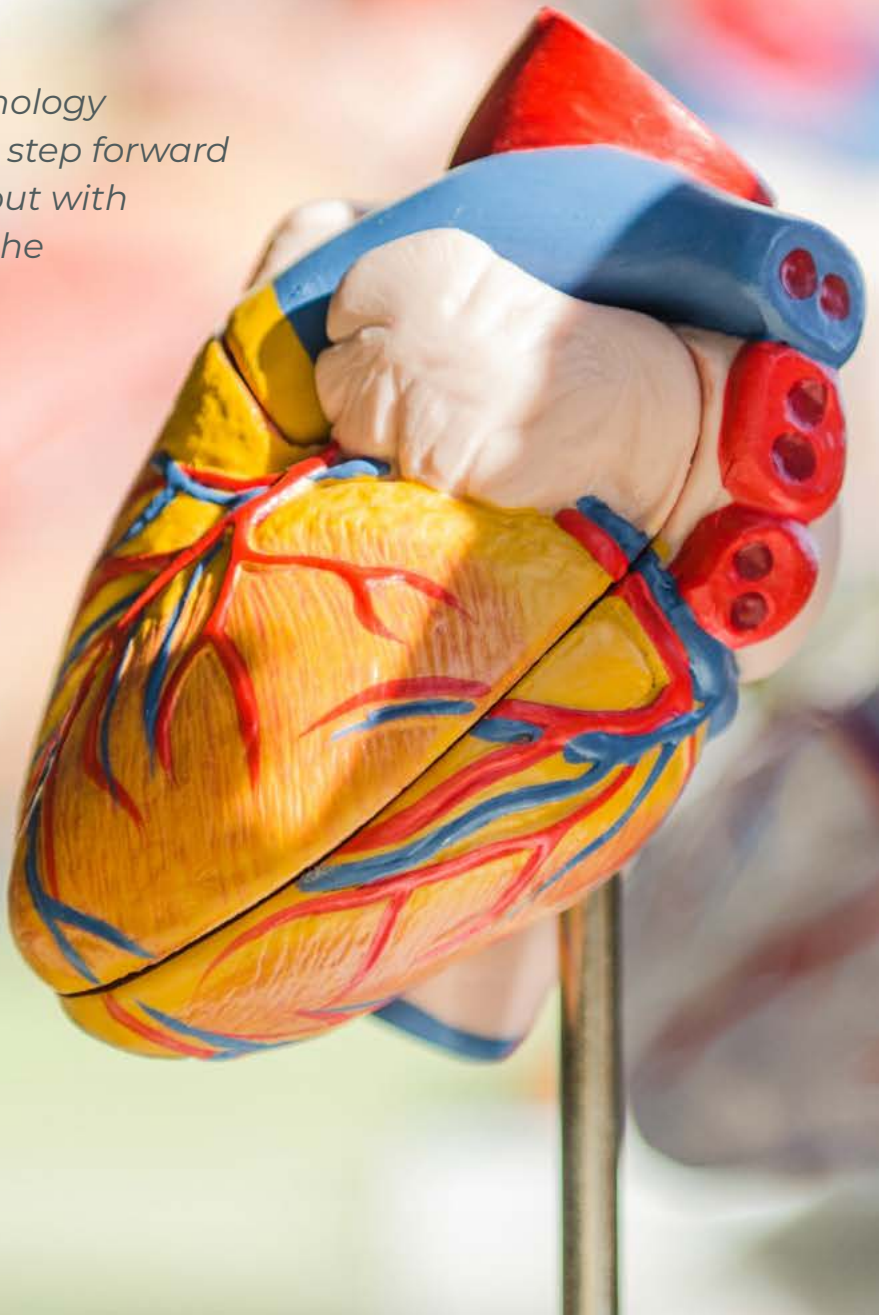


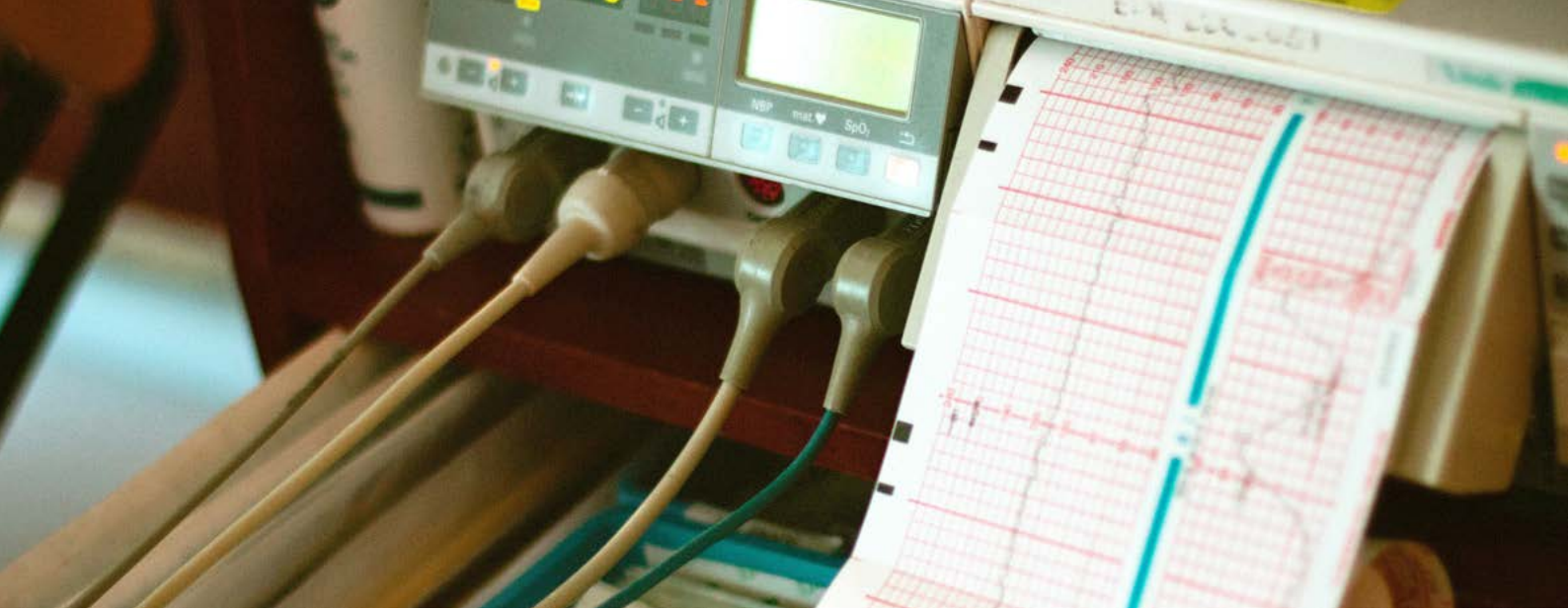
ROYAL AUSTRALASIAN  
COLLEGE OF SURGEONS 

## Operating with real-time *insight and precision*

*Sometimes with new technology  
you feel you're moving one step forward  
and then two steps back, but with  
Adaptive Insights we saw the  
benefits right away."*

*— Adam Shepard, Finance Manager, RACS*





**The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS) is the leading advocate for surgical standards, professionalism and surgical education in Australia and New Zealand. As a non-profit organisation, they support more than 8,000 surgeons and trainees in areas ranging from surgeon training and accreditation to research and policy development.**

## Challenge

The RACS finance team were using the outdated Microsoft Forecaster application and Excel spreadsheets for budgeting and planning.

However as Microsoft would soon be discontinuing the support for the product, they needed to find a suitable replacement urgently.

There were also other factors driving the change. The RACS finance team was spending far too much time trying to maintain an inflexible budgeting tool that no longer fit their needs.

The budgets were rather static and lacked sophistication without [driver-based modelling](#).

Department managers who were responsible for contributing to the planning process were using error-prone spreadsheets to complete annual budgets and developed their own workarounds.

These managers had limited insight into their financials and would constantly bombard the

finance team with questions, putting extra stress on an already stretched team.

It was frustrating for everyone involved, and such a manual and laborious method compromised the effectiveness and efficiency of the planning process.

RACS recognised the need to improve and change the way they completed their annual budgets, and there was urgency to do so.

### They needed:

- To modernise the way they conduct planning
- To encourage ownership for department managers and provide easy, personalised access to insights
- A fit-for-purpose solution that could be implemented quickly
- A solution that could be maintained by finance

## Solution

RACS first conducted an evaluation process to compare leading budgeting and planning tools. A proof of concept challenge was issued, and they eventually chose [Adaptive Insights](#).

The proof of concept challenge required QMetrix to model several of the most complex models within Adaptive Insights and present it back. QMetrix did so, with further suggestions to improve the models.

The project kicked off with several workshops to thoroughly understand the RACS business, their financials and key drivers from Revenue models through to Payroll, CapEx and even Travel which were an essential part of annual P&L budget.

Together we identified key drivers within each of the models and modelled it up in such a way that it was easy and intuitive for the department managers to really understand the underlying elements that drove the numbers.

This ultimately resulted in more accurate budgets and plans.

Another key component of the workshops was to understand how far RACS wanted the solution to extend out to the business in the first phase. In this case it was to every single cost centre manager – over 60 users.

Previously, the RACS finance team had to run through different spreadsheets with each individual contributor so they could complete their budgets accurately.

With Adaptive Insights, each user can now have a different view within an intuitive user interface. The managers can easily update and manage their own budgets, and submit it for approval within the workflow, leading to greater ownership and saving time for the finance team.

To aid a successful implementation, QMetrix also proposed change management factors that RACS needed to consider when deploying the solution to all different parts of the business across various states.



## Implementation

The solution was delivered on time in less than 2 months and within budget.

This included scoping and analysis, through to modelling 8 different revenue models, 4 expense models, data integration to MS Dynamics Great Plains and training.

RACS's solution



**Budgeting and  
Planning consulting**  
*Learn more*



# Impact

For RACS

**A more accurate and comprehensive annual budget which captures all the necessary details, assumptions and workings from each department**

**Workflow and version management provides finance with the necessary controls to easily manage and oversee the budget process**

**Ownership of the planning process and collaboration from over 60 department managers**

**Real-time access to the financials for department managers, who are able to drill down to the transactions to self-serve their own queries in a user-friendly interface**

*The absolute show stopper for us was moving from a monthly reporting cycle to allowing business managers to run their own reports and see the data in real time, whenever they choose.*

– Adam Shepard, Finance Manager, RACS



## QMetrix

QMetrix provides professional advisory services that empower our clients to operate with the agility needed in today's business environment. Our corporate Budgeting and Planning, Master Data Management, and Business Intelligence and Analytics solutions help to drive better business performance.

We work together with clients to achieve the right outcome for their unique business, providing end-to-end solutions from analysis to design and delivery. We serve clients across Australia and have offices in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Perth.

Learn about QMetrix's  
Budgeting and Planning  
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