

Queensland Institute of Medical Research Bill 2025

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Submitter Comments:

We welcome the Queensland Institute of Medical Research Bill 2025 and commend its commitment to supporting medical research that advances the health and wellbeing of Queenslanders. As the professional organisation representing nurses who care for children and families in schools, community clinics, and hospitals, we fully support legislation that ensures research is robust, accountable, and responsive to the real needs of our communities. Our practice depends on research that reflects the complexity of children's lives and health. We conduct and rely on nursing and interdisciplinary research to deliver evidence-based care across community and acute settings. For research to truly guide safe, effective care, it must:

- Incorporate the voices of children and families themselves, capturing their lived experiences in health and illness.
- Engage with vulnerable and minority populations, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, children in out-of-home care, those with disability, and culturally and linguistically diverse families.
- Be translated into practical improvements in care, programs, and policies that matter to children and their families.

We are pleased the Bill enables QIMR to continue its important work and supports governance structures that recognise expertise in health ethics, clinical research, and community impact. These are essential to building research that is not only scientifically rigorous but also inclusive, just, and meaningful. We encourage QIMR to:

- Actively engage nurses and frontline health professionals in research planning and knowledge translation.
- Invest in research led by, or in partnership with, communities and children themselves.
- Prioritise research that addresses health equity and empowers those most affected by poor health outcomes.

We believe this Bill is a critical step toward a research environment that supports holistic, evidence-informed, and child- and family-centred care, recognising the role of nurses in care. We look forward to seeing continued collaboration with QIMR to ensure that all children regardless of background have their voices heard and their health needs addressed.