

# Queensland Paediatric Sepsis Program (QPSP) Family Support Program Factsheet

## Background

A child's diagnosis of sepsis is a life changing event that often involves a long hospital stay followed by ongoing engagement with medical and allied health professionals for many years. Parents have described a sense of isolation and uncertainty with their child being affected by an unknown or unfamiliar condition.

## About the Family Support Program

The QPSP *Family Support Program* is an evolving model of care that aims to address these needs and has two key priorities:

- 1) to create connections, offer psychological support and a sense of shared experience for families through linkage with our Family Support Network, Sepsis Peer Mentor Program and direct contact with qualified Social Workers; and
- 2) to provide education about sepsis and post-sepsis supports that is consistent and evidence-based through online videos, website, webinars, media and public awareness campaigns.

A key strength of the program is the co-design and delivery with consumers.

## Who is eligible?

The QPSP *Family Support Program* is available to **all** families with a sepsis diagnosis, throughout their journey with sepsis - from a new diagnosis, to receiving care in hospital, rehabilitation, returning home after hospital, and bereavement support to families whose child has died from sepsis.

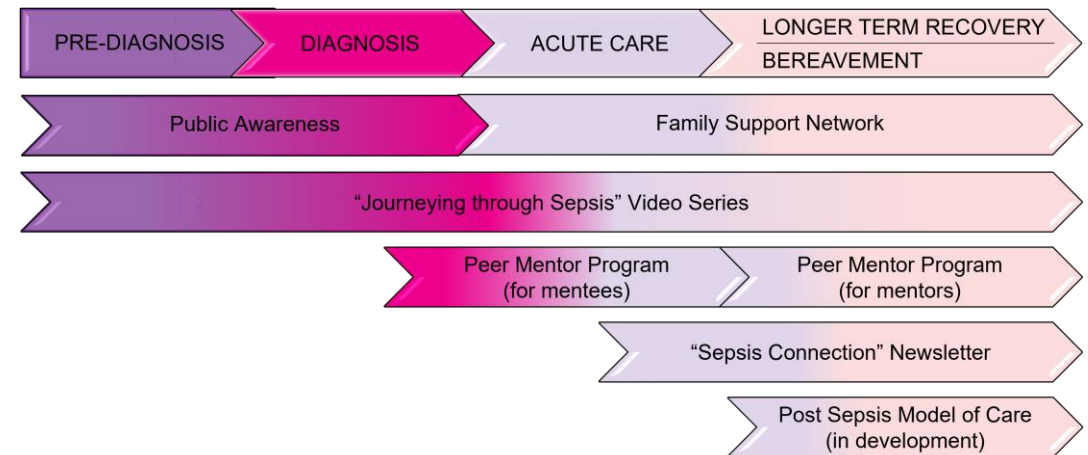


Image 1: QPSP Family Support Program Structure

## What is included?

- [Sepsis family support webpage](#) providing information and links to support programs and a range of resources including postcards and videos translated into 10 different languages.
- [Family Support Network](#) enabling families who have a lived experience of sepsis to be able to connect with others with similar experiences, access useful information and support and be actively involved in the QPSP program.
- ["Journeying through Sepsis" video series](#) to support families with a child who has survived sepsis, providing information and guidance on each stage of their child's journey. Key messages are provided by families from both metropolitan and rural areas.
- [Peer Mentor Program](#) providing support for families with a child recovering from sepsis, or bereaved as a result of sepsis, by linking them with peers who have a lived experience.



## How to connect families to the Family Support Program

Clinicians are encouraged to share any of the resources listed in this factsheet with families or refer families to the QPSP via the [QPSP Referral](#).

## Key Documents

- [Parent and carer information sheet](#)
- [Paediatric Sepsis checklist](#)
- [Implementing a paediatric sepsis program in partnership with families affected](#) (case study)
- [Resources to support discharge planning including information for patients and families](#)
- [National Sepsis Clinical Care Standard](#)
- [CHQ Statewide Bereavement Service](#)
- [Designing Support Structure Post Sepsis in Children](#) (research paper)
- [Challenges in the recognition and management of paediatric sepsis — The journey](#) (research paper)

## More Information

The QPSP is committed to supporting your service to improve outcomes for families and children so please get in contact via [paediatricsepsis@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:paediatricsepsis@health.qld.gov.au) or complete the [QPSP Referral](#).

## Education

- [Paediatric Sepsis Series - Family Support & Stories](#)
- [The Role of Parents in Sepsis Recognition and Management](#)
- [Paediatric Sepsis Awareness Week | Gold Coast Health](#)
- [Is it Sepsis? Animation | T for Thomas Foundation](#)
- [Sepsis in children animation](#)
- [Sepsis in babies and children: The facts you need to know about sepsis](#)
- [Sepsis in babies and children: Mia's Story](#)



Image 2: Our inspiration - Queensland faces of sepsis