the hopkins centre
Research for Rehabilitation and Resilience

Bold Ideas
Better Solutions
The Hopkins Centre: Research for Rehabilitation and Resilience is a joint initiative of Griffith University, the Division of Rehabilitation, Metro South Hospital and Health Service and the Motor Accident Insurance Commission.

Our researchers focus on topics of relevance to people with brain injury, spinal cord injury, amputation, persistent pain and other chronic disabbling conditions that have lifelong implications for individuals, their families and support services.

The Centre is leading the way in interdisciplinary applied research that examines disability and rehabilitation practices, services and systems. It provides a vehicle for driving improvements in service delivery by facilitating research that is embedded in practice.

We are ideally positioned at the interface of research, clinical practice and community, bringing together experienced rehabilitation practitioners, expert academic researchers, community practitioners, policy-makers and consumers.

The approach and structure of the Centre enhances timely translation of knowledge into new ways of working and improved outcomes for people living with chronic disability and complex health conditions. By creating an environment that nurtures sustainable partnerships and respectful sharing of diverse knowledge, the Centre continually expands its potential and the impact of its research.
The Centre is named in recognition of Dr. Paul Hopkins, AO, a rehabilitation physician who changed the face of rehabilitation in Queensland. In the early 1960s, he gained his Fellowship in Surgery in Edinburgh, but his career dramatically changed when he suffered a stroke. Unable to practice surgery, Paul turned to rehabilitation medicine and became one of Australia’s most influential rehabilitation practitioners.

Over the next four decades, he established or developed rehabilitation services and clinics. In 1969, he was appointed as Medical Director of Rehabilitation Services for Queensland Health and retained this role until his retirement in 1998. He was also Director of brain injury rehabilitation and amputee services at Princess Alexandra Hospital from 1992 to 1998. Paul was a foundation fellow of the Australian College of Rehabilitation Medicine in 1979 and an executive of the Australasian Faculty of Rehabilitation Medicine Qld (AFRM) until 1995.

In 2000, he was named an Officer of the Order of Australia for his service to rehabilitation and children with disabilities. During his career, Paul maintained a deep respect for the people he served as well as his fellow workers. He pioneered person-centred interdisciplinary practice and advocated tirelessly to protect the dignity of people with disabilities.

We are honoured to acknowledge the memory of Dr. Paul Hopkins by crafting The Hopkins Centre on his values and pursuing research questions that intrigued him throughout his remarkable career.
Finding solutions to complex challenges through interdisciplinary collaborative and responsive research that is embedded in practice.
facilitating choice

promoting positive images

expanding opportunities

enhancing potential

engaging people and families
Our research streams are a mechanism for clustering practitioners, consumers and academics around important questions about service delivery and rehabilitation practice. Driven by our values, the research conducted at the Centre focuses on important interfaces and intersections that define the ways in which services are experienced by people with disability and their families.
bold ideas better solutions
our leadership team

Professor Elizabeth Kendall
Executive Director

Professor Tim Geraghty
Deputy Director

Professor Michele Foster
Research Director

The Centre proudly supports over 100 researchers across our partner organisations. Our researchers are internationally recognised leaders in their fields of disability practice and policy, community rehabilitation, vocational rehabilitation, occupational therapy, speech pathology, social psychology, social work, rehabilitation medicine, law, the arts and environmental science.
our core research team
Our Research Support Unit (RSU) takes responsibility for building research capacity and supporting the translation of knowledge into policy and practice. It provides opportunities and growth for researchers, practitioners and students.

- build research capability by resourcing both the quality and quantity of productivity
- facilitate research communication through timely dissemination and translation
- promote research collaborations by supporting partnerships and networks

The RSU provides support to the executive in their effort to build a skilled and sustainable research workforce, to maintain the integrity of a priority-driven research agenda and to ensure the responsiveness of the Hopkins Centre to emerging industry needs. Most importantly, the RSU works to achieve critical reach at all times through impactful knowledge exchange and translation.

Stephanie Prout  
Research Administration and Development Manager

Macarla Kerr  
Research Administration Officer

Kelsey Chapman  
Publications and Ethics Assistant

Rachel Jones  
Research Assistant
Clinical and research collaborations are pivotal to the work of the Centre. We are very proud to recognise our valued partners and look forward to working with them to improve the relevance and impact of research.
spread the word

Disability and rehabilitation research often hides behind the more exciting scientific discoveries and cures that dominate the news. It is our research that often identifies the need for these other initiatives because we work directly with people who have disabilities and their families. Help us spread the word about how important it is to value the voice of people with disabilities in all decision-making and discovery. We need your support to encourage all services to use evidence to design high quality empathic services and systems that can improve the lives of so many people.

keep informed

If you would like to be kept informed of our developments and see our recent research findings, you can subscribe to our mailing list by registering at hopkinscentre@griffith.edu.au.

Check out our website: www.hopkinscentre.edu.au
Follow us on Twitter: https://twitter.com/hopkins_centre

become a recognised collaborator

We welcome partners who share our mission to create interdisciplinary collaborative and responsive research that respects the needs of practitioners and consumers and translates into real-world solutions to complex challenges.

https://www.griffith.edu.au/industry/?src=hp&p=sp
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