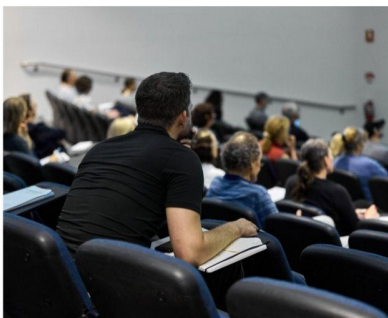
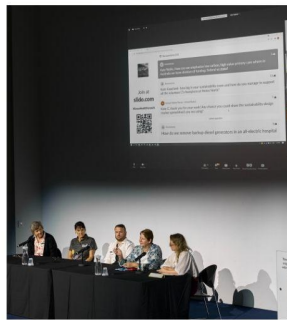
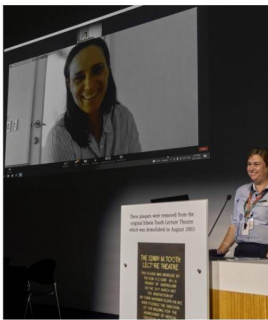


Greening the Healthcare Sector Forum 2021 Summary Report



About the Forum

The **Greening the Healthcare Sector Forum** brought together health and aged care sustainability champions, leadership and executive, government representatives, students, researchers and suppliers from across Australia and New Zealand to explore the big issues and solutions to fostering a healthy future for people and the planet.

The 2021 Forum theme was **Working towards a net zero emissions, climate resilient, equitable and environmentally sustainable healthcare sector: ensuring good health for all**. Program sessions were based around the Global Road Map for Healthcare Decarbonisation released by Health Care Without Harm and Arup in 2021, including:

- Transformation for an equitable, sustainable, resilient and low carbon health sector
- Net zero emissions - The big 3 (Energy, Buildings and Scope 3)
- Providing healthy, sustainably grown food + Implementing circular healthcare and sustainable healthcare waste management
- Achieving a more effective health system
- Climate resilience

The Climate and Health Alliance (CAHA), in partnership with leading healthcare stakeholders, have run annual events focusing on environmentally sustainable healthcare since 2012 (excluding 2020).

In 2021, the Climate and Health Alliance partnered with **UnitingCare** to deliver the Forum as a hybrid event (in person + online), with support from our host partner **Metro North Health**.

The Forum featured current research and policy to support the transition to net zero carbon and environmentally sustainable healthcare, and showcased practical examples of environmentally sustainable healthcare in action. The day provided an opportunity for connection, knowledge sharing, learning, and upskilling, and was relevant for a wide range of people working in or connected with the health sector in Australia.

Forum **objectives** were to:

1. Foster connection & knowledge sharing in our region
2. Facilitate learning and upskilling
3. Showcase sustainable healthcare action underway

In addition to the 34 expert speakers and facilitators who took part in the Forum, 303 registrations were received. Session recordings, slides and additional information were provided to all registrants, speakers and facilitators.

Exhibiting and networking spaces were provided both at the venue and online via the **Virtual Event Hub**. From these spaces attendees could view posters, visit exhibiting sponsor stands and engage with sustainable healthcare colleagues.

Metro North Health provided waste management-focused guided tours of their facilities for 20 people during the lunch break.

Environmental sustainability at the Forum

To minimise the environmental footprint of the Forum:

- Attendees could join online instead of travelling to the venue
- Carbon emissions associated with the Forum (approximately 40.47 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent) were offset using Greenfleet
- Vegetarian catering was provided
- Disposable foodware and food waste was sorted into different waste streams for appropriate disposal
- Attendees were encouraged to BYO reusable water bottles and coffee cups, avoid printing their ticket and program, and were provided with information about how to reach the venue via active and public transport

Program & Speakers

30 NOVEMBER 2021 ROYAL BRISBANE AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL + ONLINE

Session 1 Welcoming and Opening			
Facilitated by Bruce Moore	8.30 - 8.40	Introduction	Rev. Bruce Moore, Director of Mission, UnitingCare
	8.40 - 8.50	Welcome to Country	Shannon Ruska, Mianjin Traditional Owner, Tribal Experiences
	8.50 - 9.05	Opening address	Dr. Nick Watts, Chief Sustainability Officer, UK National Health Service (NHS)
	9.05 - 9.25	Transforming the health sector to achieve equity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples	Dr. Janine Mohamed, CEO, Lowitja Institute
	9.25 - 9.45	Big picture changes needed to achieve a low carbon and climate resilient health sector	Dr. Kate Charlesworth, Climate Risk Lead, Sydney North Health Network & North Sydney Local Health District
	9.45 - 10.00	Panel Q&A	
	10.00 - 10.30	BREAK - Morning tea	
Session 2 Net zero emissions - The big three: Energy, Buildings and Scope 3			
Facilitated by Doctors for the Environment Australia	10.30 - 10.35	Facilitator's introduction	Doctors for the Environment Australia
	10.35 - 10.50	Green buildings for a net zero future	Kate Copeland AO, Executive Director Assets & Infrastructure, Metro North Health
	10.50 - 11.00	Aligning health and energy co-benefits: An integrated approach to electrification and decarbonisation of healthcare facilities	Assoc. Prof. Wendy Miller, Queensland University of Technology
	11.00 - 11.15	Powering healthcare with 100% clean, renewable electricity	Jack Hooper, CEO, GEM Energy & Judene Andrews, Manager Environmental Sustainability, UnitingCare
	11.15 - 11.30	The elephant in the 'net zero' room: Tackling scope 3 supply chain emissions	Susan Wilburn, International Sustainability Director, Health Care Without Harm
	11.30 - 11.45	Greening general practice	Dr. Kate Wylie, Chair, RACGP's Climate and Environmental Medicine Specific Interests Group
	11.45 - 11.55	Advocating for all-electric hospitals	Dr. Ben Dunne, Thoracic Surgeon, Royal Melbourne Hospital & Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre
	11.55 - 12.15	Panel Q&A	
12.15 - 13.15	BREAK - Lunch & poster viewing		

Session 3 Providing healthy, sustainably grown food | Implementing circular healthcare and sustainable healthcare waste management

Facilitated by Simone Ryder	13.15 - 13.20	Facilitator's introduction	Simone Ryder , Director Corporate Service Division, Department of Health
	13.20 - 13.35	A snapshot of healthcare's food sustainability challenges + How a 'sustainable food systems dietitian' can help to green hospitals	Stefanie Carino , Dietitian, Eastern Health
	13.35 - 13.45	Delivering cost savings through plant-based catering in healthcare settings	Dr. Angela Genoni , Nutrition & Research Development Lead, Doctors for Nutrition
	13.45 - 13.55	Innovative solutions to increase diversion of 'waste'	Cleanaway
	13.55 - 14.10	Moving to circular systems in healthcare: Opportunities and lessons from other sectors	Ashleigh Morris , CEO & Jaine Morris , COO Coreo
	14.10 - 14.20	Sustainable practices in anaesthesia via TRA2SH (Trainee-led Research and Audit in Anaesthesia for Sustainability in Healthcare)	Dr. Rose Cameron , Steering Committee Member, TRA2SH (Advanced Anaesthetic Trainee, New Zealand)
	14.20 - 14.30	Building a green culture in a green building	Rachael Jackson , Clinical Nurse & Dr. Nellie Dick , SMO Anaesthetics, Sunshine Coast Hospital & Health Service
	14.30 - 14.40	Designing out hospital waste through a focus on reuse and single-stream recovery	Renee McBrien , Community, Horticulture & Environment Consultant, Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service
	14.40 - 14.55	Panel Q&A	
	14.55 - 15.25	BREAK – Afternoon tea	

Session 4 Achieving a more effective health system

Facilitated by Prof. Ian Scott	15.25 - 15.30	Facilitator's introduction	Prof. Ian Scott , Director of Internal Medicine & Clinical Epidemiology, Princess Alexandra Hospital
	15.30 - 15.40	Telehealth innovations to improve patient outcomes and reduce environmental impacts	Dr. Anthony Smith , Director, Centre for Online Health, University of Queensland
	15.40 - 15.50	Choosing Wisely - Preoperative pathology ordering	Dr. Lana Vestarkis , Anaesthetist & Dr. Anna Pietzsch , Anaesthetist, Sunshine Coast University Hospital
	15.50 - 16.00	Understanding the economics of a sustainable healthcare system	Assoc. Prof. Martin Hensher , Deakin University
	16.00 - 16.15	Panel Q&A	

Session 5 Climate resilience

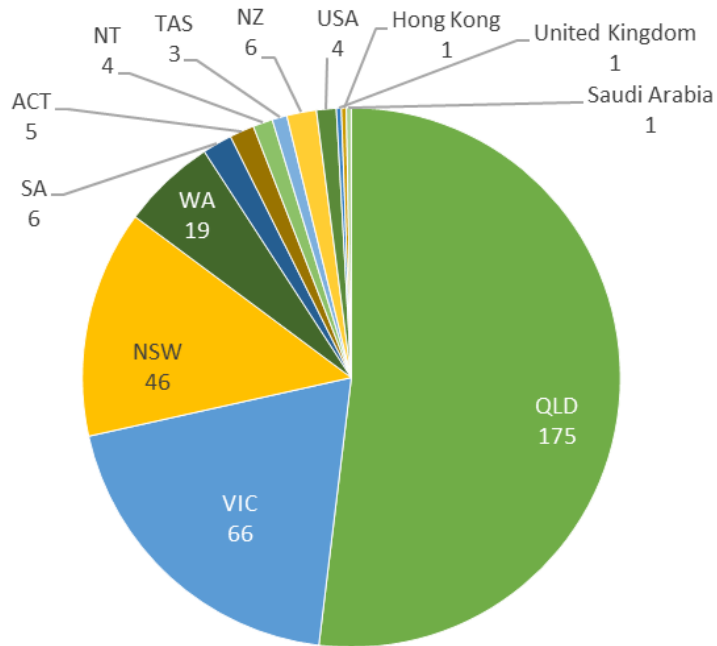
Facilitated by Sue Cooke	16.15 - 16.20	Facilitator's introduction	Sue Cooke , Climate and Health Alliance Consultant & Adjunct Senior Lecturer, Griffith University
	16.20 - 16.35	A sector-specific guide for health climate adaptation	Dr Peter Schneider , Principal Environmental Health Scientist, Queensland Health
	16.35 - 16.45	Greening infrastructure for climate adaptation, heatwave resilience and sustainability in aged care facilities	Prof. Claudia Baldwin , Co-Director Sustainability Research Centre, University of the Sunshine Coast, Dr. Tony Matthews , Urban & Environmental Planning, Griffith University
	16.45 - 16.55	Case Study: Ambulance Victoria's Climate Adaptation Plan	Catherine O'Shea , Sustainability Analyst, Ambulance Victoria
	16.55 - 17.10	Panel Q&A	
17.10 - 17.30	Closing remarks & thank you		

Program may be subject to change

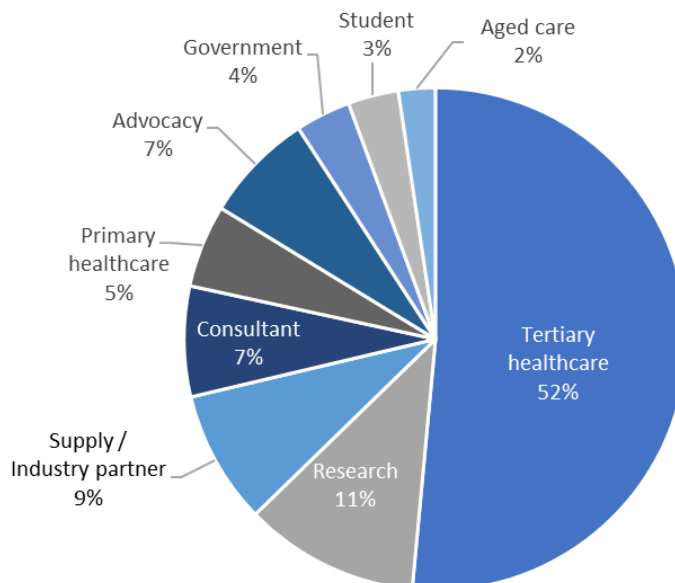
Attendance & Feedback

337 people took part in the Forum. 303 people registered, and an additional 34 people presented or facilitated at the Forum. 94 people attended the Forum in person.

Where attendees were from:



Sectors attendees represented:



Attendee feedback

98.5% of attendees surveyed (67 responses in total) said they were either very satisfied (50 responses) or satisfied (16 responded) with the Forum overall (the remaining respondent selected neutral/unsure).

Respondents were positive about the quality and passion of speakers, diversity and organisation of the program, networking opportunities, and the inclusion of practical examples of work underway.

Below is a selection of responses to the question:

What did you like most about the Forum?

"I enjoyed the diversity of the speakers, and the quality of the presentations was excellent. It was a very well thought out program"

"Idea sharing and sense of community with a common interest"

"I enjoyed hearing of initiatives already in place, current research and passion and commitment for future improvements"

"The people and the program - hearing from local and international speakers on a range relevant of topics, meeting people face to face including the sponsors"

"I really enjoyed hearing about the work done across the country in creating an environmentally sustainable healthcare system, and the novel solutions people in a variety of sectors are coming up with. There were so many things I had no idea had a significant carbon footprint, and I learned a lot from hearing about what we can do as individuals and organisations"

"Highly professional and informative presentations and organisation"

"Understanding what is happening in other facilities and from a government point of view"

"Seeing how many others across Australia are passionate about environment and sustainability in health care; also finding about what is happening and what is possible"

"I liked hearing about simple practical solutions and how to embed them into organisations"

"Extremely well organised with excellent presentations"

The word cloud below was generated from participants sharing how they felt at the end of the Forum:



Forum exposure

Croakey Health Media

Croakey Health Media published two articles covering the Forum:

- [To achieve a net zero health system, what will it take?](#)
- [From the movement for greener healthcare, eight reasons to be inspired and hopeful](#)

Social media engagement

Twitter was the primary engagement platform for the forum, using the hashtag #GreenHealthForum21. Under this hashtag, 130 unique accounts shared 775 Tweets, collectively reaching 6,688,000 people. Twitter engagement came from sustainable healthcare experts, Australian health institutions and journalists alike. The event itself was live-Tweeted by CAHA, thus enabling those who could not attend to benefit from the insights of the event.

Promotional partners



Doctors for the Environmental Australia, Queensland Nurses and Midwives' Union, the Australasian College of Health Service Management and the Australian Healthcare and Hospitals Association kindly supported the Forum by promoting it with their networks.

Forum Organisers

Climate and Health Alliance and GGHH Pacific region

CAHA's mission is to build a powerful health sector movement for climate action and sustainable healthcare. CAHA coordinates the Global Green and Healthy Hospitals (GGHH) Network in the Pacific region (Australia and New Zealand). GGHH supports health institutions to reduce their environmental footprint and develop climate resilience to protect and promote public and environmental health.



Coordinated in the
Pacific region by



UnitingCare

UnitingCare is a courageous and creative health and community services provider and one of the largest charities in Australia. Each year, they work with more than 430,000 individuals, families and communities in over 460 locations in Queensland and the Northern Territory. Through their accessible services UnitingCare is committed to empowering older people, those living with a disability, people requiring health care in hospital or at home, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, children and families.



Forum Host

Metro North Health

Metro North Health enables people to deliver excellent patient-centred care and high quality health services. Metro North Health is the largest of 16 Hospital and Health Services (HHS) that provide public health services in Queensland.

Metro North Health focuses on collaboration with healthcare partners and an investment in systems, engagement and culture; they connect people to deliver services to a population approaching 900,000, from north of the Brisbane River to north of Kilcoy.



Forum Sponsors

We are grateful for the support of our Forum Sponsors.

Major sponsor



Exhibiting sponsors

