Welcome to the inaugural ieQ newsletter which will be published on occasion.

**Brief History**

ieQ was founded as IEWG (infective Endocarditis Working Group by Robert Horvath and John Sedgwick) in 2015, with 23 founding members from multiple disciplines and sites. A Metro-North Seed grant in February 2017 (thank you!) helped us develop a biobank and database, and in June 2018, a grant from the TPCH Foundation helped “keep the dream alive”! (thank you!).
2019 Summary

2019 was a massive year for ieQ!!
It commenced with a changing of the guard for our research managers, farewelling Anne Cameron (thank you Anne!) and Welcoming Dionne Essenstam.
The year moved rapidly, first with TPCH agreeing to host the inaugural ieQ symposium, a decision that coincided with the first opportunity to publicly spruik it at the annual ASID conference in Darwin the following week (thank you ASID for your support!) and subsequently via multiple societies and colleges.

International Society of Cardiovascular Infectious Diseases (ISCVID)

In June ieQ also had a successful presence at ISCVID in Lausanne, being honoured with having 10 posters displayed and two oral presentations. The posters can be viewed on our website in the “conference and meeting abstracts” section on main page.

Endocarditis Advisory Team (EAT)

August marked the commencement of our Endocarditis Advisory Team meetings (MDTs) which are expected to offer state-wide services during 2020.

Infective Endocarditis Symposium

In October it culminated in a hugely successful inaugural symposium at TPCH in Brisbane, with speakers including David Durack, Eugene Athan, Nathan Dwyer and Stephen Graves, and from Queensland Jason Roberts, Darryl Burstow, Michael Williams and members of the ieQ Executive Committee.

Thank you to all who made this possible!

Program, and speaker’s bios are on the 2019 endocarditis symposium page of our website (eventually several of the talks will be posted there too).

The success of this has encouraged progress towards biannual symposium (provisionally 2021 will be in Victoria), alternating with ieQ research tele-meetings (provisional date for 1st is Friday October 23rd, 2020 - more details soon!)
Only days later progress continued with the enrolment of our 1st consented biobank patient on October 30th.
On November 1st we were honoured by having David Durack accepting our offer of being inaugural international patron and Eugene Athan and Nathan...
Dwyer accepting our offers of being our inaugural Australasian patrons. (Thank you!)

On November 21st Sunshine Coast University Hospital, Rockhampton Hospital and Townsville Hospital volunteered to be test-sites for the first biobank expansion, (thank you!) further progress news will follow.

**Grant Extension**

On 27th November, we were honoured by a grant extension from the TPCH Foundation to December 2020. We humbly thank the Foundation for supporting us during these critical phases!

**IE data-field synchronisation**

December 12th. Rounding up our first major year, the 1st IE data-field synchronisation meeting was held, with the summary being to aim for a single basic tier based on ICE data-field with at least 1-year follow-up and whether formal ID consults of MDT consults were involved. Discussions to continue with further meetings early 2020.

The decision to use this opportunity to aim for a national IE registry was also made at this historic meeting.

*Concluding a huge year with hopefully more exciting developments during 2020.*

Again, a request for those who would like to be listed as members on the networking page (please peruse it first) please contact us ASAP. It will involve you getting these newsletters and other ieQ messages directly as we hope to not have to rely on ozbug in the future (especially as many IE interested people do not have ozbug access). Note we welcome members from anywhere in Australasia!

**Email us on:**  ieq@health.qld.gov.au

Apologies if your efforts haven’t been thanked in this letter, any omissions are purely unintentional.

On Behalf of the ieQ Executive Committee, thank you all for such a successful 2019, with promises that 2020 will be even greater!