Deborah Dean

Debi Dean qualified at St Bartholomew’s Hospital, London, in 1980 as a state registered nurse and, after initially following a critical care nursing pathway, became very interested in chronic disease management in primary care. In 2000, Debi was engaged as the Professional Lead for Coronary Heart Disease for Newcastle-under-Lyme Primary Care Trust, Staffordshire, and responsible for the implementation of the Department of Health Coronary Heart Disease National Service Framework within the local population.

In 2008 Debi immigrated to Cairns and was recruited as the Project Officer for the Diabetes Centre in July 2010 to develop a telehealth model of care for people with diabetes in rural and remote districts. This post provided a unique opportunity to explore Queensland from the comfort of a typing chair—particularly useful as Debi’s previous experience of rural had been the end of the Central Line in London’s Underground; and remote—the other side of the River Thames.

Fully conscious of the current disparity and inequality of care often available in the remote setting, Debi is firmly committed to the development of telehealth services to remedy this situation.