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**Regulation and Policy - The**  
**Research Space in Public**  
**Hospitals**



**Queensland Government**

**Queensland Health**

## David Pennington on Research in Public Hospitals

- "Investment by government in health services is a great and growing element of Commonwealth and State budgets. . . without formal commitment to . . . R&D, the Australian health system is in danger of falling seriously behind. . . We are at risk of failing . . ."
- "The 2006 Cooksey Review of UK health research funding . . . recognised the NHS as a remarkable platform for valuable, innovative health research . . ."
- "increase in policy-and-practice-focused research will further drive cross-institutional collaboration . . ." (from Grant)
- "a need to find ways to bring research back into the culture and management of teaching hospitals; reforms in Queensland represent just such an Initiative . . ."

## The Research Space in Public Hospitals

- Basic
- Early phase clinical
- Late phase clinical
- Translational
- Systems
- Biomedical
- Biopsychosocial
- Organisational

## Influencing factors on the Research Space in Public Hospitals

### National factors:

NHMRC HoMER project "Harmonisation of Ethical Review of Multi-centre Research".

Centres of Clinical Research Excellence - 2002

### Local factors:

Developing and embedding a single ethics review systems in the public sector that will overcome historical and cultural nuances

Developing and embedding systems that support HoMER priorities

## Local influencing factors on the Research Space in the Public Hospital

- Queensland Health has 15 HREC with ~ 150+ committee members and 20 + administrative staff
- With the exception of 2 funded Committee Chairs at RBWH and PAH, membership of all HRECs is voluntary
- 1100 protocols reviewed by QH HRECs in 2006-07
- Growing presence of university research facilities on most of the major hospital campuses
- More national, international and local research collaborations forming

## Queensland Health's commitment to supporting the Research Space in the Public Hospital

- Adoption of the Australian Research Ethics Database Information System (AU RED) in October 2008
- New Standard Operating Procedures for HREC and Research Governance in line with national reforms
- Standardisation of Clinical Trials Agreement and company specific Schedule 7 clauses;
- Move to adopt a streamlined single ethical review process for multi-centre research in the public sector in early 2009

### **Queensland Government commitment to supporting the Research Space in the Public Hospital**

- Establish the Office of Health and Medical Research which will take a whole of sector approach to the promotion of health and medical research & development and manage the new Queensland Government Health and Medical Research and Fellowship Program.

### **Queensland Government Commitment**

- Turning point - \$10b over 5 years – signalling that research was core business
- Health Education and Facilities Policy – each QH facility will support clinical research and education
- Collocation of university facilities on QH campuses
- Health and Medical Research Program \$25m which includes the OHMR

### **Health and Medical Research Program**

- Senior Clinical Research Fellowships
- Health Research Fellowships
- Clinical Academic Research Fellowships

This is over and above the \$3.4b investment in research institutes