New State-wide lead for HealthPathways

Mackay Institute of Research and Innovation (MIRI) and Mackay HealthPathways Lead Clinical Editor, Dr Aaron Kennedy has been named Regional Group Clinical Advisor across the state of Queensland. The appointment is a testament to the hard work and success Mackay HealthPathways has seen since its launch in 2015.

HealthPathways is a web based portal providing General Practitioners and other health professionals with a ‘care-map’ system that navigates the complex health system. Since its launch, over 500 pathways have been localised for the Mackay region.

“The system is built on a strong philosophy of working collaboratively. It provides locally agreed-upon evidence-based clinical pathways that assist with assessment, management and referral options specific to our region”.

“This helps clinicians and their patients make health care choices that ensure they get the right care, at the right time by the right person” said Dr Kennedy.

Executive Director of MIRI Dr David Farlow explains, “Often there are delays because a patient is referred to specialist doctor at Mackay Base Hospital and when they get an appointment they need further tests or examinations that could have been done before the first appointment if the GP knew what the specialist doctor wanted.”

Over the past 3 years Mackay HealthPathways has assisted many health professionals across our region and the local team have successfully created a wider collaborative effort within the HealthPathways community at state, national and international levels, which makes Dr Kennedy’s position more exciting.

“Queensland has already set strong foundations between local HealthPathways teams and has mentored a number of other regions to help set up their teams. As Queensland Clinical Advisor I will be able to further support all teams across the state to perform their roles effectively and improve the delivery of patient care” said Dr Kennedy.

The formidable partnership between Dr Kennedy and Mackay HealthPathways Manager Toni Simmons has further been acknowledged with Ms Simmons’ allocation as the State Chair.

“HealthPathways has laid a solid foundation across the Mackay region, we are looking forward to taking this to the next level and working collaboratively across the State to create a really powerful tool to facilitate improvements in our healthcare systems and better patient outcomes” said Ms Simmons.