

28 October 2020

Junior doctors reveal fear mistakes from exhaustion

Nearly half of Queensland's trainee doctors are worried they will make a clinical mistake because they are exhausted from working excessively long hours, according to the latest AMA Queensland public hospital report card.

The 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check (RHHC), which compares employment conditions at public hospitals across the state, surveyed 730 interns, house officers and other junior doctors.

AMA Queensland Council of Doctors in Training Chair, Dr Maddison Taylor said 48 per cent reported concerns about making an error due to fatigue, and one quarter had not been fully paid for the overtime hours worked.

"Disturbingly, 27 per cent of junior doctors were advised not to claim unrostered overtime by an administrative officer or senior medical officer, and another third felt claiming would negatively affect their assessment," she said.

"This year's survey also revealed a rise in junior doctors feeling unsafe at work, from 22 per cent in 2019 to 27 per cent in 2020, reflecting the impact of COVID in our hospitals."

Dr Taylor said rates of bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment remained too high in Queensland's public hospitals.

"The overall proportion of junior doctors who personally experienced these behaviours has decreased from 39 per cent in 2019 to 34 per cent this year, however, the rate of staff witnessing bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment of a colleague has stayed the same at just over 40 per cent," she said.

"Of those who experienced or witnessed bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment, less than one-third reported the incident, and only 65 per cent felt the matter was handled adequately when they did report it. We need to do better."

Dr Taylor said hospitals needed to be supportive, safe places for Queensland's newest generation of doctors.

"Doctors need to be able to work in healthy hospitals so they can provide the best possible patient care and thrive in their careers," she said.

"As evidenced in the survey, doctors in training are working exceedingly long hours and in some cases without adequate senior support. This predisposes us to burnout, and increases the rates of anxiety and depression, so it's important not only to fix the systemic issues at play in our hospitals but also to provide practical support and advice in those early years."

AMA Queensland has called on the next State Government to commit \$1.67 million to fund a *Wellness at Work* program to ensure all junior doctors receive the resilience training and support they need in their first five years of training.

The call for funding is included in AMA Queensland's [11-Point Action Plan – The Pathway to Better Health for Queenslanders](#) which also calls on all political parties competing in this month's election to commit to reviewing the mandatory reporting laws.

AMA Queensland President Professor Chris Perry said the laws, introduced last year, actively discouraged doctors from seeking medical treatment when they needed it.

“The laws require health practitioners to report fellow clinicians if they believe they have depression, anxiety or another mental illness that could place the public at risk,” he said.

“The result is usually revoking of the doctor’s medical licence, even though their illness may be extremely treatable. Practitioners should have equal rights to access confidential high-quality medical treatment for mental health issues without feeling threatened that their medical licence will be revoked.

“Every year in Queensland, at least four doctors take their own lives. These deaths could be prevented if doctors were able to seek treatment without fear of losing their ability to practice medicine.”

Find the full 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check results [HERE](#)

AMA Queensland 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check						
HOSPITAL	Access to annual leave	Career progression + development	Hours of work + overtime	Wellbeing + workplace culture	Bullying, discrimination + sexual harassment	OVERALL GRADE
Bundaberg Hospital	B	C+	B	C+	B-	B-
Cairns Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
Gold Coast Hospital	C	C	B-	C+	C+	C+
Ipswich Hospital	B+	C-	A	C+	B-	B-
Queensland Children's Hospital	D+	D+	B-	C	B	C
Logan Hospital	B	C-	B+	C	B	C+
Mackay Hospital	B	C+	B	B-	C+	B-
Mater Hospital	B+	C	A-	B+	B	B
Princess Alexandra Hospital	B-	C-	B+	C	C	C+
Redcliffe Hospital	C+	C	A	B-	B	B-
Redland Hospital	C-	C-	A	C	B	C+
Robina Hospital	C+	C+	A-	B-	C+	B-
Rockhampton Hospital	B+	C	B	C+	B-	B-
Sunshine Coast University Hospital	B+	C-	B+	C+	C+	B-
The Prince Charles Hospital	C	D+	C+	C	C	C
The Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
The Townsville Hospital	C	C	A-	B-	C	C+
Toowoomba Hospital	B-	C-	A	C+	C+	B-

MEDIA CONTACTS: Fran Metcalf, Sequel PR – 0417 627 867; Chiara Lesevre, AMA Queensland – 0419 735 641.

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Junior doctors reveal fear mistakes from exhaustion

Nearly a quarter of Cairns trainee doctors are worried they will make a clinical mistake because they are exhausted from working excessively long hours, according to the latest AMA Queensland public hospital report card.

The 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check (RHHC), which compares employment conditions at public hospitals across the state, surveyed 730 interns, house officers and other junior doctors.

AMA Queensland Council of Doctors in Training Chair, Dr Maddison Taylor said 23 per cent of Cairns trainee doctors reported concerns about making an error due to fatigue, and more than a quarter had not been fully paid for the overtime hours they claimed.

“Disturbingly 32 per cent of junior doctors in Cairns were advised not to claim unrostered overtime by an administrative officer or senior medical officer, and a quarter felt claiming would negatively affect their assessment.

“This year’s survey also revealed a rise in junior doctors feeling unsafe at work, from 22 per cent in 2019 to 27 per cent in 2020, reflecting the impact of COVID in our hospitals.”

Dr Taylor said rates of bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment remained too high in Queensland’s public hospitals.

“The overall proportion of junior doctors who personally experienced these behaviours has decreased from 39 per cent in 2019 to 34 per cent this year, however, the rate of staff witnessing bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment of a colleague has stayed the same at just over 40 per cent,” she said.

“Of those who experienced or witnessed bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment, less than one-third reported the incident, and only 65 per cent felt the matter was handled adequately when they did report it. We need to do better.”

Dr Taylor said hospitals needed to be supportive, safe places for Queensland’s newest generation of doctors.

“Doctors need to be able to work in healthy hospitals so they can provide the best possible patient care and thrive in their careers,” she said.

“As evidenced in the survey, doctors in training are working exceedingly long hours and in some cases without adequate senior support. This predisposes us to burnout, and increases the rates of anxiety and depression, so it’s important not only to fix the systemic issues at play in our hospitals but also to provide practical support and advice in those early years.”

AMA Queensland has called on the next State Government to commit \$1.67 million to fund a *Wellness at Work* program to ensure all junior doctors receive the resilience training and support they need in their first five years of training.

The call for funding is included in AMA Queensland’s [11-Point Action Plan – The Pathway to Better Health for Queenslanders](#) which also calls on all political parties competing in this month’s election to commit to reviewing the mandatory reporting laws.

AMA Queensland President Professor Chris Perry said the laws, introduced last year, actively discouraged doctors from seeking medical treatment when they needed it.

“The laws require health practitioners to report fellow clinicians if they believe they have depression, anxiety or another mental illness that could place the public at risk,” he said.

“The result is usually revoking of the doctor’s medical licence, even though their illness may be extremely treatable. Practitioners should have equal rights to access confidential high-quality medical treatment for mental health issues without feeling threatened that their medical licence will be revoked.

“Every year in Queensland, at least four doctors take their own lives. These deaths could be prevented if doctors were able to seek treatment without fear of losing their ability to practice medicine.”

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HOSPITAL	Access to annual leave	Career progression + development	Hours of work + overtime	Wellbeing + workplace culture	Bullying, discrimination + sexual harassment	OVERALL GRADE
Bundaberg Hospital	B	C+	B	C+	B-	B-
Cairns Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
Gold Coast Hospital	C	C	B-	C+	C+	C+
Ipswich Hospital	B+	C-	A	C+	B-	B-
Queensland Children's Hospital	D+	D+	B-	C	B	C
Logan Hospital	B	C-	B+	C	B	C+
Mackay Hospital	B	C+	B	B-	C+	B-
Mater Hospital	B+	C	A-	B+	B	B
Princess Alexandra Hospital	B-	C-	B+	C	C	C+
Redcliffe Hospital	C+	C	A	B-	B	B-
Redland Hospital	C-	C-	A	C	B	C+
Robina Hospital	C+	C+	A-	B-	C+	B-
Rockhampton Hospital	B+	C	B	C+	B-	B-
Sunshine Coast University Hospital	B+	C-	B+	C+	C+	B-
The Prince Charles Hospital	C	D+	C+	C	C	C
The Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
The Townsville Hospital	C	C	A-	B-	C	C+
Toowoomba Hospital	B-	C-	A	C+	C+	B-

MEDIA CONTACTS: Fran Metcalf, Sequel PR – 0417 627 867; Chiara Lesevre, AMA Queensland – 0419 735 641.

28 October 2020

Junior doctors reveal fear mistakes from exhaustion

More than half of the Gold Coast's trainee doctors are worried they will make a clinical mistake because they are exhausted from working excessively long hours, according to the latest AMA Queensland public hospital report card.

The 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check (RHHC), which compares employment conditions at public hospitals across the state, surveyed 730 interns, house officers and other junior doctors.

AMA Queensland Council of Doctors in Training Chair, Dr Maddison Taylor said 55 per cent of Gold Coast doctors reported concerns about making an error due to fatigue, and 39 per cent had not been fully paid for overtime hours worked.

"Disturbingly, 36 per cent of junior doctors on the Gold Coast were advised not to claim unrostered overtime by an administrative officer or senior medical officer, and 38 per cent felt claiming would negatively affect their assessment."

"This year's survey also revealed a rise in junior doctors feeling unsafe at work, from 22 per cent in 2019 to 27 per cent in 2020, reflecting the impact of COVID in our hospitals."

Dr Taylor said rates of bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment remained too high in Queensland's public hospitals.

"The overall proportion of junior doctors who personally experienced these behaviours has decreased from 39 per cent in 2019 to 34 per cent this year, however, the rate of staff witnessing bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment of a colleague has stayed the same at just over 40 per cent," she said.

"Of those who experienced or witnessed bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment, less than one-third reported the incident, and only 65 per cent felt the matter was handled adequately when they did report it. We need to do better."

Dr Taylor said hospitals needed to be supportive, safe places for Queensland's newest generation of doctors.

"Doctors need to be able to work in healthy hospitals so they can provide the best possible patient care and thrive in their careers," she said.

"As evidenced in the survey, doctors in training are working exceedingly long hours and in some cases without adequate senior support, this predisposes us to burnout, and increases the rates of anxiety and depression, so it's important not only to fix the systemic issues at play in our hospitals but also to provide practical support and advice in those early years."

AMA Queensland has called on the next State Government to commit \$1.67 million to fund a *Wellness at Work* program to ensure all junior doctors receive the resilience training and support they need in their first five years of training.

The call for funding is included in AMA Queensland's [11-Point Action Plan – The Pathway to Better Health for Queenslanders](#) which also calls on all political parties competing in this month's election to commit to reviewing the mandatory reporting laws.

AMA Queensland President Professor Chris Perry said the laws, introduced last year, actively discouraged doctors from seeking medical treatment when they needed it.

“The laws require health practitioners to report fellow clinicians if they believe they have depression, anxiety or another mental illness that could place the public at risk,” he said.

“The result is usually revoking of the doctor’s medical licence, even though their illness may be extremely treatable. Practitioners should have equal rights to access confidential high-quality medical treatment for mental health issues without feeling threatened that their medical licence will be revoked.

“Every year in Queensland, at least four doctors take their own lives. These deaths could be prevented if doctors were able to seek treatment without fear of losing their ability to practice medicine.”

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HOSPITAL	Access to annual leave	Career progression + development	Hours of work + overtime	Wellbeing + workplace culture	Bullying, discrimination + sexual harassment	OVERALL GRADE
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Cairns Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
Gold Coast Hospital	C	C	B-	C+	C+	C+
Ipswich Hospital	B+	C-	A	C+	B-	B-
Queensland Children's Hospital	D+	D+	B-	C	B	C
Logan Hospital	B	C-	B+	C	B	C+
Mackay Hospital	B	C+	B	B-	C+	B-
Mater Hospital	B+	C	A-	B+	B	B
Princess Alexandra Hospital	B-	C-	B+	C	C	C+
Redcliffe Hospital	C+	C	A	B-	B	B-
Redland Hospital	C-	C-	A	C	B	C+
Robina Hospital	C+	C+	A-	B-	C+	B-
Rockhampton Hospital	B+	C	B	C+	B-	B-
Sunshine Coast University Hospital	B+	C-	B+	C+	C+	B-
The Prince Charles Hospital	C	D+	C+	C	C	C
The Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
The Townsville Hospital	C	C	A-	B-	C	C+
Toowoomba Hospital	B-	C-	A	C+	C+	B-

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Junior doctors reveal fear mistakes from exhaustion

Almost half of the Rockhampton's trainee doctors are worried they will make a clinical mistake because they are exhausted from working excessively long hours, according to the latest AMA Queensland public hospital report card.

The 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check (RHHC), which compares employment conditions at public hospitals across the state, surveyed 730 interns, house officers and other junior doctors.

AMA Queensland Council of Doctors in Training Chair, Dr Maddison Taylor said 48 per cent of Rockhampton trainee doctors reported concerns about making an error due to fatigue, and more than a third had not been fully paid for overtime hours worked.

"Disturbingly, 42 per cent of junior doctors in Rockhampton were advised not to claim unrostered overtime by an administrative officer or senior medical officer, and more than a quarter felt claiming would negatively affect their assessment.

"This year's survey also revealed a rise in junior doctors feeling unsafe at work, from 22 per cent in 2019 to 27 per cent in 2020, reflecting the impact of COVID in our hospitals."

Dr Taylor said rates of bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment remained too high in Queensland's public hospitals.

"The overall proportion of junior doctors who personally experienced these behaviours has decreased from 39 per cent in 2019 to 34 per cent this year, however, the rate of staff witnessing bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment of a colleague has stayed the same at just over 40 per cent," she said.

"Of those who experienced or witnessed bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment, less than one-third reported the incident, and only 65 per cent felt the matter was handled adequately when they did report it. We need to do better."

Dr Taylor said hospitals needed to be supportive, safe places for Queensland's newest generation of doctors.

"Doctors need to be able to work in healthy hospitals so they can provide the best possible patient care and thrive in their careers," she said.

"As evidenced in the survey, doctors in training are working exceedingly long hours and in some cases without adequate senior support, this predisposes us to burnout, and increases the rates of anxiety and depression, so it's important not only to fix the systemic issues at play in our hospitals but also to provide practical support and advice in those early years."

AMA Queensland has called on the next State Government to commit \$1.67 million to fund a *Wellness at Work* program to ensure all junior doctors receive the resilience training and support they need in their first five years of training.

The call for funding is included in AMA Queensland's [11-Point Action Plan – The Pathway to Better Health for Queenslanders](#) which also calls on all political parties competing in this month's election to commit to reviewing the mandatory reporting laws.

AMA Queensland President Professor Chris Perry said the laws, introduced last year, actively discouraged doctors from seeking medical treatment when they needed it.

“The laws require health practitioners to report fellow clinicians if they believe they have depression, anxiety or another mental illness that could place the public at risk,” he said.

“The result is usually revoking of the doctor’s medical licence, even though their illness may be extremely treatable. Practitioners should have equal rights to access confidential high-quality medical treatment for mental health issues without feeling threatened that their medical licence will be revoked.

“Every year in Queensland, at least four doctors take their own lives. These deaths could be prevented if doctors were able to seek treatment without fear of losing their ability to practice medicine.”

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HOSPITAL	Access to annual leave	Career progression + development	Hours of work + overtime	Wellbeing + workplace culture	Bullying, discrimination + sexual harassment	OVERALL GRADE
Bundaberg Hospital	B	C+	B	C+	B-	B-
Cairns Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
Gold Coast Hospital	C	C	B-	C+	C+	C+
Ipswich Hospital	B+	C-	A	C+	B-	B-
Queensland Children's Hospital	D+	D+	B-	C	B	C
Logan Hospital	B	C-	B+	C	B	C+
Mackay Hospital	B	C+	B	B-	C+	B-
Mater Hospital	B+	C	A-	B+	B	B
Princess Alexandra Hospital	B-	C-	B+	C	C	C+
Redcliffe Hospital	C+	C	A	B-	B	B-
Redland Hospital	C-	C-	A	C	B	C+
Robina Hospital	C+	C+	A-	B-	C+	B-
Rockhampton Hospital	B+	C	B	C+	B-	B-
Sunshine Coast University Hospital	B+	C-	B+	C+	C+	B-
The Prince Charles Hospital	C	D+	C+	C	C	C
The Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
The Townsville Hospital	C	C	A-	B-	C	C+
Toowoomba Hospital	B-	C-	A	C+	C+	B-

MEDIA CONTACTS: Fran Metcalf, Sequel PR – 0417 627 867; Chiara Lesevre, AMA Queensland – 0419 735 641.

28 October 2020

Junior doctors reveal fear mistakes from exhaustion

More than half of the Sunshine Coast's trainee doctors are worried they will make a clinical mistake because they are exhausted from working excessively long hours, according to the latest AMA Queensland public hospital report card.

The 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check (RHHC), which compares employment conditions at public hospitals across the state, surveyed 730 interns, house officers and other junior doctors.

AMA Queensland Council of Doctors in Training Chair, Dr Maddison Taylor said 52 per cent of Sunshine Coast doctors reported concerns about making an error due to fatigue, and a quarter had not been fully paid for overtime hours worked.

"Disturbingly, 29 per cent of junior doctors on the Sunshine Coast were advised not to claim unrostered overtime by an administrative officer or senior medical officer, and 20 per cent felt claiming would negatively affect their assessment."

"This year's survey also revealed a rise in junior doctors feeling unsafe at work, from 22 per cent in 2019 to 27 per cent in 2020, reflecting the impact of COVID in our hospitals."

Dr Taylor said rates of bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment remained too high in Queensland's public hospitals.

"The overall proportion of junior doctors who personally experienced these behaviours has decreased from 39 per cent in 2019 to 34 per cent this year, however, the rate of staff witnessing bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment of a colleague has stayed the same at just over 40 per cent," she said.

"Of those who experienced or witnessed bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment, less than one-third reported the incident, and only 65 per cent felt the matter was handled adequately when they did report it. We need to do better."

Dr Taylor said hospitals needed to be supportive, safe places for Queensland's newest generation of doctors.

"Doctors need to be able to work in healthy hospitals so they can provide the best possible patient care and thrive in their careers," she said.

"As evidenced in the survey, doctors in training are working exceedingly long hours and in some cases without adequate senior support, this predisposes us to burnout, and increases the rates of anxiety and depression, so it's important not only to fix the systemic issues at play in our hospitals but also to provide practical support and advice in those early years."

AMA Queensland has called on the next State Government to commit \$1.67 million to fund a *Wellness at Work* program to ensure all junior doctors receive the resilience training and support they need in their first five years of training.

The call for funding is included in AMA Queensland's [11-Point Action Plan – The Pathway to Better Health for Queenslanders](#) which also calls on all political parties competing in this month's election to commit to reviewing the mandatory reporting laws.

AMA Queensland President Professor Chris Perry said the laws, introduced last year, actively discouraged doctors from seeking medical treatment when they needed it.

“The laws require health practitioners to report fellow clinicians if they believe they have depression, anxiety or another mental illness that could place the public at risk,” he said.

“The result is usually revoking of the doctor’s medical licence, even though their illness may be extremely treatable. Practitioners should have equal rights to access confidential high-quality medical treatment for mental health issues without feeling threatened that their medical licence will be revoked.

“Every year in Queensland, at least four doctors take their own lives. These deaths could be prevented if doctors were able to seek treatment without fear of losing their ability to practice medicine.”

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HOSPITAL	Access to annual leave	Career progression + development	Hours of work + overtime	Wellbeing + workplace culture	Bullying, discrimination + sexual harassment	OVERALL GRADE
Bundaberg Hospital	B	C+	B	C+	B-	B-
Cairns Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
Gold Coast Hospital	C	C	B-	C+	C+	C+
Ipswich Hospital	B+	C-	A	C+	B-	B-
Queensland Children's Hospital	D+	D+	B-	C	B	C
Logan Hospital	B	C-	B+	C	B	C+
Mackay Hospital	B	C+	B	B-	C+	B-
Mater Hospital	B+	C	A-	B+	B	B
Princess Alexandra Hospital	B-	C-	B+	C	C	C+
Redcliffe Hospital	C+	C	A	B-	B	B-
Redland Hospital	C-	C-	A	C	B	C+
Robina Hospital	C+	C+	A-	B-	C+	B-
Rockhampton Hospital	B+	C	B	C+	B-	B-
Sunshine Coast University Hospital	B+	C-	B+	C+	C+	B-
The Prince Charles Hospital	C	D+	C+	C	C	C
The Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
The Townsville Hospital	C	C	A-	B-	C	C+
Toowoomba Hospital	B-	C-	A	C+	C+	B-

MEDIA CONTACTS: Fran Metcalf, Sequel PR – 0417 627 867; Chiara Lesevre, AMA Queensland – 0419 735 641.

28 October 2020

Junior doctors reveal fear mistakes from exhaustion

More than half of Redland's trainee doctors are worried they will make a clinical mistake because they are exhausted from working excessively long hours, according to the latest AMA Queensland public hospital report card.

The 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check (RHHC), which compares employment conditions at public hospitals across the state, surveyed 730 interns, house officers and other junior doctors.

AMA Queensland Council of Doctors in Training Chair, Dr Maddison Taylor said 53 per cent of Redlands trainee doctors reported concerns about making an error due to fatigue, and 11 per cent had not been fully paid for overtime hours worked.

"Disturbingly, 6 per cent of junior doctors in Redlands were advised not to claim unrostered overtime by an administrative officer or senior medical officer, and 11 per cent felt claiming would negatively affect their assessment.

"This year's survey also revealed a rise in junior doctors feeling unsafe at work, from 22 per cent in 2019 to 27 per cent in 2020, reflecting the impact of COVID in our hospitals."

Dr Taylor said rates of bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment remained too high in Queensland's public hospitals.

"The overall proportion of junior doctors who personally experienced these behaviours has decreased from 39 per cent in 2019 to 34 per cent this year, however, the rate of staff witnessing bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment of a colleague has stayed the same at just over 40 per cent," she said.

"Of those who experienced or witnessed bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment, less than one-third reported the incident, and only 65 per cent felt the matter was handled adequately when they did report it. We need to do better."

Dr Taylor said hospitals needed to be supportive, safe places for Queensland's newest generation of doctors.

"Doctors need to be able to work in healthy hospitals so they can provide the best possible patient care and thrive in their careers," she said.

"As evidenced in the survey, doctors in training are working exceedingly long hours and in some cases without adequate senior support, this predisposes us to burnout, and increases the rates of anxiety and depression, so it's important not only to fix the systemic issues at play in our hospitals but also to provide practical support and advice in those early years."

AMA Queensland has called on the next State Government to commit \$1.67 million to fund a *Wellness at Work* program to ensure all junior doctors receive the resilience training and support they need in their first five years of training.

The call for funding is included in AMA Queensland's [11-Point Action Plan – The Pathway to Better Health for Queenslanders](#) which also calls on all political parties competing in this month's election to commit to reviewing the mandatory reporting laws.

AMA Queensland President Professor Chris Perry said the laws, introduced last year, actively discouraged doctors from seeking medical treatment when they needed it.

“The laws require health practitioners to report fellow clinicians if they believe they have depression, anxiety or another mental illness that could place the public at risk,” he said.

“The result is usually revoking of the doctor’s medical licence, even though their illness may be extremely treatable. Practitioners should have equal rights to access confidential high-quality medical treatment for mental health issues without feeling threatened that their medical licence will be revoked.

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Cairns Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
Gold Coast Hospital	C	C	B-	C+	C+	C+
Ipswich Hospital	B+	C-	A	C+	B-	B-
Queensland Children's Hospital	D+	D+	B-	C	B	C
Logan Hospital	B	C-	B+	C	B	C+
Mackay Hospital	B	C+	B	B-	C+	B-
Mater Hospital	B+	C	A-	B+	B	B
Princess Alexandra Hospital	B-	C-	B+	C	C	C+
Redcliffe Hospital	C+	C	A	B-	B	B-
Redland Hospital	C-	C-	A	C	B	C+
Robina Hospital	C+	C+	A-	B-	C+	B-
Rockhampton Hospital	B+	C	B	C+	B-	B-
Sunshine Coast University Hospital	B+	C-	B+	C+	C+	B-
The Prince Charles Hospital	C	D+	C+	C	C	C
The Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
The Townsville Hospital	C	C	A-	B-	C	C+
Toowoomba Hospital	B-	C-	A	C+	C+	B-

MEDIA CONTACTS: Fran Metcalf, Sequel PR – 0417 627 867; Chiara Lesevre, AMA Queensland – 0419 735 641.

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Junior doctors reveal fear mistakes from exhaustion

Well over a third of Toowoomba's trainee doctors are worried they will make a clinical mistake because they are exhausted from working excessively long hours, according to the latest AMA Queensland public hospital report card.

The 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check (RHHC), which compares employment conditions at public hospitals across the state, surveyed 730 interns, house officers and other junior doctors.

AMA Queensland Council of Doctors in Training Chair, Dr Maddison Taylor said 43 per cent of Toowoomba trainee doctors reported concerns about making an error due to fatigue, and 12 per cent had not been fully paid for overtime hours worked.

"Disturbingly, 10 per cent of junior doctors in Toowoomba were advised not to claim unrostered overtime by an administrative officer or senior medical officer, and 16 per cent felt claiming would negatively affect their assessment.

"This year's survey also revealed a rise in junior doctors feeling unsafe at work, from 22 per cent in 2019 to 27 per cent in 2020, reflecting the impact of COVID in our hospitals."

Dr Taylor said rates of bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment remained too high in Queensland's public hospitals.

"The overall proportion of junior doctors who personally experienced these behaviours has decreased from 39 per cent in 2019 to 34 per cent this year, however, the rate of staff witnessing bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment of a colleague has stayed the same at just over 40 per cent," she said.

"Of those who experienced or witnessed bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment, less than one-third reported the incident, and only 65 per cent felt the matter was handled adequately when they did report it. We need to do better."

Dr Taylor said hospitals needed to be supportive, safe places for Queensland's newest generation of doctors.

"Doctors need to be able to work in healthy hospitals so they can provide the best possible patient care and thrive in their careers," she said.

"As evidenced in the survey, doctors in training are working exceedingly long hours and in some cases without adequate senior support, this predisposes us to burnout, and increases the rates of anxiety and depression, so it's important not only to fix the systemic issues at play in our hospitals but also to provide practical support and advice in those early years."

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The call for funding is included in AMA Queensland's [11-Point Action Plan – The Pathway to Better Health for Queenslanders](#) which also calls on all political parties competing in this month's election to commit to reviewing the mandatory reporting laws.

AMA Queensland President Professor Chris Perry said the laws, introduced last year, actively discouraged doctors from seeking medical treatment when they needed it.

“The laws require health practitioners to report fellow clinicians if they believe they have depression, anxiety or another mental illness that could place the public at risk,” he said.

“The result is usually revoking of the doctor’s medical licence, even though their illness may be extremely treatable. Practitioners should have equal rights to access confidential high-quality medical treatment for mental health issues without feeling threatened that their medical licence will be revoked.

“Every year in Queensland, at least four doctors take their own lives. These deaths could be prevented if doctors were able to seek treatment without fear of losing their ability to practice medicine.”

Find the full 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check results [HERE](#)

AMA Queensland 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check						
HOSPITAL	Access to annual leave	Career progression + development	Hours of work + overtime	Wellbeing + workplace culture	Bullying, discrimination + sexual harassment	OVERALL GRADE
Bundaberg Hospital	B	C+	B	C+	B-	B-
Cairns Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
Gold Coast Hospital	C	C	B-	C+	C+	C+
Ipswich Hospital	B+	C-	A	C+	B-	B-
Queensland Children's Hospital	D+	D+	B-	C	B	C
Logan Hospital	B	C-	B+	C	B	C+
Mackay Hospital	B	C+	B	B-	C+	B-
Mater Hospital	B+	C	A-	B+	B	B
Princess Alexandra Hospital	B-	C-	B+	C	C	C+
Redcliffe Hospital	C+	C	A	B-	B	B-
Redland Hospital	C-	C-	A	C	B	C+
Robina Hospital	C+	C+	A-	B-	C+	B-
Rockhampton Hospital	B+	C	B	C+	B-	B-
Sunshine Coast University Hospital	B+	C-	B+	C+	C+	B-
The Prince Charles Hospital	C	D+	C+	C	C	C
The Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
The Townsville Hospital	C	C	A-	B-	C	C+
Toowoomba Hospital	B-	C-	A	C+	C+	B-

MEDIA CONTACTS: Fran Metcalf, Sequel PR – 0417 627 867; Chiara Lesevre, AMA Queensland – 0419 735 641.

28 October 2020

Junior doctors reveal fear mistakes from exhaustion

Nearly half of Townsville's trainee doctors are worried they will make a clinical mistake because they are exhausted from working excessively long hours, according to the latest AMA Queensland public hospital report card.

The 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check (RHHC), which compares employment conditions at public hospitals across the state, surveyed 730 interns, house officers and other junior doctors.

AMA Queensland Council of Doctors in Training Industrial Relations lead, Dr Robert Nayer, said in Townsville 46 per cent doctors reported concerns about making an error due to fatigue, and eight per cent had not been fully paid for overtime hours worked.

"Disturbingly, 12 per cent of Townsville junior doctors were advised not to claim unrostered overtime by an administrative officer or senior medical officer, and almost a third felt claiming would negatively affect their assessment.

"This year's survey also revealed a rise in junior doctors feeling unsafe at work, from 22 per cent in 2019 to 27 per cent in 2020, reflecting the impact of COVID in our hospitals."

Dr Nayer said rates of bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment remained too high in Queensland's public hospitals.

"The overall proportion of junior doctors who personally experienced these behaviours has decreased from 39 per cent in 2019 to 34 per cent this year, however, the rate of staff witnessing bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment of a colleague has stayed the same at just over 40 per cent," he said.

"Of those who experienced or witnessed bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment, less than one-third reported the incident, and only 65 per cent felt the matter was handled adequately when they did report it. We need to do better."

Dr Nayer said hospitals needed to be supportive, safe places for Queensland's newest generation of doctors.

"Doctors need to be able to work in healthy hospitals so they can provide the best possible patient care and thrive in their careers," he said.

"As evidenced in the survey, doctors in training are working exceedingly long hours and in some cases without adequate senior support, this predisposes us to burnout, and increases the rates of anxiety and depression, so it's important not only to fix the systemic issues at play in our hospitals but also to provide practical support and advice in those early years."

AMA Queensland has called on the next State Government to commit \$1.67 million to fund a *Wellness at Work* program to ensure all junior doctors receive the resilience training and support they need in their first five years of training.

The call for funding is included in AMA Queensland's [11-Point Action Plan – The Pathway to Better Health for Queenslanders](#) which also calls on all political parties competing in this month's election to commit to reviewing the mandatory reporting laws.

AMA Queensland President Professor Chris Perry said the laws, introduced last year, actively discouraged doctors from seeking medical treatment when they needed it.

“The laws require health practitioners to report fellow clinicians if they believe they have depression, anxiety or another mental illness that could place the public at risk,” he said.

“The result is usually revoking of the doctor’s medical licence, even though their illness may be extremely treatable. Practitioners should have equal rights to access confidential high-quality medical treatment for mental health issues without feeling threatened that their medical licence will be revoked.

“Every year in Queensland, at least four doctors take their own lives. These deaths could be prevented if doctors were able to seek treatment without fear of losing their ability to practice medicine.”

Find the full 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check results [HERE](#)

AMA Queensland 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check						
HOSPITAL	Access to annual leave	Career progression + development	Hours of work + overtime	Wellbeing + workplace culture	Bullying, discrimination + sexual harassment	OVERALL GRADE
Bundaberg Hospital	B	C+	B	C+	B-	B-
Cairns Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
Gold Coast Hospital	C	C	B-	C+	C+	C+
Ipswich Hospital	B+	C-	A	C+	B-	B-
Queensland Children's Hospital	D+	D+	B-	C	B	C
Logan Hospital	B	C-	B+	C	B	C+
Mackay Hospital	B	C+	B	B-	C+	B-
Mater Hospital	B+	C	A-	B+	B	B
Princess Alexandra Hospital	B-	C-	B+	C	C	C+
Redcliffe Hospital	C+	C	A	B-	B	B-
Redland Hospital	C-	C-	A	C	B	C+
Robina Hospital	C+	C+	A-	B-	C+	B-
Rockhampton Hospital	B+	C	B	C+	B-	B-
Sunshine Coast University Hospital	B+	C-	B+	C+	C+	B-
The Prince Charles Hospital	C	D+	C+	C	C	C
The Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
The Townsville Hospital	C	C	A-	B-	C	C+
Toowoomba Hospital	B-	C-	A	C+	C+	B-

MEDIA CONTACTS: Fran Metcalf, Sequel PR – 0417 627 867; Chiara Lesevre, AMA Queensland – 0419 735 641.

28 October 2020

Junior doctors reveal fear mistakes from exhaustion

More than a third of Bundaberg's trainee doctors are worried they will make a clinical mistake because they are exhausted from working excessively long hours, according to the latest AMA Queensland public hospital report card.

The 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check (RHHC), which compares employment conditions at public hospitals across the state, surveyed 730 interns, house officers and other junior doctors.

AMA Queensland Council of Doctors in Training Chair, Dr Maddison Taylor said 39 per cent of Bundaberg trainee doctors reported concerns about making an error due to fatigue, and a third had not been fully paid for overtime hours worked.

"Disturbingly, 25 per cent of junior Bundaberg doctors were advised not to claim unrostered overtime by an administrative officer or senior medical officer, and 42 per cent felt claiming would negatively affect their assessment.

"This year's survey also revealed a rise in junior doctors feeling unsafe at work, from 22 per cent in 2019 to 27 per cent in 2020, reflecting the impact of COVID in our hospitals."

Dr Taylor said rates of bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment remained too high in Queensland's public hospitals.

"The overall proportion of junior doctors who personally experienced these behaviours has decreased from 39 per cent in 2019 to 34 per cent this year, however, the rate of staff witnessing bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment of a colleague has stayed the same at just over 40 per cent," she said.

"Of those who experienced or witnessed bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment, less than one-third reported the incident, and only 65 per cent felt the matter was handled adequately when they did report it. We need to do better."

Dr Taylor said hospitals needed to be supportive, safe places for Queensland's newest generation of doctors.

"Doctors need to be able to work in healthy hospitals so they can provide the best possible patient care and thrive in their careers," she said.

"As evidenced in the survey, doctors in training are working exceedingly long hours and in some cases without adequate senior support, this predisposes us to burnout, and increases the rates of anxiety and depression, so it's important not only to fix the systemic issues at play in our hospitals but also to provide practical support and advice in those early years."

AMA Queensland has called on the next State Government to commit \$1.67 million to fund a *Wellness at Work* program to ensure all junior doctors receive the resilience training and support they need in their first five years of training.

The call for funding is included in AMA Queensland's [11-Point Action Plan – The Pathway to Better Health for Queenslanders](#) which also calls on all political parties competing in this month's election to commit to reviewing the mandatory reporting laws.

AMA Queensland President Professor Chris Perry said the laws, introduced last year, actively discouraged doctors from seeking medical treatment when they needed it.

“The laws require health practitioners to report fellow clinicians if they believe they have depression, anxiety or another mental illness that could place the public at risk,” he said.

“The result is usually revoking of the doctor’s medical licence, even though their illness may be extremely treatable. Practitioners should have equal rights to access confidential high-quality medical treatment for mental health issues without feeling threatened that their medical licence will be revoked.

“Every year in Queensland, at least four doctors take their own lives. These deaths could be prevented if doctors were able to seek treatment without fear of losing their ability to practice medicine.”

Find the full 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check results [HERE](#)

AMA Queensland 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check						
HOSPITAL	Access to annual leave	Career progression + development	Hours of work + overtime	Wellbeing + workplace culture	Bullying, discrimination + sexual harassment	OVERALL GRADE
Bundaberg Hospital	B	C+	B	C+	B-	B-
Cairns Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
Gold Coast Hospital	C	C	B-	C+	C+	C+
Ipswich Hospital	B+	C-	A	C+	B-	B-
Queensland Children's Hospital	D+	D+	B-	C	B	C
Logan Hospital	B	C-	B+	C	B	C+
Mackay Hospital	B	C+	B	B-	C+	B-
Mater Hospital	B+	C	A-	B+	B	B
Princess Alexandra Hospital	B-	C-	B+	C	C	C+
Redcliffe Hospital	C+	C	A	B-	B	B-
Redland Hospital	C-	C-	A	C	B	C+
Robina Hospital	C+	C+	A-	B-	C+	B-
Rockhampton Hospital	B+	C	B	C+	B-	B-
Sunshine Coast University Hospital	B+	C-	B+	C+	C+	B-
The Prince Charles Hospital	C	D+	C+	C	C	C
The Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
The Townsville Hospital	C	C	A-	B-	C	C+
Toowoomba Hospital	B-	C-	A	C+	C+	B-

MEDIA CONTACTS: Fran Metcalf, Sequel PR – 0417 627 867; Chiara Lesevre, AMA Queensland – 0419 735 641.

28 October 2020

Junior doctors reveal fear mistakes from exhaustion

More than a third of Ipswich trainee doctors are worried they will make a clinical mistake because they are exhausted from working excessively long hours, according to the latest AMA Queensland public hospital report card.

The 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check (RHHC), which compares employment conditions at public hospitals across the state, surveyed 730 interns, house officers and other junior doctors.

AMA Queensland Council of Doctors in Training Chair, Dr Maddison Taylor said 39 per cent of Ipswich trainee doctors reported concerns about making an error due to fatigue.

“Disturbingly, 17 per cent of Ipswich junior doctors were advised not to claim unrostered overtime by an administrative officer or senior medical officer and another 6 per cent felt claiming would negatively affect their assessment.

“This year’s survey also revealed a rise in junior doctors feeling unsafe at work, from 22 per cent in 2019 to 27 per cent in 2020, reflecting the impact of COVID in our hospitals.”

Dr Taylor said rates of bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment remained too high in Queensland’s public hospitals.

“The overall proportion of junior doctors who personally experienced these behaviours has decreased from 39 per cent in 2019 to 34 per cent this year, however, the rate of staff witnessing bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment of a colleague has stayed the same at just over 40 per cent,” she said.

“Of those who experienced or witnessed bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment, less than one-third reported the incident, and only 65 per cent felt the matter was handled adequately when they did report it. We need to do better.”

Dr Taylor said hospitals needed to be supportive, safe places for Queensland’s newest generation of doctors.

“Doctors need to be able to work in healthy hospitals so they can provide the best possible patient care and thrive in their careers,” she said.

“As evidenced in the survey, doctors in training are working exceedingly long hours and in some cases without adequate senior support, this predisposes us to burnout, and increases the rates of anxiety and depression, so it’s important not only to fix the systemic issues at play in our hospitals but also to provide practical support and advice in those early years.”

AMA Queensland has called on the next State Government to commit \$1.67 million to fund a *Wellness at Work* program to ensure all junior doctors receive the resilience training and support they need in their first five years of training.

The call for funding is included in AMA Queensland’s [11-Point Action Plan – The Pathway to Better Health for Queenslanders](#) which also calls on all political parties competing in this month’s election to commit to reviewing the mandatory reporting laws.

AMA Queensland President Professor Chris Perry said the laws, introduced last year, actively discouraged doctors from seeking medical treatment when they needed it.

“The laws require health practitioners to report fellow clinicians if they believe they have depression, anxiety or another mental illness that could place the public at risk,” he said.

“The result is usually revoking of the doctor’s medical licence, even though their illness may be extremely treatable. Practitioners should have equal rights to access confidential high-quality medical treatment for mental health issues without feeling threatened that their medical licence will be revoked.

“Every year in Queensland, at least four doctors take their own lives. These deaths could be prevented if doctors were able to seek treatment without fear of losing their ability to practice medicine.”

Find the full 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check results [HERE](#)

AMA Queensland 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check						
HOSPITAL	Access to annual leave	Career progression + development	Hours of work + overtime	Wellbeing + workplace culture	Bullying, discrimination + sexual harassment	OVERALL GRADE
Bundaberg Hospital	B	C+	B	C+	B-	B-
Cairns Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
Gold Coast Hospital	C	C	B-	C+	C+	C+
Ipswich Hospital	B+	C-	A	C+	B-	B-
Queensland Children's Hospital	D+	D+	B-	C	B	C
Logan Hospital	B	C-	B+	C	B	C+
Mackay Hospital	B	C+	B	B-	C+	B-
Mater Hospital	B+	C	A-	B+	B	B
Princess Alexandra Hospital	B-	C-	B+	C	C	C+
Redcliffe Hospital	C+	C	A	B-	B	B-
Redland Hospital	C-	C-	A	C	B	C+
Robina Hospital	C+	C+	A-	B-	C+	B-
Rockhampton Hospital	B+	C	B	C+	B-	B-
Sunshine Coast University Hospital	B+	C-	B+	C+	C+	B-
The Prince Charles Hospital	C	D+	C+	C	C	C
The Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
The Townsville Hospital	C	C	A-	B-	C	C+
Toowoomba Hospital	B-	C-	A	C+	C+	B-

MEDIA CONTACTS: Fran Metcalf, Sequel PR – 0417 627 867; Chiara Lesevre, AMA Queensland – 0419 735 641.

28 October 2020

Junior doctors reveal fear mistakes from exhaustion

More than half of Logan's trainee doctors are worried they will make a clinical mistake because they are exhausted from working excessively long hours, according to the latest AMA Queensland public hospital report card.

The 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check (RHHC), which compares employment conditions at public hospitals across the state, surveyed 730 interns, house officers and other junior doctors.

AMA Queensland Council of Doctors in Training Chair, Dr Maddison Taylor said 59 per cent of Logan trainee doctors reported concerns about making an error due to fatigue, and almost one quarter had not been fully paid for overtime hours worked.

"Disturbingly, 43 per cent of cent of Logan junior doctors were advised not to claim unrostered overtime by an administrative officer or senior medical officer, and a quarter felt claiming would negatively affect their assessment.

"This year's survey also revealed a rise in junior doctors feeling unsafe at work, from 22 per cent in 2019 to 27 per cent in 2020, reflecting the impact of COVID in our hospitals."

Dr Taylor said rates of bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment remained too high in Queensland's public hospitals.

"The overall proportion of junior doctors who personally experienced these behaviours has decreased from 39 per cent in 2019 to 34 per cent this year, however, the rate of staff witnessing bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment of a colleague has stayed the same at just over 40 per cent," she said.

"Of those who experienced or witnessed bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment, less than one-third reported the incident, and only 65 per cent felt the matter was handled adequately when they did report it. We need to do better."

Dr Taylor said hospitals needed to be supportive, safe places for Queensland's newest generation of doctors.

"Doctors need to be able to work in healthy hospitals so they can provide the best possible patient care and thrive in their careers," she said.

"As evidenced in the survey, doctors in training are working exceedingly long hours and in some cases without adequate senior support, this predisposes us to burnout, and increases the rates of anxiety and depression, so it's important not only to fix the systemic issues at play in our hospitals but also to provide practical support and advice in those early years."

AMA Queensland has called on the next State Government to commit \$1.67 million to fund a *Wellness at Work* program to ensure all junior doctors receive the resilience training and support they need in their first five years of training.

The call for funding is included in AMA Queensland's [11-Point Action Plan – The Pathway to Better Health for Queenslanders](#) which also calls on all political parties competing in this month's election to commit to reviewing the mandatory reporting laws.

AMA Queensland President Professor Chris Perry said the laws, introduced last year, actively discouraged doctors from seeking medical treatment when they needed it.

“The laws require health practitioners to report fellow clinicians if they believe they have depression, anxiety or another mental illness that could place the public at risk,” he said.

“The result is usually revoking of the doctor’s medical licence, even though their illness may be extremely treatable. Practitioners should have equal rights to access confidential high-quality medical treatment for mental health issues without feeling threatened that their medical licence will be revoked.

“Every year in Queensland, at least four doctors take their own lives. These deaths could be prevented if doctors were able to seek treatment without fear of losing their ability to practice medicine.”

Find the full 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check results [HERE](#)

AMA Queensland 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check						
HOSPITAL	Access to annual leave	Career progression + development	Hours of work + overtime	Wellbeing + workplace culture	Bullying, discrimination + sexual harassment	OVERALL GRADE
Bundaberg Hospital	B	C+	B	C+	B-	B-
Cairns Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
Gold Coast Hospital	C	C	B-	C+	C+	C+
Ipswich Hospital	B+	C-	A	C+	B-	B-
Queensland Children's Hospital	D+	D+	B-	C	B	C
Logan Hospital	B	C-	B+	C	B	C+
Mackay Hospital	B	C+	B	B-	C+	B-
Mater Hospital	B+	C	A-	B+	B	B
Princess Alexandra Hospital	B-	C-	B+	C	C	C+
Redcliffe Hospital	C+	C	A	B-	B	B-
Redland Hospital	C-	C-	A	C	B	C+
Robina Hospital	C+	C+	A-	B-	C+	B-
Rockhampton Hospital	B+	C	B	C+	B-	B-
Sunshine Coast University Hospital	B+	C-	B+	C+	C+	B-
The Prince Charles Hospital	C	D+	C+	C	C	C
The Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
The Townsville Hospital	C	C	A-	B-	C	C+
Toowoomba Hospital	B-	C-	A	C+	C+	B-

MEDIA CONTACTS: Fran Metcalf, Sequel PR – 0417 627 867; Chiara Lesevre, AMA Queensland – 0419 735 641.

28 October 2020

Junior doctors reveal fear mistakes from exhaustion

More than 40 per cent Mackay's trainee doctors are worried they will make a clinical mistake because they are exhausted from working excessively long hours, according to the latest AMA Queensland public hospital report card.

The 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check (RHHC), which compares employment conditions at public hospitals across the state, surveyed 730 interns, house officers and other junior doctors.

AMA Queensland Council of Doctors in Training Chair, Dr Maddison Taylor said 43 per cent of Mackay trainee doctors reported concerns about making an error due to fatigue, and more than half had not been fully paid for overtime hours worked.

"Disturbingly, 20 per cent cent of Mackay junior doctors were advised not to claim unrostered overtime by an administrative officer or senior medical officer, and more than quarter felt claiming would negatively affect their assessment.

"This year's survey also revealed a rise in junior doctors feeling unsafe at work, from 22 per cent in 2019 to 27 per cent in 2020, reflecting the impact of COVID in our hospitals."

Dr Taylor said rates of bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment remained too high in Queensland's public hospitals.

"The overall proportion of junior doctors who personally experienced these behaviours has decreased from 39 per cent in 2019 to 34 per cent this year, however, the rate of staff witnessing bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment of a colleague has stayed the same at just over 40 per cent," she said.

"Of those who experienced or witnessed bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment, less than one-third reported the incident, and only 65 per cent felt the matter was handled adequately when they did report it. We need to do better."

Dr Taylor said hospitals needed to be supportive, safe places for Queensland's newest generation of doctors.

"Doctors need to be able to work in healthy hospitals so they can provide the best possible patient care and thrive in their careers," she said.

"As evidenced in the survey, doctors in training are working exceedingly long hours and in some cases without adequate senior support, this predisposes us to burnout, and increases the rates of anxiety and depression, so it's important not only to fix the systemic issues at play in our hospitals but also to provide practical support and advice in those early years."

AMA Queensland has called on the next State Government to commit \$1.67 million to fund a *Wellness at Work* program to ensure all junior doctors receive the resilience training and support they need in their first five years of training.

The call for funding is included in AMA Queensland's [11-Point Action Plan – The Pathway to Better Health for Queenslanders](#) which also calls on all political parties competing in this month's election to commit to reviewing the mandatory reporting laws.

AMA Queensland President Professor Chris Perry said the laws, introduced last year, actively discouraged doctors from seeking medical treatment when they needed it.

“The laws require health practitioners to report fellow clinicians if they believe they have depression, anxiety or another mental illness that could place the public at risk,” he said.

“The result is usually revoking of the doctor’s medical licence, even though their illness may be extremely treatable. Practitioners should have equal rights to access confidential high-quality medical treatment for mental health issues without feeling threatened that their medical licence will be revoked.

“Every year in Queensland, at least four doctors take their own lives. These deaths could be prevented if doctors were able to seek treatment without fear of losing their ability to practice medicine.”

Find the full 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check results [HERE](#)

AMA Queensland 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check						
HOSPITAL	Access to annual leave	Career progression + development	Hours of work + overtime	Wellbeing + workplace culture	Bullying, discrimination + sexual harassment	OVERALL GRADE
Bundaberg Hospital	B	C+	B	C+	B-	B-
Cairns Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
Gold Coast Hospital	C	C	B-	C+	C+	C+
Ipswich Hospital	B+	C-	A	C+	B-	B-
Queensland Children's Hospital	D+	D+	B-	C	B	C
Logan Hospital	B	C-	B+	C	B	C+
Mackay Hospital	B	C+	B	B-	C+	B-
Mater Hospital	B+	C	A-	B+	B	B
Princess Alexandra Hospital	B-	C-	B+	C	C	C+
Redcliffe Hospital	C+	C	A	B-	B	B-
Redland Hospital	C-	C-	A	C	B	C+
Robina Hospital	C+	C+	A-	B-	C+	B-
Rockhampton Hospital	B+	C	B	C+	B-	B-
Sunshine Coast University Hospital	B+	C-	B+	C+	C+	B-
The Prince Charles Hospital	C	D+	C+	C	C	C
The Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
The Townsville Hospital	C	C	A-	B-	C	C+
Toowoomba Hospital	B-	C-	A	C+	C+	B-

MEDIA CONTACTS: Fran Metcalf, Sequel PR – 0417 627 867; Chiara Lesevre, AMA Queensland – 0419 735 641.

28 October 2020

Junior doctors reveal fear mistakes from exhaustion

More than a third of Redcliffe's trainee doctors are worried they will make a clinical mistake because they are exhausted from working excessively long hours, according to the latest AMA Queensland public hospital report card.

The 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check (RHHC), which compares employment conditions at public hospitals across the state, surveyed 730 interns, house officers and other junior doctors.

AMA Queensland Council of Doctors in Training Chair, Dr Maddison Taylor said 40 per cent of Redcliffe trainee doctors reported concerns about making an error due to fatigue, and 7 per cent had not been fully paid for overtime hours worked.

"Disturbingly, 9 per cent of Redcliffe junior doctors were advised not to claim unrostered overtime by an administrative officer or senior medical officer, and a fifth felt claiming would negatively affect their assessment.

"This year's survey also revealed a rise in junior doctors feeling unsafe at work, from 22 per cent in 2019 to 27 per cent in 2020, reflecting the impact of COVID in our hospitals."

Dr Taylor said rates of bullying, discrimination and sexual harassment remained too high in Queensland's public hospitals.

"The overall proportion of junior doctors who personally experienced these behaviours has decreased from 39 per cent in 2019 to 34 per cent this year, however, the rate of staff witnessing bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment of a colleague has stayed the same at just over 40 per cent," she said.

"Of those who experienced or witnessed bullying, discrimination or sexual harassment, less than one-third reported the incident, and only 65 per cent felt the matter was handled adequately when they did report it. We need to do better."

Dr Taylor said hospitals needed to be supportive, safe places for Queensland's newest generation of doctors.

"Doctors need to be able to work in healthy hospitals so they can provide the best possible patient care and thrive in their careers," she said.

"As evidenced in the survey, doctors in training are working exceedingly long hours and in some cases without adequate senior support, this predisposes us to burnout, and increases the rates of anxiety and depression, so it's important not only to fix the systemic issues at play in our hospitals but also to provide practical support and advice in those early years."

AMA Queensland has called on the next State Government to commit \$1.67 million to fund a *Wellness at Work* program to ensure all junior doctors receive the resilience training and support they need in their first five years of training.

The call for funding is included in AMA Queensland's [11-Point Action Plan – The Pathway to Better Health for Queenslanders](#) which also calls on all political parties competing in this month's election to commit to reviewing the mandatory reporting laws.

AMA Queensland President Professor Chris Perry said the laws, introduced last year, actively discouraged doctors from seeking medical treatment when they needed it.

“The laws require health practitioners to report fellow clinicians if they believe they have depression, anxiety or another mental illness that could place the public at risk,” he said.

“The result is usually revoking of the doctor’s medical licence, even though their illness may be extremely treatable. Practitioners should have equal rights to access confidential high-quality medical treatment for mental health issues without feeling threatened that their medical licence will be revoked.

“Every year in Queensland, at least four doctors take their own lives. These deaths could be prevented if doctors were able to seek treatment without fear of losing their ability to practice medicine.”

Find the full 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check results [HERE](#)

AMA Queensland 2020 Resident Hospital Health Check						
HOSPITAL	Access to annual leave	Career progression + development	Hours of work + overtime	Wellbeing + workplace culture	Bullying, discrimination + sexual harassment	OVERALL GRADE
Bundaberg Hospital	B	C+	B	C+	B-	B-
Cairns Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
Gold Coast Hospital	C	C	B-	C+	C+	C+
Ipswich Hospital	B+	C-	A	C+	B-	B-
Queensland Children's Hospital	D+	D+	B-	C	B	C
Logan Hospital	B	C-	B+	C	B	C+
Mackay Hospital	B	C+	B	B-	C+	B-
Mater Hospital	B+	C	A-	B+	B	B
Princess Alexandra Hospital	B-	C-	B+	C	C	C+
Redcliffe Hospital	C+	C	A	B-	B	B-
Redland Hospital	C-	C-	A	C	B	C+
Robina Hospital	C+	C+	A-	B-	C+	B-
Rockhampton Hospital	B+	C	B	C+	B-	B-
Sunshine Coast University Hospital	B+	C-	B+	C+	C+	B-
The Prince Charles Hospital	C	D+	C+	C	C	C
The Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital	C	C	B+	B	B-	B-
The Townsville Hospital	C	C	A-	B-	C	C+
Toowoomba Hospital	B-	C-	A	C+	C+	B-

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