

## Question on Notice

No. 531

Asked on 13 May 2026

**MR T SMITH** ASKED MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND AMBULANCE SERVICES (HON T NICHOLLS)—

### QUESTION

With reference to outpatient waitlist performance in February 2026, as listed on Queensland Health's Performance Website—

Will the Minister advise the number of Townsville-based outpatients referred to other HHSs for specialist outpatient appointments (in table format, where the x-axis is the HHS, and the y-axis reports the number of Townsville-based patients)?

### ANSWER

Queensland Health delivers a range of specialist services across its statewide network. Some highly specialised and complex services are managed as statewide services and are delivered by one or two Hospital and Health Services across the state. Other services have more widespread delivery but may still be limited to major facilities to ensure safe and appropriately supported clinical services.

I am advised that the table below lists data from the specialist outpatient waitlist as at 1 March 2026. It shows the number of referrals for Townsville based residents where the patient has been referred to a facility outside of the Townsville Hospital and Health Service. To avoid identifying individuals, counts of less than five are not reported.

Referred to Hospital and Health Service	Number of Specialist Outpatient Referrals
Cairns and Hinterland	23
Central Queensland	6
Children's Health Queensland	54
Darling Downs	<5
Gold Coast	5
Mackay	6
Mater Health Service	<5
Metro North	304
Metro South	22
North West	<5
West Moreton	<5
Wide Bay	<5