



QUEENSLAND
eye
INSTITUTE
FOUNDATION

Annual Report 2021

QEI Foundation.

Delivering first
class eye care
underpinned by
scientific research
and education.



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Acknowledgement to Country

We acknowledge the Turrbal/Yugara people as the traditional owners of the lands where the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation now stands. We pay respect to their Elders, past, current and emerging. We recognise that these lands have always been places of teaching, research, learning and healing.

Commitment to Sustainability

With a growing interest in how corporations and institutions, their suppliers and partners are addressing the sustainability goals, the Board has decided to formally adopt the UN's Sustainability

Development Goals (SDG) as part of the way we do things. We looked at the Goals and identified how QEI is currently taking steps to meet these goals as well as steps that may need to be taken in the future.

Over the last couple of years, our staff have discussed the need for the Institute to look at our impact on our environment and have suggested, and implemented a number of practices to reduce waste and recycle where we can.

Our performance will be reviewed annually, and reported back to staff and our stakeholders through our Annual Report.

Our Purpose

The Queensland Eye Institute Foundation (QEIF) is Queensland's largest independent academic research institute devoted to eye-related health and diseases. QEIF works every day to save sight by providing innovation and excellence in research, education and clinical care to reduce eye diseases, improve eye health, and ultimately eliminate preventable blindness in the community.

Its state of the art facilities in South Brisbane and Clayfield, include the QEI Clinics, South Bank Day Hospital, Queensland Electro-Diagnostic and

Imaging Centre (QEDIC), medical research and microsurgical teaching laboratories, medical library and the home of QEIF.

With no government funding QEIF's survival relies solely on the generosity of donors, businesses and the community.



Welcome

We are pleased to present the 2021 Annual Report for the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation (QEIF).

As we look back over the past year, it is clear that the challenges of 2020, in particular the impact of COVID-19 on our operations, continued in 2021. Like many organisations, QEIF, adjusted to the realities of living in the pandemic. Within the framework of Government guidelines and regulations, the Foundation's main priority was to ensure the health, safety and well-being of our staff, patients and visitors. With COVID-19 testing and pandemic control measures continuing to be in place, we were able to get on with the day-to-day activities of providing essential treatment, sight-saving research, and excellent clinical care.

One of the big changes resulting from the pandemic has been the move to providing education through online channels. While we have missed the physical interaction of 'in person' events, we have noticed a significant increase in the number of clinicians and trainees attending many of the virtual Ophthalmic Grand Rounds. Virtual meetings have their advantage in providing an opportunity for more people to attend education sessions. However, not all education activities were virtual. During the year, we were able to return to 'in person' continuing education programmes for optometrists, which were well attended.

While limited grant support for vision related research throughout Australia has continued to put pressure on our research projects, one area that has seen a significant growth in interest and activity has been clinical trials (see article in this Annual Report). Clinical trials are carefully controlled trials that allow us to test and compare new treatments, procedures and devices, including diagnostic devices, to ensure they are safe and effective for a particular disease or condition. QEIF is playing an increasingly active role in conducting such trials in the areas of vision and ophthalmology.

Patient numbers in our clinics returned to pre-pandemic levels and even continued to grow in 2021. Despite staff pressures brought on by COVID-19 exposure, we were able to continue to provide a high level of service delivery and quality care. As an Institute, we continue to look at how we can improve and expand our clinical offerings. In 2022 we hope to be able to report on new initiatives.

As a Foundation, we are committed to saving sight. Our team of dedicated clinicians, researchers, staff and volunteers continue to make QEI the institute that it is – an outcome focused medical research and teaching institute. Given the ongoing challenges provided by the COVID-19 pandemic, we want to acknowledge each person's patience and commitment to our goals and our patients.

Finally, we thank all our supporters during this past year, especially our donors, who continue to support us along the path of eliminating avoidable blindness in our community. We want to particularly acknowledge the support of the Sylvia and Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation, its Trustees and its Chair, Justice Debra Mullins, for their ongoing support of our mission and our work.

Mark Sheridan
CHAIRMAN



Professor Mark Radford
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO



2021 Snapshot



**QEI
STAFF**
62



**CLINICAL
TRIALS**
4



**RESEARCH
PROJECTS**
7



**RESEARCH
PUBLICATIONS**
20



**PATIENT
CONSULTATIONS**
27,154

Collaborations

INTERNATIONAL ●

- Aston University, Birmingham, UK
- University of Marseille (Polytech), Marseille, France
- University of Würzburg, Germany
- National Agriculture & Food Research Organization, Tsukuba, Japan
- G. E. Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science and Technology, Targu Mures, Romania
- Clemson University, South Carolina, USA

NATIONAL ●

- Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane
- University of Queensland, Brisbane
- University of Sydney, Sydney
- University of Adelaide, Ophthalmic Research Laboratories, Adelaide
- University of Western Australia, Perth
- Lions Eye Institute, Perth
- University of Melbourne, CERA, Melbourne
- Bond University, Gold Coast
- Flinders university, Adelaide



Board of Directors



Mark Sheridan OAM
CHAIRMAN

Mark Sheridan is a Partner with leading business advisory

firm Mazars in Brisbane. He has a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) and is a Fellow of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand. He is also a Fellow of the Institute of Managers and Leaders and a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

He was appointed a Director of the Prevent Blindness Foundation in 2003 and Chairman of the Foundation from April 2011.



Jemma Elder
DIRECTOR

Jemma is an accomplished Managing Director with a strong

track record of performance in Australia and New Zealand. She was previously with Publicis, one of the world's largest media and communications agency networks, where her remit spanned leadership of Personalised Plates Queensland, KiwiPlates and Qantas Corporate Sales.

Jemma brings extensive business, technology, sales and marketing experience having previously worked in senior positions with ASX listed companies.

Jemma holds a Bachelor of Business and Grad Certificate Applied Finance. She is a GAICD and sits on the board of the Southbank Medical Group and the Gold Coast Titans rugby league football club. She is also a member of the Greater Outcomes Advisory Committee that fosters entrepreneurial learning & social enterprise development.



Mark Radford
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Prof. Mark Radford has been Executive Director and Chief

Executive Officer for the Queensland Eye Institute since March 2010. Mark completed his first undergraduate degree at Flinders University of South Australia in 1978. After being awarded a Japanese Government (Mombusho) Fellowship, Mark completed his Doctor of Medicine at Nagasaki University School of Medicine in 1992 and a PhD at Flinders University (1989).

In 2006, Mark returned to Australia to become CEO and Managing Director of Symbiosis Group Limited – a life science investment, management and commercialisation company based in Brisbane, Australia. Mark has extensive experience in medical research, teaching and management.

Mark is a member of a number of professional associations. He is Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD), Institute of Managers and Leaders, and Queensland Academy of Arts and Sciences (QAAS), and an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists.



Kelly Langdon
COMPANY SECRETARY

Kelly Langdon has been associated with the Queensland Eye Institute

since 2004 in a General Management consulting capacity. Kelly's qualifications included a Bachelor of Human Resource Management and Economics.

Kelly enjoys the variety and scope of working with the Queensland Eye Institute; it provides the opportunity to bring commercial business to the not for profit sector.



Mario Pennisi AM
DIRECTOR

Mario is a strategic advisor and consultant with more than

30 years' experience in managing and growing commercial operations in the life sciences industry. He was a government-appointed Member of the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Council, and associated committees, including as Chair of the IHBI External Engagement Committee. He is also the Chair of Griffith University's Clinical Trials Advisory Committee and a Member of the Queensland Government's Biofutures Industry Advisory Group.

Mario's Non-Executive Director roles include Elo Life Systems Australia Pty Ltd, Alpine Immune Sciences Australia Pty Ltd, Integral Scopes Pty Ltd, and Chair of Suncare Community Services Ltd. Previous roles include executive positions at Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology and Mayne Group as well as serving as CEO of Life Sciences Queensland Ltd. and Queensland Clinical Trials Network Inc.



John Lowes
DIRECTOR

John is a retired special counsel and previously a partner with

Shand Taylor Lawyers, a firm which he joined in 2007.

Prior to merging his firm with Shand Taylor in 2007, he was the principal of Lowes & Company, a predominantly property and commercial law firm which he headed up for 11 years. Before commencing his own firm, he was a partner for eight years with an international law firm, Phillips Fox, now DLA Piper.

In the forty odd years he practised as a solicitor, John concentrated on all aspects of property, business law and private client advisory. He has also acted for a broad range of health professionals and specialist medical groups.

John gained Specialist Accreditation in Property Law from the Queensland Law Society in 2002 and served for ten years as a member of their Specialist Accreditation Board.

QEI has become renowned as one of the world's finest centres for eye health, medical research, education and care.



Research Advisory Committee

Prof Mark Radford

Mark has been Executive Director and CEO of QEIF since 2010. He has a Doctor of Medicine from Nagasaki University, Japan and a PhD from Flinders University of South Australia.

Mark is a Fellow of Australian Institute of Company Directors, the Institute of Managers and Leaders, and the Queensland Academy of Arts & Sciences, and an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists.

Mario Pennisi AM

Mario is a strategic advisor and consultant with more than 30 years' experience in managing and growing commercial operations in the life sciences industry. He is a government-appointed Member of the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) Council, and associated committees, including as Chair of the IHBI External Engagement Committee.

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Previous roles include executive positions at Sullivan Nicolaides Pathology and Mayne Group as well as serving as CEO of Life Sciences Queensland Ltd. and Queensland Clinical Trials Network Inc.

Prof Helen Chenery

Professor Chenery is former Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences and Medicine at Bond University. In previous academic roles - as Director of a translational clinical research centre in neuromodulation and Deputy Executive Dean (Academic), Faculty of Health Sciences at The University of Queensland - she has led policy and practice reform in dementia care, health workforce and service design, and interprofessional education/practice.

Professor Chenery has extensive strategic and operational experience in executive leadership roles within the higher education, disability and health sectors. She has completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors Course (2012), a 4-week residential program for Senior Executives at the London Business School (2011) and a short course in Strategic Negotiation and Competitive Decision Making at Harvard Business School (2016).

Prof Peter McCluskey AO

Professor Peter McCluskey is Director of the Save Sight Institute at Sydney Eye Hospital and Professor and Chair of Ophthalmology at the University of Sydney. Peter is an inflammatory eye disease specialist with more than 25 years' experience in the field. His primary clinical focus is vision-threatening chronic inflammatory eye disease and he has a large clinical practice as well as being actively involved in clinical research and clinical trials. His laboratory research focuses on mediators of inflammatory eye disease and he has ongoing clinical and laboratory collaborations in the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Vietnam and the United States.



 Dr Abhishek Sharma

Peter graduated with first class honours from the University of NSW. He completed his ophthalmology training at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital and Sydney Eye Hospital. During his MD studies in ocular immunology at UNSW, he completed a fellowship in uveitis and HIV ophthalmology at Moorfields Eye Hospital in London in 1993-94.

He has received distinguished service awards from APAO, RANZCO and AAO for his teaching contributions. Most recently he has received the Mark Tso Golden Apple award from the International Council of Ophthalmology and Asia Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology as the outstanding teacher in the Asia Pacific region for 2012.

Impacts & Outcomes

Clinical Care

Our 2021 year has definitely been one that has seen a lot of change for the Queensland Eye Institute (QEI) Clinics at both South Brisbane and Clayfield. While we started the year with challenges faced by a global pandemic this has filtered through to change the everyday lives of our staff and patients. As the world adapts to living with COVID-19 so has the clinic. We have had to be able to adapt to new challenges and conditions like never before.

Increased screening prior to patient appointments has helped us to reduce the risk of patients coming to the clinic unwell. Increased text messages and phone calls confirming appointments have also helped us to identify appointments that need to be rescheduled due to the illness. We have also found that there has been an increased number of phone calls with patients identifying the need to reschedule appointments due to illness or the need to isolate.

While we have been fortunate not to have any staff members become severely ill from COVID-19, we have had to face times when many of our staff members have been away unwell or because they need to self isolate. Many of our Specialists have also been in this situation and we have had

to reschedule clinics at short notice while still ensuring that we provide continuity of care for our patients. Our team and Specialists have worked very closely together to assist each other and our patients during these times.

We have continued to be guided by Queensland Health and tried to adopt an organisation wide approach to following these guidelines. This has helped us to ensure we are working towards the highest level of protection for our staff and patients. We have continued to offer temperature testing for all patients and sign in protocols for all visiting students, Optometrists and contractors to the clinic. The QEI clinic team also made sure that we complied with the mandatory vaccination requirements.

Telehealth video services were offered for many paediatric clinics throughout the year as Dr Kehdi was unable to travel due to interstate border restrictions. These clinics proved very successful as we were able to continue to provide medical services for patients who would have otherwise needed to seek treatment elsewhere. We also experienced an increase in the number of phone call consultations and email requests as patients were unable to travel into the clinics for a variety of reasons.

QEI is Queensland's largest independent academic research institute devoted to eye related health and diseases.



Sustainability and thinking about our future has been a large focus for the clinic this year. With our QEI corporate initiatives announced, the clinic developed a sustainability committee to look at what we could do to expand on our corporate initiatives. Some very practical examples of initiatives include safe disposal of batteries, recycling, reducing the amount of printed material, cutting ear loops off face masks and increasing staff education.

During 2021 we also worked on our Risk Management initiatives. A training module for staff on Risk Management was developed with specific focus on health care settings. This was developed

in line with industry requirements for training on risk management. This has enabled our clinic risk management committee to further review and develop strategies for risk mitigation.

The QEI clinic team had the opportunity to support other QEI corporate events throughout the year. This included the distribution of Dettol products to our patients and referring providers. Many of our Specialists and staff participated in the Bridge to Brisbane fun run helping to raise much needed funds. Dr Anthony Kwan finished on top of the donation leader board with the support of many patients, staff and colleagues.

Impacts & Outcomes (cont.)

Research Overview

Our researchers continued their activities within the frame of the Ophthalmic Bioengineering and Biomaterials program.

Extensive experiments have been carried out on the potential antioxidative effects of sericin, a protein isolated from silkworm cocoons, which is relevant for treating degenerative eye diseases such as AMD. During the year, evaluation performed on a sericin isolated from mutant silkworms, provided by Japanese scientists, indicated poor antioxidative effects. However, a fraction extracted from the sericin isolated from native silk cocoons displayed antioxidant properties, confirming that rather than the protein itself, it is a group of non-protein compounds associated with sericin that impart such properties. The results have been submitted for publication to a prestigious journal. This study will be continued next year in collaboration with Bond University (Assoc. Prof. Nigel Barnett). The study of recombinant RGD-silk fibroin as substrates for human corneal cells has been finalized and published during the year.

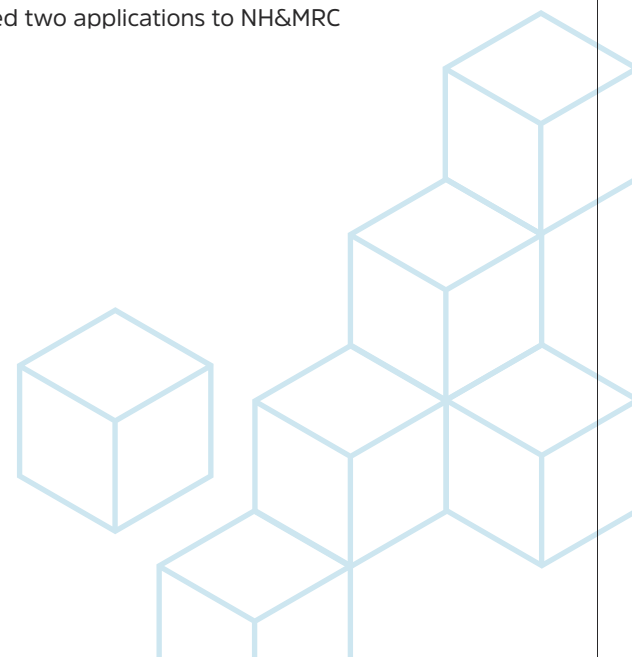
The development of microparticle-nanoparticle systems for the on-command release of enzymes for controlling the effects of dermal fillers on the retinal blood circulation required special equipment that had to be fabricated at the University of Queensland, allowing the project to continue.

Collaboration with University of Western Australia (nanoparticle-polymer composites project) resulted in three papers published in prestigious journals. These projects were significant for suggesting medical applications, and for enriching

our knowledge on the production and properties of metal nanoparticles, needed in other projects. The collaborative project with Aston University in Birmingham, UK, also resulted in a publication on the permeation and water-structuring properties of silk fibroin membranes, a first study of this kind.

Great attention has been given by us to the preparation of projects that will be carried out in Romania, at the G. E. Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science & Technology (UMFST) at Târgu Mures. The projects envisage the evaluation on human donor tissue of our patented method for treating eyelid laxity by photochemical crosslinking of tarsal collagen, and of our proposed method to prevent rupture of abdominal aortic aneurysm by crosslinking of adventitial collagen, as well as the establishment and evaluation of an animal model for aneurysm. The travel to UMFST and commencement of the experiments have been scheduled for 2022.

QEI's scientists, including our honorary scientists, have published throughout the year a total of twenty articles in scientific journals and magazines, and have submitted two applications to NH&MRC for funding.



RESEARCH
PUBLICATIONS
20

Big Data and Integrative Clinical Epidemiology

Development of a comprehensive database for commonest, anterior and posterior segment eye diseases in Queensland

Improve understanding of the burden of eye disease in Queensland and analyse services necessary throughout the state

The establishment of the International Vitreoretinal Lymphoma Registry

Corneal and Ocular Surface

Focuses on the refinement of techniques in corneal collagen cross linking

Using artificial intelligence to assist in creating customised treatment profile for individual patients

Assessing novel therapeutic substances for disorders of the ocular surface and tear film

Genetics and Eye Disease

Creation of a database of inherited eye disease in Queensland and conducting trials in genetic eye conditions

Aims to improve understanding of genetic eye conditions and the phenotypes that may benefit from advances in gene therapy and new surgical techniques

Ocular Diagnostics and Devices

Focuses on developing new diagnostic protocols and devices that will aid in quicker, more accurate and cost effective diagnoses and understanding of ocular related conditions



RESEARCH
PROJECTS
6

Ophthalmic Bioengineering and Biomaterials

Research is dedicated to the development of materials that aim to treat or replace damaged or diseased tissue in the eye

Silk-based templates for tissue-engineered constructs

Novel surgical adhesives

Therapies based on photochemical crosslinking of collagenous tissues

Antioxidants for retinal pathologies

Clinical Trials

One of our key research activities is Clinical Trials

Clinical Trials confirm whether new medicines and treatments are safe and effective for a particular disease or condition

By participating in a clinical trial, patients can access treatments that are in development and would not otherwise be available to them. If a clinical trial is successful, the treatment or drug can go on to become a new treatment option for patients in the wider community

We held 4 active Clinical Trials in 2021 with a total of 26 participants:

- Lens Study (ongoing, 18 patients randomised)
- Dry Eye Study (ongoing, 2 patients randomised)
- Usher Syndrome Study (ongoing, 4 patients randomised)
- Geographic Atrophy Study (ongoing, 2 patients randomised)

Impacts & Outcomes (cont.)

Foundation

Our major appeal was the Tax Appeal: Help Us Help Max and other children like him.

The Tax Appeal focused on raising money for much needed equipment to conduct electrodiagnostic tests. The campaign focused on a young patient of QEI, 16-month-old Max who has a rare genetic mutation; Leber's congenital amaurosis (LCA) which affects the retina and is present from birth. It was through using the electrodiagnostic tests at QEI that Max's condition was diagnosed. QEI is the only centre in Queensland that does electrophysiological testing for all ages.

Bridge to Brisbane

For the Bridge to Brisbane, the fundraising drive 'Help Us Help Max' continued the focus on raising money for the much needed equipment to conduct electrodiagnostic tests. Staff across the clinic and hospital fundraised in the lead up to the event and participated on the day. Associate Professor Anthony Kwan was the leading fundraiser, raising \$15,011 from an original \$5,000 target. The total raised was \$17,446.

Digital Marketing



Increase of 25% in users during 2021 compared to 2020



The value of online donations increased by 131% during 2021 compared to 2020



Facebook followers increased by 3% during 2021 compared to 2020



Instagram followers increased 32% during 2021 compared to 2020



Sustainable Development Goals

Sustainability goals at the Queensland Eye Institute

Sustainability for us at QEI is recycling as much as we can of the materials that we use daily. We are also focused on encouraging our staff and patients to think twice about the use of paper, packaging, batteries and energy. This allows us to conserve materials for the future and slows down the annual usage rate. We can achieve this by focusing on the benefits of recycling and by how much we can reduce our carbon footprint. The following measures demonstrate how we can put our sustainability goals into practice:

- The safe disposal of batteries
- Recycling/upcycling of patient glasses
- Recycling of paper, card and packaging
- Alternatives to printing
- Educating staff about recycling

Disposal of batteries

According to a latest ABC report, the new recycling scheme B-cycle, estimates that Australians buy enough batteries every year to circle our planet 2.3 times and about 50 per cent of people put their batteries in the general waste or recycling bin.

If batteries are not recycled they end up in landfill where there is a risk they can leach toxic material, such as lead and mercury into the surrounding soil and groundwater. There is also a risk of fire as even dead/flat batteries can contain some charge. Another benefit of recycling is that we can then use the materials in the battery, for future batteries.

We encourage recycling by supplying a battery disposal box at the QEI clinic. All used and flat batteries are added and once full they are taken by a team member to a recycling drop-off point.

Recycling and upcycling of patient glasses

In our clinic, many of our patients are prescribed new glasses leaving them with at least one or two pairs at home that are no longer the right prescription. Once the glasses are cleaned, we work with local not-for-profit organisations to deliver these glasses to communities in Australia and overseas that need it most.

Recycling of paper, card and packaging

We supply cups made of recycled materials for hot and cold drinks for our patients. These cups are compostable. We have also introduced different coloured bins; red (household waste) and yellow (recycling). Using the 'Containers for Change initiative' we ensure as many containers as possible are returned for recycling.

Alternatives to printing

According to City Services ACT, the average office worker still uses around 10,000 sheets of paper per year. With paper production being the third most energy-intensive of all manufacturing industries it is important to try and change our attitudes to paper. Where possible, we have focused more on emailing patient receipts and letters, as well as donation receipts. When we offer the choice of print or email, many will now opt for email.

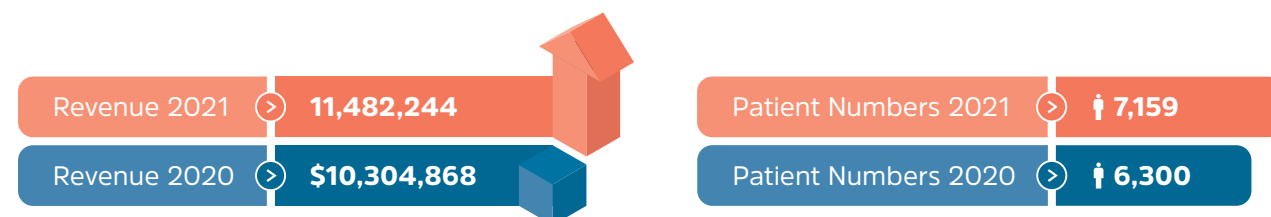
Educating staff about recycling

To work towards supporting and expanding the QEI Sustainable Development Goals, our QEI clinic has established a sustainability committee. Through regular meetings and our internal newsletter our staff stay informed of QEI's sustainability plans, goals and achievements. Having the support of our staff has been instrumental in making a difference since 2020 and will continue to play an integral role into the future.

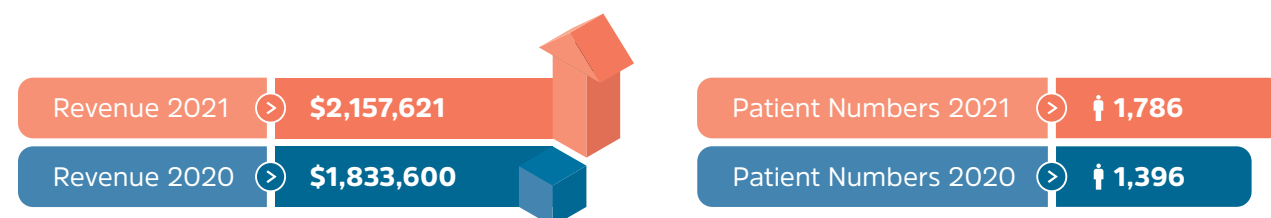
Sustainable Funding



The South Bank Day Hospital (operated by South Bank Medical Group) provides a unique partnership with the QEI Clinic enabling patients to have their clinical diagnosis, procedure, treatment and care all under one roof at 140 Melbourne Street, South Brisbane. All profits generated by the hospital are invested back into the work of the QEI Foundation.



The Kingaroy-based Lady Bjelke-Petersen Community Hospital is also operated by South Bank Medical Group and provides vital services in the South Burnett region of Queensland.



Our 2021 Team

Board of Directors

Mark Sheridan
CHAIRMAN OAM

Prof Mark Radford
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jemma Elder
DIRECTOR

John Lowes
DIRECTOR

Mario Pennisi
DIRECTOR AM

Kelly Langdon
COMPANY SECRETARY

Management Team

Kelly Langdon
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Anna Blake
CLINICAL SERVICES MANAGER

Jane Dodds
COMMUNITY RELATIONS MANAGER

Carmel Johnston
EA TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CEO

Wayne Thompson
FUND RAISING & EVENTS MANAGER

Research Advisory Committee

Prof Mark Radford

Mario Pennisi AM

Prof Helen Chenery

Prof Peter McCluskey

Clinical Faculty

Dr Mark Chiang
GLAUCOMA, CATARACT AND DISEASES OF THE RETINA

Dr Brendan Cronin
CORNEA AND ANTERIOR SEGMENT

Dr David Gunn
CORNEA, CATARACT & REFRACTIVE SURGERY

Dr Elias Kehdi
PAEDIATRICS

Associate Prof Anthony Kwan
RETINAL DISEASES

Dr Anthony Pane
NEURO-OPHTHALMOLOGY

Dr Geoffrey Ryan
CATARACT, GLAUCOMA AND CORNEA

Dr Abhishek Sharma
MEDICAL & SURGICAL RETINAL DISEASES

Prof Ravi Thomas
GLAUCOMA & CLINICAL EPIDEMIOLOGY

Research Faculty

Prof Traian Chirila
CHIEF SCIENTIST

Prof Lawrence Hirst
SENIOR CLINICAL SCIENTIST

Dr Shuko Suzuki
SENIOR RESEARCH OFFICER

Dr Onur Sakiragaoglu
RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Prof Damien Harkin
VISITING SENIOR SCIENTIST

Dr Audra Shadforth
VISITING SCIENTIST

Honorary Research Faculty

Prof Murray Baker
UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Associate Prof Nigel Barnett
BOND UNIVERSITY

Associate Prof Idriss Blakey
THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Prof Paul Dalton
UNIVERSITY OF WURZBURG, GERMANY

Dr Tim Dargaville
QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Dr Beatrix Feigl
INSTITUTE OF HEALTH & BIOMEDICAL INNOVATION (IHBI)

Dr Neil Richardson
QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Prof Justine Smith
FLINDERS UNIVERSITY

Assoc Prof Shuan Dai
VISITING CLINICAL RESEARCHER

Dr Jaclyn White
VISITING CLINICAL RESEARCHER



Financial Snapshot

Balance Sheet Comparatives

ASSETS	2021 \$	2020 \$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	2,984,115	2,971,312
Trade and other receivables	729,610	1,004,939
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	3,713,725	3,976,251
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Trade and other receivables	273,263	1,261,542
Investments in subsidiaries	30,137	30,037
Financial assets	5,391,393	4,734,863
Property, plant and equipment	6,517,631	7,294,077
Intangible assets	62,404	67,907
Right-of-use assets	14,773,148	16,740,122
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	27,047,979	30,128,549
TOTAL ASSETS	30,761,705	34,104,800
LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	187,188	192,732
Employee benefits	862,047	684,087
Other financial liabilities	21,745,305	23,870,712
TOTAL LIABILITES	22,794,541	24,747,531
NET ASSETS	7,967,163	9,357,269

Extracted from the company's management accounts which form part of the Audited Financial Report for January 1 to December 31, 2021.

Income Statement Comparatives

	2021 \$	2020 \$
REVENUE		
Sylvia & Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation	1,854,000	1,854,000
Bequests and other donations	702,683	593,121
Clinical cost recoveries	3,330,682	2,211,261
Investment income	776,007	166,155
JobKeeper and Government support	306,800	1,624,824
Other income	182,132	50,471
TOTAL INCOME	7,152,306	6,499,833
EXPENSES		
Occupancy costs	843,239	684,047
Research costs	1,306,027	1,278,940
Fundraising costs	286,931	124,903
Clinical costs	4,253,764	3,837,032
Administration costs	1,798,381	1,661,324
TOTAL EXPENSES	8,488,343	7,586,246
NET COMPREHENSIVE INCOME / (LOSS)	(1,336,037)	(1,086,414)

Extracted from the company's management accounts which form part of the Audited Financial Report for January 1 to December 31, 2021.

Our History

1965

The Australian Foundation for the Prevention of Blindness (Queensland Division) incorporated with Dr John Ohlrich as the driving force.

1986

UQ Chair of Ophthalmology established at the Princess Alexandra Hospital with the generous support of Charles Viertel OBE, Optical Prescription Spectacle Makers, and the Royal Australian College of Ophthalmologists, Lions International and Perpetual Trustees. Lawrence Hirst appointed Chairman and Executive Director.

1991

Australian Foundation for the Prevention of Blindness name changed to Prevent Blindness Foundation (PBF).

2005

QEI officially opened at the Mater Hospital with Professor Lawrence Hirst as its first CEO. The realisation of a dream shared by many people.

2010

Professor Lawrence Hirst relinquished his role as CEO to concentrate on his clinical work. Professor Mark Radford appointed as CEO of PBF and QEI.

2013

The Sylvia & Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation awarded PBF a special grant to redevelop 140 Melbourne Street, South Brisbane to be PBF's future home and establish South Bank Day Hospital (SBDH). PBF name changes to Queensland Eye Institute Foundation (QEIF).

2014

QEI Clinic opens in South Brisbane and QEIF acquires Dr Denis Stark's Visual Electro-Diagnostic and Imaging Centre. SBDH officially opened and saw its first patients in September 2014

2015

QEIF celebrates its 50th Anniversary whilst QEI celebrates its 10th anniversary.

2017

South Bank Medical Group was established to oversee the operations of the South Bank Day Hospital and associated entities.

2019

A new QEI Clinic opens in Clayfield.

TODAY

QEIF is Queensland's largest independent academic research institute devoted to eye related health and diseases working every day to save sight and prevent blindness. Our state of the art facilities in South Brisbane and Clayfield, include the QEI Clinics, South Bank Day Hospital, Queensland Electro-Diagnostic and Imaging Centre, medical research and microsurgical teaching laboratories, medical library, auditorium and the home of QEIF. All of this is the result of the efforts of many people who had the strategic vision and drive to succeed, but, in particular, the support of the Sylvia & Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation has been crucial.

Thank You

Thank you from the team at the QEI Foundation.

The work of the Queensland Eye Institute Foundation can only occur with the support of so many people: our generous donors, supporters, partners, volunteers, our staff and our Board. This is no truer than during 2021, as we continued to face challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As always, we are grateful for the moral and financial support of the Sylvia & Charles Viertel Charitable Foundation, in particular we acknowledge the support of the Board of Trustees, and the current Chair Justice Debra Mullins.





Annual Report 2021

140 Melbourne St,
South Brisbane QLD 4101

07 3239 5050
info@qeifoundation.org.au
QEIFoundation.org.au

