



QUALITY MATTERS

An NQMC update: August 2022

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NQMC Chair Professor Liz Kenny AO

The Commonwealth and the NQMC extended a warm welcome to the new Chair, Professor Liz Kenny AO. Professor Kenny is a Professor at the School of Medicine, University of Queensland and a Senior Radiation Oncologist at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital. Professor Kenny holds other significant affiliations and past appointments, including:

- Past President, Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Radiologists (RANZCR) and past Dean, Faculty of Radiation Oncology of RANZCR
- Past President, Clinical Oncology Society of Australia (COSA)
- Past Chair of the Queensland Clinical Network Executive
- Cardiovascular and Interventional Radiological Society of Europe (CIRSE), lead clinician, Practice Standards in Interventional Oncology
- Member of steering board for the International Accreditation System for Interventional Oncology Services (IASIOS)

- Chair, International Affairs Committee of the Radiological Society of North America (RSNA).

Members are delighted to welcome Professor Kenny to the program and look forward to continuing the significant contribution of her predecessor Dr Julie Thompson.

We are very excited to be working with Professor Kenny and for the significant contribution she will no doubt make to the BreastScreen Australia program.

NQMC Membership

The NQMC would like to welcome the following new and extended members:

- Mr Paul Vardon the newly appointed State Quality Committee Chair Member.
- Ms Helen Lund the newly appointed Data Manager Member.
- Ms Alison Lang the newly appointed Commonwealth Representative.
- Extended members Professor Gelareh Farshid (Pathologist member), Dr Jane Fox (Surgeon member) and Dr Jill Evans (Radiologist member). The NQMC Chair noted the extensions were requested as exceptional circumstances, due to the need to retain corporate knowledge across key clinical members of the Committee and provide enough time to upskill new members. The NQMC thanked these members for their ongoing commitment.
- Ms Sue Macaulay (Radiographer member) has had her membership continued for a second term. The NQMC thanked Sue for her ongoing commitment.

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The NQMC thanked and farewelled the following members:

- Ms Doris Whitmore, State Quality and Committee Chair Member.
- Ms Shirley Malan, Data Manager Proxy Member.
- Ms Karla Lister, Commonwealth Representative.

The Secretariat is seeking nominations for the following Proxy member positions:

- Consumer Advocate Proxy.
- Data Manager Proxy
- Epidemiologist Proxy

Please contact the NQMC Secretariat (nqmcsecretariat@allenandclarke.com.au) if you are interested in nominating for any of the above positions.

NQMC reporting

Accreditation Application and Annual Data Report (ADR) Submission

The NQMC encourages all Services and SCUs to submit their accreditation and ADR data via Validata using the updated Excel template.

The use of Validata enables an automated submission process and the opportunity to improve quality control and data checking. For further support using Validata or the Excel template, please contact [the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#).

Further, the NQMC notes the following submission dates to Services and SCUs for accreditation applications and ADRs:

| Meeting Date | Submission Date |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| 26 August 2022 | 5pm, Friday 29 July 2022 |
| 18 November 2022 | 5pm, Friday 28 October 2022 |
| 3 March 2023 | 5pm, Friday 3 February 2023 |
| 26 May 2023 | 5pm, Friday 28 April 2023 |

BSA National Surveyor update

By Ms. Joan Burns

Become an Accreditation Surveyor for BreastScreen Australia! Expressions of Interest are now open.

Expressions of Interest to become a Surveyor for the BreastScreen Australia Accreditation Program are now open.

The program is seeking expressions of interest from Radiologists, Radiographers, Service Directors/Program Managers, and Data Assessors to join the pool of Accreditation Surveyors.

Applicants must meet the selection criteria for the specific Surveyor role, attend mandatory training, and attend at least one accreditation survey as an observer before being eligible to be appointed as a member of a Survey Team to undertake an accreditation survey.

Being a Surveyor has many benefits including helping to drive quality improvement in BreastScreen Services, State Coordination Units (SCUs) and the program overall. Surveyors will have the opportunity to learn about how other Services/SCUs undertake their activities, to visit other Services/SCUs and engage with their peers and other staff of BreastScreen Services/SCUs.

Surveyors are expected to undertake, wherever possible, a minimum of one survey per year. Surveyors are also required to observe the Surveyor Code of Conduct.

Surveyors are paid an honorarium to assist with covering the cost of time spent in preparation and report-writing for surveys. Eligible Surveyors may also be paid a daily fee. Travel, accommodation, and meal expenses are also covered. An iPad is provided to Surveyors to assist them undertake their role.

The application package containing a copy of the online application form, role description, selection criteria and Surveyor Code of Conduct can be accessed by contacting the

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NQMC Secretariat via email on nqmcsecretariat@allenandclarke.com.au and requesting the package appropriate to your role that you are applying for.

Applicants should complete their application form online.

Applicants must specifically address the selection criteria and provide a current CV including the names and contact details of a Proposer and Seconder (Radiologist and Radiographer roles) or two referees (Service Director/Program Manager and Data Assessor roles).

Further enquiries can be made by contacting the National Surveyor, Joan Burns, preferably by email at nationalsurveyor@jbapl.com.au or on 0409 883 255.

- **Applications close on Friday 9 September 2022.**
- **Successful applicants will be notified by December 2022.**

The Surveyor Training session will be held online in February/March 2023 with a focus on the requirements for undertaking virtual accreditation surveys. Successful applicants who are unable to attend this session may attend a subsequent training session in 2023.

Virtual Accreditation Survey (VAS) Evaluation – How was it for you?

Virtual accreditation surveys have been undertaken since 2021 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is critical to hear from those who have participated in a virtual survey about your experience – what was it like for you? What worked and didn't work? What could be done better?

A questionnaire has been designed to evaluate how well the current VAS process is working and areas for future improvement.

Anyone who has participated in a virtual accreditation survey can provide their

feedback by completing the online questionnaire here:

Complete the [online questionnaire by clicking here](#)

The Rosemary Bryant AO Research Centre at the University of South Australia has been contracted by the Australian Government Department of Health to undertake an independent, process evaluation of the recent transition to the new virtual accreditation survey process for Services and State Coordination Units in the BreastScreen Australia program.

Your responses are anonymous and go directly to the independent evaluators at UniSA. Further information about the questionnaire is contained in the link.

If you are a Service Director or Program Manager, you are encouraged to forward this to staff at your Service or other colleagues who were involved in a Service or SCU virtual accreditation survey.

BreastScreen Australia – research and other activities

BreastScreen Victoria updates

BreastScreen Victoria are delighted to announce that Ms Rita Butera has been appointed as the new CEO of BreastScreen Victoria, and commenced in the role on Monday 11 July 2022.

Rita joins the organisation from Safe Steps Family Violence Response where she has served as CEO for three years. Directly prior to this, Rita spent over 11 years at Women's Health Victoria as CEO and has also worked in senior roles at Beyond Blue and VicHealth. The Board was very impressed with Rita's experience and in-depth knowledge of women's health, her broad expertise in successfully leading organisations, and her passion to take BreastScreen Victoria forward.

The NQMC would like to thank Ms Terri Smith for her leadership and dedication to BreastScreen Victoria over the last two years

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and wish her well in her retirement. Terri's last day was the 27th April 2022.

BreastScreen NSW (Greater Western) Aboriginal Engagement Project update

This Project was built on a successful model implemented in Brewarrina, Western NSW, during the BreastScreen NSW (Greater Western) Mobile Van's visit in 2016. Here, a Well Women's Workshop was held, based on the Cancer Australia's *Well Women's Workshop Community Education Resource*. Feedback was positive; as a result, a partnership with BreastScreen NSW (Greater Western) and the Aboriginal Health Leadership Team (AHLT) was formed, to develop an application for funding, through the Cancer Institute's Cancer Screening and Prevention Grants.

The Project team mapped the projected BreastScreen NSW (Greater Western) mobile van's 2-year travel schedule, to ensure access to screening was attached to the Project. A successful recruitment process was undertaken, and a female age-appropriate Aboriginal Project Officer (PO) was appointed. This appointment has been critical to the success of the Project, ensuring Aboriginal women feel culturally protected when attending Yarning Circles.

The Project focuses on BreastScreen NSW's prevention messaging and services. In preparation for the Yarning Circles the Project team engage, consult and collaborate with local Aboriginal health workers, where possible, Aboriginal Medical Services, and other local organisations. The Yarning Circles consist of messaging on the importance of breast screening, fears, barriers and the screening process. The Project team provide assistance to attendees to be screened, then to return to the Yarning Circle for additional support.

This Project is sustainable as collaborative working partnerships are developed with Aboriginal community-based organisations and health workers. These partnerships are developed to better meet the needs of the local Aboriginal women. These partnerships

allow for pooling of resources to improve operational efficiency and improve allocation of staff resources. Further, through collaboration and consultation the Project builds community ownership, engagement and support which leads to long-term sustainability within these communities. This Project demonstrates the positive impact of a culturally appropriate health promotion strategy. See images on page five.

BreastScreen Western Australia updates

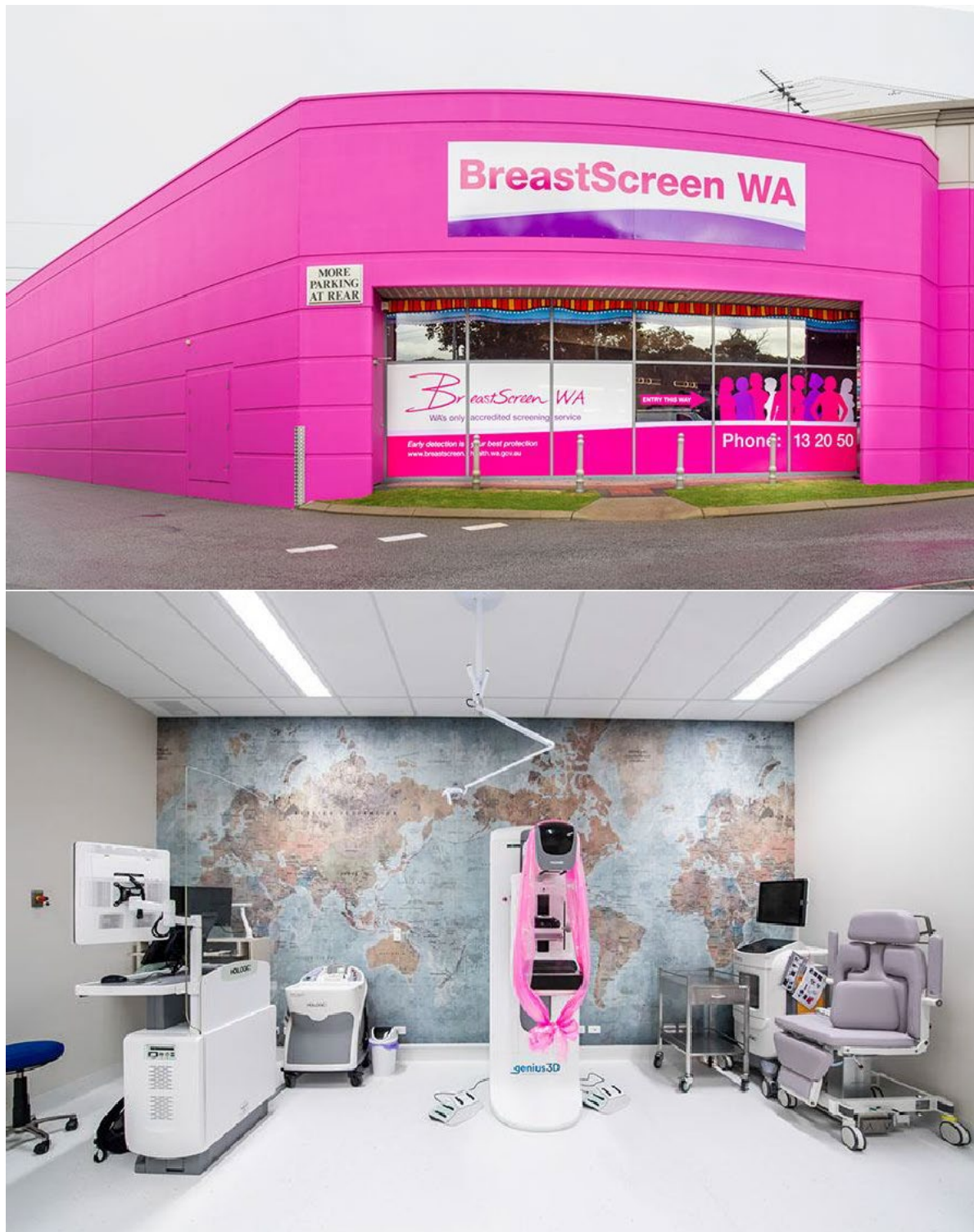
BSWA has proudly opened a new purpose-built clinic in the Perth suburb of Joondalup. Joondalup is a rapidly growing region in the outer northern corridor of the metropolitan area. The clinic has three screening rooms and is fully equipped to run assessment. Screening commenced in May 2022 and assessment opened on the 1st of August. Screening is available 4 days per week from Tuesday to Friday and in August assessment clinics will open on Monday.

The State Quality Co Chair Dr Di Hastrich together with consumer representatives and key staff will visit the site and perform an interim survey of the facilities once fully operational.

Images of the fabulous facility below are a credit to the design and project teams who worked hard to bring this clinic to operational status despite many setbacks and difficulties. See images on page seven onwards.

The next Quality Matters Bulletin will be published following the August 2022 meeting.





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