



The Royal Brisbane and
Women's Hospital and
Metro North Health
acknowledges the
Turrbal and Yagara
Traditional Custodians
of the land upon which
we live, work and
walk, and we pay our
respects to Elders past
and present.

Metro North
Health



Queensland
Government

The Hidden Half of Transplant



Supporting Carers for Better Outcomes

Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital
Social Work

Team:

Amanda Mellow – Adolescent and Young Adult Snr Social Worker

Georgia Janas – Haematology and Bone Marrow Transplant Social Worker

Jen Jewell – Social Work Cancer Care and Chronic Disease Team Leader



I'd like you to take a moment

- think back to that experience -

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The caregiver we depend on
is often the one we prepare
the least

Supporting caregivers isn't just good practice

It's good BMT medicine

Learning Objectives

- Explore the Caregivers Journey in current MOC
- Examine evolving needs

QIA:

- Investigating a structured, caregiver-centred MOC
- Identifying caregivers at risk *earlier*
- Better support for both caregivers and patients



Current MOC

Comprehensive psychosocial support for **patients**



-  Emotional wellbeing support
-  Family and social support
-  Financial and practical guidance
-  Health and lifestyle support
-  Information and communication

However

Experiences and needs of **caregivers** are not **systematically** assessed.



However

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PSYCHOSOCIAL DOMAINS OF CAREGIVING

Interconnected. Cumulative. Evolving.

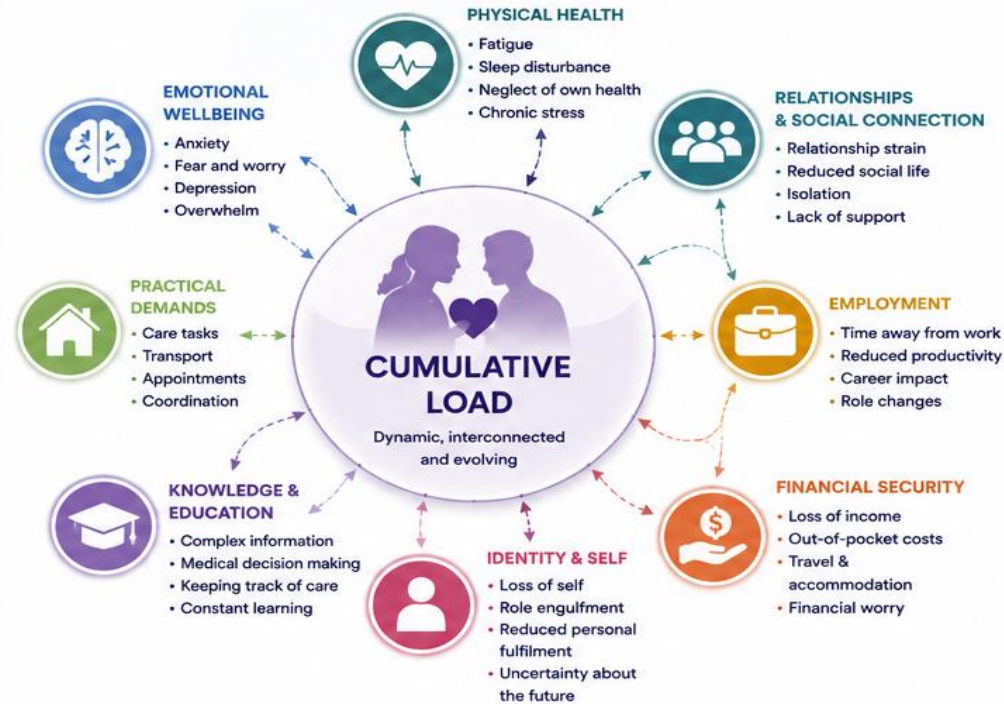
Caregivers often carry multiple psychosocial stressors simultaneously, creating a cumulative load that may evolve throughout the transplant journey.

HOW STRESSORS INTERACT AND AMPLIFY



These stressors interact.
They accumulate.
They amplify one another.

PSYCHOSOCIAL DOMAINS AFFECTED



IMPACT ON CAREGIVER HEALTH



While caregivers are not our patients, the evidence consistently demonstrates that caregiving itself has significant health consequences.

EVOLVING THROUGH THE TRANSPLANT JOURNEY



Supporting caregivers across all domains — proactively and continuously — reduces cumulative load, protects health, and improves outcomes for patients and families.



Quality Improvement Activity

Identifying and supporting caregivers is no longer simply good psychosocial care

— it is an important component of good transplant care

Could we identify caregivers at risk earlier, before their needs became overwhelming?





Primary Goal

Identify opportunities to improve caregiver:

Education

Preparedness

Access to support earlier



Project Methodology

Carer journey map

Carer journey map				
Elements of patient/carer experience	Journey stages	Work up (pre-admission)	Admission	Post-discharge care
	Actions/Tasks			
	Impact			
	RBWH Care team			
	External support systems			
	Unmet needs			
Service touchpoints	Opportunities for improved care			

Adapted from: <https://www.patientexperienceagency.com.au/blog/fundamentals-of-patient-journey-mapping>



Future Directions





Thank You Carers

Questions?

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