

16 September 2022

New direction for research partnership

The Centre for Health Research Illawarra Shoalhaven Population (CHRISP) has been a six year partnership between the Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District (ISLHD), the Australian Health Services Research Institute (AHSRI) and more recently, the Graduate School of Medicine, University of Wollongong (UOW). Over the next year we will be transitioning the partnership to a new arrangement by centralising data and analytics resources at ISLHD.

ISLHD's ongoing commitment to research and innovation is focused on bolstering clinical research and trials and investing in research that is located at the health service to be more closely linked to clinical care. In order to achieve this, the District is building on the research foundations established in recent years, including through CHRISP, as it moves to consolidate its approach via a central ISLHD entity.

The approach aligns with a recent review of ISLHD's research capability, which confirms that research undertaken at a health service is integral to the delivery of high quality patient care.

ISLHD and AHSRI, together with the wider UOW community, will continue to work closely in our shared goals of developing and strengthening local research capacity and opportunities.

We are now collaboratively developing a plan to transition staff and existing research projects. Those directly affected have been part of our initial discussions and consultation will continue.

ISLHD, would like thank the AHSRI and CHRISP teams for their steadfast efforts in progressing the research agenda in recent years. The District's inaugural Board Chair, Professor Denis King OAM and AHSRI Director, Professor Kathy Eagar, must also be acknowledged for their visionary approach to health research and the establishment of the Illawarra Health Information Platform and CHRISP.