

## Question on Notice

No. 554

Asked on 14 May 2026

**MR M HEALY** 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 Cairns-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 Cairns-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 Cairns based residents where the patient has been referred to a facility outside of the Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service.

Referred to Hospital and Health Service	Number of Specialist Outpatient Referrals
Central Queensland	5
Children's Health Queensland	69
Darling Downs	1
Gold Coast	5
Mackay	2
Mater Health Service	15
Metro North	285
Metro South	25
Sunshine Coast	4
Townsville	225