#)

Publications

- Fletcher J, Hersusianto Y, Hewagama S. Evaluating the role and clinical impact of extended respiratory viral PCR testing in adult inpatients. *Infect Dis (Lond)*. 2026 Mar 10:1-11. doi: 10.1080/23744235.2026.2639743. Epub ahead of print. [PMID: 41805542](#).
- Mikhail RHG, Hajibandeh S, Hajibandeh S, Smith M, Ban EJ, Jacobs R, McKay SC. Comparative Outcomes of Reinforced Tension-Line Sutures Versus Standard Closure Techniques in Patients Undergoing Laparotomy: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. *ANZ J Surg*. 2026 Jan 14. doi: 10.1111/ans.70439. Epub ahead of print. [PMID: 41532396](#).
- Du J, Wang V, D'Souza B, Hodgson R. Benchmarked Colorectal Cancer Outcomes in a Metropolitan Hospital: A 5-Year Review. *Asia Pac J Clin Oncol*. 2026 Jan 12. doi: 10.1111/ajco.70077. Epub ahead of print. [PMID: 41527194](#).
- Barakat Z, Jose M, Savige J, Bellomo R, Pianta T. Acute kidney injury signals a high risk of death, readmission and cancer. *Intern Med J*. 2026 Jan;56(1):83-92. doi: 10.1111/imj.70301. Epub 2025 Dec 27. [PMID: 41454763](#).
- Shwaita L, Said S, Whicker SD, Hoak F, Kaivaha L, Salboud W, Stevenson C, Mohammed M, Hu Y, Jessup RL. Co-Designing a Peer Navigator Role to Improve Equity in Healthcare Access for Pacific Islander, Māori and Arabic Communities in Australia. *Health Expect*. 2026 Feb;29(1):e70351. doi: 10.1111/hex.70351. PMID: 41608865; [PMCID: PMC12853215](#).