



## SCLMA President's Message .....

### Dr Jon Harper



*We are now several weeks into the new year and perhaps for some of us our summer holiday is already a distant memory! But hopefully most had enough time to recharge for the challenges and*

*opportunities that 2024 will bring.*

*The SCLMA committee had a planning meeting in January to discuss the coming year. There were many good ideas; aiming to maintain a high standard of education at the clinical meetings, as well as exploring benefits to members outside of the monthly meetings.*

*While visiting friends and family in the UK in December, I also managed to get a few days in Iceland - between volcanic eruptions. It is a fascinating place with a truly unique landscape. The population is actually almost identical to the Sunshine Coast, roughly 380,000. So it wasn't long before I was asking our taxi driver about Iceland's health care system.*

*Healthcare is mostly state funded with most GPs and specialists on salaries, or partly salaried and partly private fees.*

*For consultations, most adults pay a small co-payment of about ten bucks. In recent years, the state has funded new privately-managed health centres.*

*On further reading, I was interested to learn that the Icelandic system has some similarities with the high hopes of the Australian Government's 'My Medicare' program; where patient registration and disease-burden stratification play a key role in funding. The trick seems to be giving patients a choice of GP but then locking in the commitment. (Maybe there should be some sort of ceremony with a confetti-filled balloon.)*

*Speaking of ceremonies, Medicare turned 40 recently and is perhaps starting to show its age. There has been some relief for patients with the increasing of bulk-billing incentives but in non-rural general practice the benefits are marginal. Rebates for private specialist consultations are prohibitively insufficient for many patients and public waiting lists are not getting any shorter.*

*Queensland Health's QScript has been with us for a couple of years now and I suspect many of us have formed strong opinions about the system. There are some proposed changes to mandatory checking and if you would like to provide feedback there is a survey on the QScript webpage.*

*Jon Harper*

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**DATE CLAIMER!! IT'S ON AGAIN THIS YEAR!**

**THE SUNSHINE COAST HEALTH REPORT!**

**THURSDAY 25 JULY 2024 - 6.30pm for 7pm.  
MAROOCHYDORE SURF CLUB PRIVATE FUNCTION ROOM.**

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Committee:	Dr Peter Ruscoe Dr Jonathan Last Dr James Tunggal Dr Sue Nightingale Dr Jim Williams (new) Dr Bryan Palmer (new)
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SC Junior Docs Rep:	To be advised

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The Sunshine Coast Local Medical Association welcomes contributions from members, especially *'Letters to the Editor'*.

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## **MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER**

**Deadline FRIDAY  
22nd MARCH 2024**

Our circulation via email, )Mail Chimp reaches more than 1,500 recipients! It is also uploaded to the SCLMA website and FaceBook page.

**Contact Jo: Mobile: 0407 037 112**

**Email: admin@sclma.com.au**

*We welcome new content - case studies, local news and photos.*

*If you are a new member, please send in a short bio and a photo to introduce yourself.*

**NOTE: We have changed to digital only newsletter distribution**

**ALL Newsletters are posted to our website  
<https://www.sclma.com.au>**

## **ARE YOU A MEMBER?**

If you are not a member please complete the application form available on the website:

**[www.sclma.com.au](http://www.sclma.com.au).**

You will need two proposers to sign your application form. If this is a problem, come along to a monthly clinical meeting to introduce yourself

**Enquiries: Jo Ph: 0407 037 112**

**Email: admin@sclma.com.au**

Are you listed on the Member Directory on our website? Are your details correct?

**Directory form available on the website.**

**[www.sclma.com.au](http://www.sclma.com.au)**



**HIGHLIGHTS in this issue:**

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 P 9: BreastScreen Research Update  
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 P 17: Buderim Private Hosp Feb24 Update  
 P 23: Cittimani Specialist Palliative Care  
 P 29-33: AMA Qld Feb 24 Report

**Please 'like', 'share' and 'follow' our Facebook page: [sunshinecoast local medical](https://www.facebook.com/sunshinecoast.local.medical)**

**<https://www.sclma.com.au>**

**SCLMA MEMBERSHIP 2023**

*Thanks to all who have renewed for 2023 please contact Jo via email: [admin@sclma.com.au](mailto:admin@sclma.com.au) if you would like a receipt or phone 407 037 112. Sadly there are approx 140 long time members who have not yet renewed for 2023.  
**YOUR FINAL RENEWAL IS N ITS WAY!***

**THE SCLMA IS FAR MORE THAN THE MONTHLY MEETING - MUCH WORK IS DONE BEHIND THE SCENES WITH LIAISONS WITH LOCAL HOSPITALS, COUNTRY to COAST AND ALLIED HEALTH.  
 VERY EASY TO PAY BY CARD TOO!**

**Please contact Jo  
 ph: 0407 037 112 or  
 email [admin@sclma.com.au](mailto:admin@sclma.com.au) with any queries.**

*Are you listed on our Members' Directory?  
 Do your details need to be updated?*

<http://www.sclma.com.au/members/>

Contact: Jo - [admin@sclma.com.au](mailto:admin@sclma.com.au) Ph: 0407 037 112 **ALL NEWSLETTERS ARE ON OUR WEBSITE** <https://www.sclma.com.au>

**CLINICAL MEETINGS 2024**

**MEETINGS are held LAST Thursday of each month except December and January.**

**We have interest from:  
 Dr Robert Stephens  
 Dr John O'Bryen  
 Dr Colin Dicks  
 Dr Chris Weekes**

**Available dates:**

**March 28 – available  
 April 25 ANZAC DAY - ?? TBC  
 May 30 – Lungscreen  
 June 27 - Dr Peter Georgius  
 July 25 – SC Health Report  
 August 29 – available  
 September 26 – available  
 October 31 – available  
 November 28 – Ramsay Health**

**More to follow up - should be a good year!**

**We are considering recording meetings - is this a good idea?  
 Corporate sponsorship welcome!**

**Speakers and topics need to be approved by SCLMA Meetings Convenor (Dr Scott Masters and Dr Alex Matthews)**

**Presentation time for speakers is 20 minutes plus Q&A**

**Queries: Jo Ph: 0407 037 112  
 Email: [admin@sclma.com.au](mailto:admin@sclma.com.au)**

# Sunshine Coast

## Hospital and Health Service

### *SCLMA Profile February 2024 –*

### *Sunshine Coast Health Public Health Service Director, Dusty-Lee Williams*



With a nursing background in specialties such as cardiac and neonates Dusty-Lee Williams made a mammoth change when she took on her role as Public Health Service Director in mid-2020.

She delved straight in the deep end, leading the Public Health Unit through most of the rollercoaster of the COVID-19 pandemic.

“My main goal was to lead the team through that dynamic and challenging period by building a shared sense of purpose,” Ms Williams said.

“I’m incredibly proud of how the Public Health Unit adeptly responded to the challenges of the pandemic, demonstrating flexibility and agility in response to the ever-changing demands.”

“As we transitioned away from COVID and returned to our core work, maintaining a common purpose remained a key priority and I am continually impressed by the team’s collaborative efforts in outbreak management and their responsiveness to ongoing public health challenges.”

Ms Williams is passionate about supporting the Public Health Unit team as they work to improve the health of the Sunshine Coast community.

“We have dedicated teams, including Communicable Disease, Immunisation, and Environmental Health collaborating to prevent, manage, and control diseases and environmental risks,” she said.

“Our diverse team includes Public Health Physicians, Nurses, Environmental Health Officers, Epidemiologists, Data Officers, and Administration Officers.”

She also engages with other government agencies or community partners to collaborate on public health campaigns and responses to outbreaks, and analyses the effectiveness of interventions.

Ms Williams said the Public Health Unit shares information about local increases in case notifications and outbreaks, to raise awareness and inform diagnostic testing.

“I am a firm believer in combining preventive steps with responsive actions and working together with partners to provide holistic and proactive health services,” she said.

“We appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with GPs, and your partnership is crucial for successful responsive interventions!”



# GP Liaison

Your hospital connection, together we can deliver better healthcare.

*Dr Edwin Krays and Dr Michelle Johnston*



## New: Persistent pain telephone service for GPs

The Persistent Pain Management Service (PPMS) has launched telephone service to support GPs working with patients with persistent/chronic pain. Advice will be provided by Pain Specialists or, if the specialist is occupied on another call, a senior nurse.

Our trained professionals can assist with:

- clinical advice and support
- opioid questions/medication queries
- suitability for service discussion
- recommendations for alternative referral/community support.

**Phone: 1300 328 171** (Monday to Friday, 08.00am – 12.00pm)

Please let the Persistent Pain team know what your preferences are re this service by filling out 5 survey questions: [Click here to go to survey](#). Thank you.

## Save the Date: GP Antenatal Education on Saturday 09 March 2024

This Education Session will be held in the Sunshine Coast Health Institute (next to SCUH) on the morning of 09 March 2024. This will meet the needs of general practitioners participating in the shared antenatal care program.

All general practitioners and registrars are welcome to attend. Invitations to be sent out shortly.

## QScript: Give your feedback until Friday 23 February 2024

Based on feedback received, Queensland Health proposes to amend the QScript look-up requirements and the Monitored Medicines Standard, and you are invited to provide feedback on the proposed changes.

Queensland Health proposes to amend the Medicines and Poisons (Medicines) Regulation 2021 to exempt relevant practitioners from the mandatory requirement to check QScript in certain situations, e.g., a resident treated in a residential aged care facility, correctional facility or in end-of-life care situations.

The survey is open to all interested parties and individuals. Queensland Health encourages you to share details of the consultation widely amongst your colleagues, networks, organisational members, and any other stakeholders.

The consultation period closes at 5 pm on Friday, 23 February 2024.

You can read about the proposed amendments and make a submission by visiting:

<https://forms.office.com/r/Ya54B2zEKY>

## Teaching interns how to write discharge summaries



Image: New SCHHS interns and Dr Edwin Kruys at one of the recent Discharge Summary workshops in SCUH. Our GP Liaison Officers Dr Michelle Johnston and Dr Edwin Kruys welcomed the new SCHHS interns and provided a series of workshops in collaboration with other SCHHS staff to teach the art of writing clinical handovers to GPs.

## Nurse Navigator Service ready to assist your patients

- Do you have patients falling through the cracks of the health service?
- Do you have patients who regularly present to the Emergency Department?
- Do you have patients discharged from outpatient clinics due to non-attendance?
- Do you have patients who need support and education to improve health literacy and self-management of their health journey?
- Do you have patients under multiple specialists?

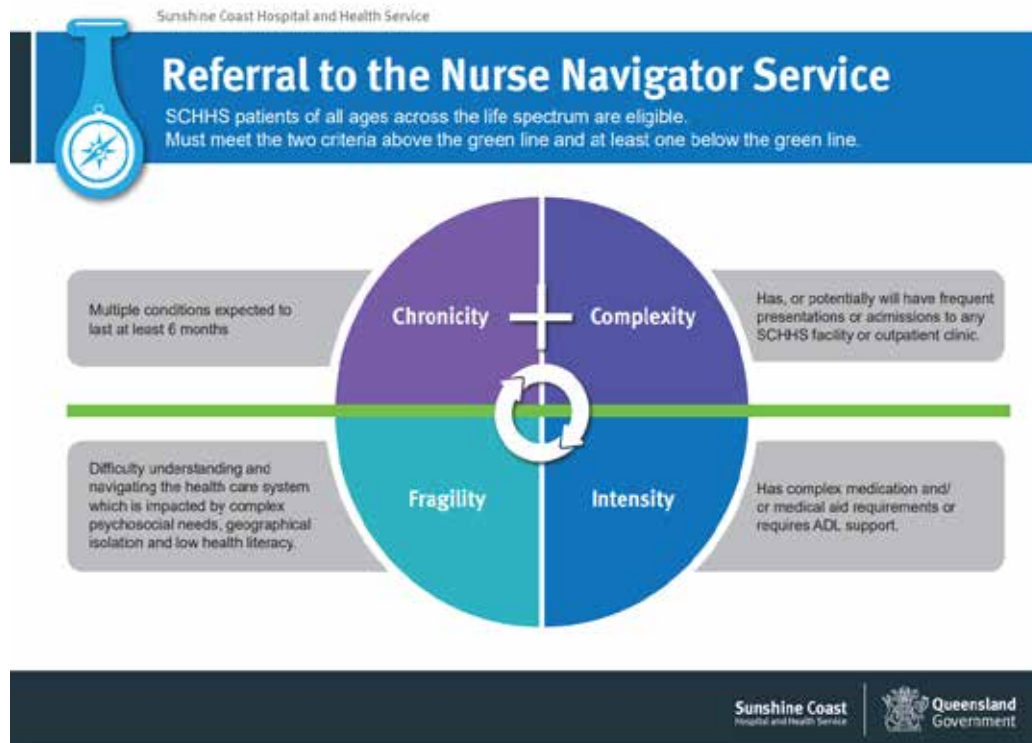
If so, please feel free to refer to the Nurse Navigator Service to support your patient.

The service is well suited for patients with complex multi comorbidities and multiple appointments and procedures, patients with care that is fragmented and needing coordination and linkage with support/existing services (see image for referral criteria).

Referrals are welcome through GP Smart Referrals and the NNS Referral form.

For more information email [SCHHSNurseNavigatorService@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:SCHHSNurseNavigatorService@health.qld.gov.au) or phone 5470 5247.

See also HealthPathways: <https://sunshinecoast.communityhealthpathways.org/86222.htm>



### Reminder: Please do not send hospital referrals to the PHN

Please submit referrals to the SCHHS Referral Centre and not to the Country to Coast PHN (CCQ). The PHN will not process any referrals received.

Referrals should be sent via Smart Referrals, Medical Objects (or Fax: 07 5202 0555). This ensures that referrals are received by the SCHHS and processed in a timely manner.

### The GP Liaison Unit wants to hear from you, feel free to contact us.

Ph: 07 5202 3822

Email: [SCHHS-GPLO@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:SCHHS-GPLO@health.qld.gov.au)

# Dr Kirsten Morrow - Fertility Solutions Specialist

## Fertility Specialist, OBGYN

In 2009 Fertility Solutions announced the addition of Obstetrician/Gynaecologist Dr Kirsten Morrow to our team of fertility specialists. Kirsten trained locally in Queensland. She completed part of her training at Nambour General Hospital, where she is well respected for her time as a Senior Registrar.

She offers a full range of services including infertility, gynaecology, obstetrics, colposcopy and laparoscopic surgery.

Kirsten understands that fertility treatment is a very personal issue and listens to your questions and concerns, working together with you to achieve your desire for a family.



**Monash IVF**  
In association with Monash IVF Group

### Sunshine Coast Clinic

P: 07 5478 2482

E: [enquiries@fssc.com.au](mailto:enquiries@fssc.com.au)

### Bundaberg Clinic

P: 07 4151 5222

E: [bundaberg@fssc.com.au](mailto:bundaberg@fssc.com.au)



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or visit [daneverson.com.au](http://daneverson.com.au)



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## Sunshine Coast Women invited to take part in a world first breast density Research Study

# WANT TO TAKE PART IN A WORLD FIRST BREAST DENSITY RESEARCH TRIAL?



BreastScreen Queensland Sunshine Coast Service invites women who are 40 years or over and due for a breast screen, to take part in a research project.

The results from this research will help inform future policy for breast screening programs in Australia and around the world.

For more information contact:  
[breastdensity.study@sydney.edu.au](mailto:breastdensity.study@sydney.edu.au)

To book your BreastScreen appointment  
call 13 20 50 or scan the QR code.

You will receive an SMS invitation from BreastScreen to consent into the study



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
SYDNEY



Queensland  
Government

BreastScreen Queensland Sunshine Coast is currently recruiting 10,000 women to take part in the world's first research study assessing the impacts of breast density notification on women participating in the free breast screening program.

Dr Hammerton, the Sunshine Coast service lead investigator, is calling on all women 40 years or over who are due for a mammogram, to take part in the research currently being conducted across all BreastScreen Sunshine Coast sites, including the mobile service.

"There is increasing pressure around the world for women to be notified of their breast density, and our clients want the best evidence-based research on this topic. What better way to provide that evidence, than hosting this study," Dr Hammerton said.

"We are very fortunate to be working alongside Dr Brooke Nickel, Principal Investigator from The University of Sydney. Dr Nickel and her team are passionate about determining the pros and cons of breast density notification, and how best to convey that information to Australian women."

To take part in the study, women need to book their regular breast screen in the usual way by calling 13 20 50 or visiting [breastscreen.qld.gov.au](http://breastscreen.qld.gov.au). They will then receive more information about the study and a consent form.

Participation in the study is voluntary and appointments will still take less than 30 minutes.

Dr Hammerton said "it's exciting to know the results from this research will help inform future policy for breast screening programs in Australia and around the world."

"Hosting this research trial is another way that we can continue to improve the quality of screening for our clients on the Sunshine Coast," said Dr Hammerton.

The study officially launched on the 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023 and is expected to run for about 6 months.

For more information contact: [breastdensity.study@sydney.edu.au](mailto:breastdensity.study@sydney.edu.au)

### THE FACTS:

- **75% of women diagnosed with breast cancer are over 50.** Younger women do get breast cancer, but the risk of breast cancer increases dramatically after the age of 50.
- **9 out of 10 women diagnosed with breast cancer have NO family history of the disease.** While women with a family history of breast cancer are more at risk, most women diagnosed have no family history of the disease at all.
- **A breast screen every two years is the best way to detect breast cancer early, well before you or your doctor can feel anything.**



## ENDOMETRIOSIS - OUR WOMEN'S HEALTH TEAM CAN HELP!

THE WOMEN'S HEALTH PHYSIOTHERAPY TEAM @ SPORTS & SPINAL CAN ASSIST YOUR PATIENTS WITH THEIR ENDOMETRIOSIS AND PELVIC HEALTH CONCERNS.

REFERRALS VIA MEDICAL OBJECTS,  
FAX OR PHONE.



SCAN THE QR  
CODE FOR MORE  
INFORMATION  
OR TO REFER TO  
OUR WOMEN'S  
HEALTH TEAM  
TODAY

## ENDOMETRIOSIS IN AUSTRALIA

- > Endometriosis affects women differently, but it is commonly known to cause severe, life-impacting pain during periods, sexual intercourse, bowel movements and/or urination.
- > This can result in women experiencing chronic pelvic pain, abdominal bloating, nausea, fatigue, and sometimes depression, anxiety, and infertility.
- > Roughly, 1 in 9 Australian females develop endometriosis.
- > Early diagnosis and treatment to help manage endo symptoms is best practice.

## HOW WOMEN'S HEALTH PHYSIO CAN HELP:

Our Women's Health team are trained to help with pelvic health concerns which includes endometriosis. Our team can assist in the management and maintenance of common endometriosis symptoms.

The Sports & Spinal Women's Health team work closely with local specialists, surgeons and GPs to ensure that treatment is of the highest level and supported by current evidence.



## DR TIM NATHAN

MB ChB (Edin), FRCS (Eng), FRCS (Urol), FRACS (Urol)

Suite 6  
Buderim Private Hospital  
12 Elsa Wilson Drive  
Buderim  
Ph: 07 5370 2095  
Fx: 07 5301 8120  
[www.drtnathan-urology.com.au](http://www.drtnathan-urology.com.au)

## Excellence in Prostate Cancer Diagnosis & Management

Tim graduated from the University of Edinburgh and completed advanced training in urology at teaching hospitals in London and Queensland. He has trained extensively in da Vinci Robotic Surgery at the University Hospital, Leipzig, and the Wesley Hospital.

Tim successfully introduced Robotic Prostate and Kidney Surgery to Buderim Private Hospital. He has pioneered MRI guided robotic transperineal prostate biopsy for safe and accurate diagnosis.

Specialising in:

- Mona Lisa Robotic Transperineal Prostate Biopsy
- Da Vinci Robotic Prostatectomy & Renal Surgery
- BPH - Laser Prostatectomy & Urolift
- Stone Disease
- Penile Prosthesis Surgery
- Vasectomy Reversal
- Urodynamic Studies

## The Proposed Changes to the Stage 3 Tax Cuts

The Australian Government Treasury reports that the upcoming Stage 3 tax cuts were designed and legislated when dramatically different circumstances were expected to prevail. Treasury provides that “since the cuts were legislated, the global economy has been impacted by several significant, unanticipated shocks”. “Low and middle-income households have been under significant pressure from unanticipated cost-of-living increases”. The redesign of the Stage 3 tax cuts is estimated to provide cost-of-living relief to 13.6 million taxpayers. Treasury suggests that this option is broadly revenue neutral, will not add to inflationary pressures and will support labour supply.

Under the proposed new Stage 3 package, all taxpayers would receive a reduction in their tax liability. Across all income deciles, the tax cut is between 1.5 and 2.5 per cent of taxable income on average. All resident taxpayers with taxable income under \$146,486 will get a large tax cut relative to the original Stage 3 tax cuts.

From 1 July 2024, the proposed Stage 3 tax cuts will:

- Reduce the 19 per cent tax rate to 16 per cent
- Reduce the 32.5 per cent tax rate to 30 per cent
- Increase the threshold above which the 37 per cent rate applies from \$120,000 to \$135,000
- Increase the threshold above which the 45 per cent rate applies from \$180,000 to \$190,000

An individual with \$40,000 would receive a tax cut of \$654, in contrast to receiving no tax cut under the original Stage 3. Where an individual with a taxable income of \$100,000 would receive a tax cut of \$2,179, \$804 more than under the original Stage 3. An individual with a taxable income of \$190,000 would receive a tax cut of \$4,529, which is less than the original Stage 3.

### Change in Household Tax Paid – Single Person Household

Taxable Income (\$)	Tax Liability in 2023-24 Original (\$)	Tax Liability Under New Tax Cuts (\$)	New Tax Cut (\$)
30,000	1,942	1,588	354
40,000	4,367	3,713	654
50,000	7,467	6,538	929
60,000	11,067	9,888	1,179
70,000	14,617	13,188	1,429
80,000	18,067	16,388	1,679
90,000	21,517	19,588	1,929
100,000	24,967	22,788	2,179
110,000	28,417	25,988	2,429
120,000	31,867	29,188	2,679
130,000	35,767	32,388	3,379
140,000	39,667	35,938	3,729
150,000	43,567	39,838	3,729
160,000	47,467	43,738	3,729
170,000	51,367	47,638	3,729
180,000	55,267	51,538	3,729
190,000	59,967	55,438	4,529
200,000	64,667	60,138	4,529

\* The Table provides stylised cameos based on the tax payable for these households, excluding transfer payments. The tax liability and reduction in tax are calculated only by taking into account the basic tax scales, low-income offset and the Medicare Levy. Actual outcomes for many individuals and households would differ.

\*\* 1.2 million taxpayers will benefit from the 7.1 per cent increase in Medicare Levy low-income thresholds for the 2023-24 income year. This increase will apply to singles, families, seniors and pensioners.

If you require accounting, wealth and advisory assistance, please contact our experienced accountants at Poole Group on 07 5437 9900 or [poole@poolegroup.com.au](mailto:poole@poolegroup.com.au)





**Fantastic news for residents of Imbil and surrounds with the announcement that GP services are coming back to town!**

On 21 February, Country to Coast QLD CEO Julie Sturgess welcomed the announcement by Minister for Energy and Clean Economy Jobs, The Hon. Mick de Brenni and Queensland Hydro CEO Kieran Cusack of a \$5M community investment package, which will also fund a partnership with CCQ to re-establish GP services in Imbil after the only clinic in town shut more than 12 months ago.



**Qld Hydro CEO Keiran Cusack, Country to Coast QLD CEO Julie Sturgess and Minister for Energy and Clean Economy Jobs, The Hon. Mick de Brenni**

Julie commended Queensland Hydro's approach of being a 'good neighbour' to current and future Imbil residents, as Queensland Hydro's Borumba Pumped Hydro Project takes shape nearby, already generating economic and community benefits for the region.



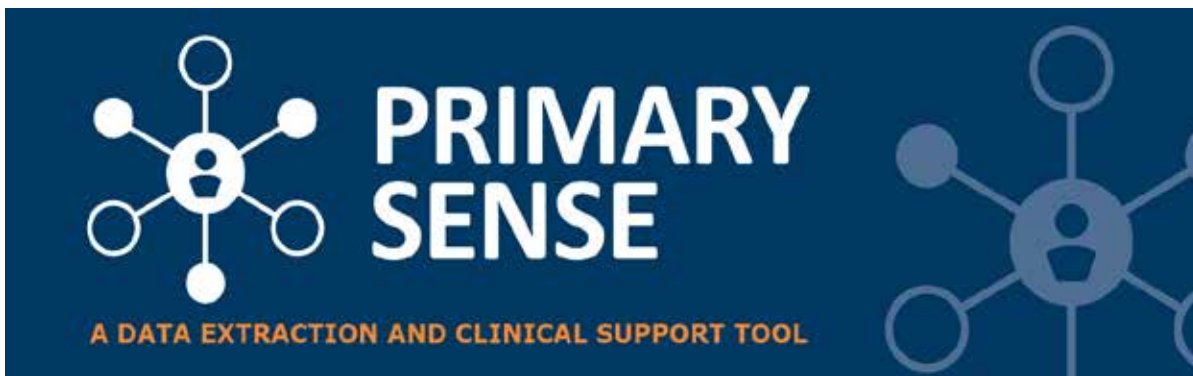
This is a great example of the community and industry working together to make sure this town is supported. The people of Imbil spoke up about the need to restore family medical care and we are delighted to be working with Queensland Hydro to do just that.

The CCQ Expression of Interest for the General Practice opportunity in Imbil was advertised in the December 22 edition of Healthy Matters, and by the CCQ Commissioning team.

We are very close to announcing a provider and are working through the steps now to make sure the new clinic is up and running in coming months.

Read more about the *New fund to provide benefits directly to local Queensland communities hosting key renewable energy project*: <https://statements.qld.gov.au/statements/99758>

To sign up for CCQ's Healthy Matters Newsletter, register now: <https://c2coast.org.au/our-newsletters/>



### 140 General Practices now registered for Primary Sense across the region

Primary Sense registration is again growing this month with fifty per cent of eligible practices now working with the Country to Coast team to install the state-of-the-art technology in their practices.

Developed by GPs for general practice. Primary Sense is easy to use and free for general practices within the CCQ region.

79 practices are installed and using the system, which features real time, on-screen medication alerts and patient care prompts to support clinical decisions and on-demand reporting which drives quality improvement.

Key features include:

- point-of-care clinical decision support tool for general practitioners
- evidence-based identification of at-risk patients in real-time
- near real-time extraction, analysis, and secure management of de-identified practice data
- confidential and secure data handling
- embedded and automated prompts for patient risk assessment, quality improvement, and care planning.

Visit the [CCQ Primary Sense website](#) for a range of valuable resources, including videos from our Clinical Champions, Professor Kim Greeves and Dr. Lisa Beecham,

To find out more and register, complete the [registration form](#) or reach out to the Practice Support Team on [PracSupport@c2coast.org.au](mailto:PracSupport@c2coast.org.au)

Your Primary Health Coordinator can also provide more information and book you in for training on the Primary Sense platform.



### Call for CCQ Workforce and Education Advisory Group members

As a clinician living in the Central Queensland, Wide Bay or Sunshine Coast regions, do you have a desire to enhance the health and well-being of your local community?

Country to Coast, Queensland is an independent, not-for-profit organisation that works with the community and other health partners to design and deliver primary health programs across the Central Queensland, Wide Bay and Sunshine Coast regions.

We are seeking representatives for the Workforce and Education Advisory Group from the following professions:

- Primary care nurses
- Allied health clinicians (Chronic Disease)
- Aboriginal health workers
- Aged care clinicians
- Mental health clinicians
- Universities training health professionals

By participating, you will have the opportunity to help us shape the future of primary care across the region and support decision-making and policy on the provision of education for primary healthcare professionals and workforce solutions.

Advisory group members are remunerated for their participation in meetings. Please see the [Terms of Reference](#) for more information.

Interested applicants can apply through the [Expression of Interest](#) form.

Expressions of Interest will close COB Thursday 7 March 2024.

For more information, contact the Workforce and Education Team on [workforcedevelopment@c2coast.org.au](mailto:workforcedevelopment@c2coast.org.au)

# NEW Occupational Therapist Servicing the Sunshine Coast



- Convenient Mobile Service
- Collaborative Treatment Options
- Full Range of Assessments
- Registered NDIS Provider

**Appointments now available**

**Call us on 0455 024 344**  
**[astrad.com.au](http://astrad.com.au)**





# NEW

## Elastography Service

Elastography, Sometimes referred to as a Fibroscan, is a non-invasive procedure used to measure the elasticity of the liver. Because fibrous tissue is harder than 'normal' liver tissue, the degree of hepatic fibrosis can be detected.

### BULK BILLED

#### Clinical Indications

- Fatty Liver Disease
- Alcoholic Liver Disease
- Chronic Hepatitis C & B
- Cirrhosis Obesity
- Other liver problems
- Non-invasive
- Painless
- Quick results
- Next-day appointments



SCAN TO

BOOK ONLINE



Call 07 5391 0366 or  
Email [Reception@theradiologyclinic.com.au](mailto:Reception@theradiologyclinic.com.au)  
31 Plaza Parade, Maroochydore Q 4558  
[www.theradiologyclinic.com.au](http://www.theradiologyclinic.com.au)

  
theradiologyclinic





# BUDERIM PRIVATE HOSPITAL MONTHLY UPDATE

**SHANE MITCHELL**  
GENERAL MANAGER

E: [shane.mitchell@uchealth.com.au](mailto:shane.mitchell@uchealth.com.au)  
P: 07 5430 3260

**FEBRUARY 2024**

Dear SCLMA colleagues,

Thank you for the opportunity to update you on Buderim Private Hospital and our latest news.

## 2024 Quick Reference Guide

Our 2024 Quick Reference Guide for GPs will soon be released and distributed to your practice.

This convenient resource lists all the credentialed specialists practicing at Buderim Private Hospital and contains helpful information about our range of services and how to admit and refer patients.

You can register your interest by emailing GP Liaison Pam Fotheringham on [Pamela.Fotheringham@uchealth.com.au](mailto:Pamela.Fotheringham@uchealth.com.au) or phone **0448 739 389**.



## Upcoming GP CPD events

**Patient-Centred Pain Management – 27 March 2024**

Explore the latest pain management options available with specialists giving advice on patient case studies.

Specialist presenters include:

**Dr Paul Frank**, Pain Management Specialist  
*Managing ongoing back pain*

**Dr Joe Kluver**, Pain Management Specialist  
*Understanding CRPS*

**Dr Rob Park**, Pain Management Specialist  
*Choosing the right medications*

This free event will be held at Buderim Private Hospital on Tuesday 27 March from 6pm – 8.30pm.

For more information and to register, please visit [buderimprivatehospital.com.au/gpeducation](http://buderimprivatehospital.com.au/gpeducation)



## Welcome to our new VMPs

We would like to welcome the following new credentialed specialists to our hospital team:

- **Dr Dawid Smalberger**, General Physician
- **Dr Jay Wiper**, Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon



Dr Dawid Smalberger



Dr Jay Wiper

**Acute Admissions 5430 3314**

[buderimprivatehospital.com.au](http://buderimprivatehospital.com.au)

Proudly part of  
**UnitingCare**

**Buderim Private  
Hospital**

# General Practitioners

Want to get involved in this trial as an investigator?

We want to hear from GPs who feel they can assist with trial recruitment and/or medical screening visits.



The Foot-PAD Trial is testing a new therapy for Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD) using a footplate stimulation device.

The therapy is aimed at improving walking distance and reducing lower limb pain during exercise.

We need enthusiastic General Practitioners to help us find eligible participants for our study. Here are two simple ways you can get involved:

1. Simply screen potentially eligible patients within your clinic. Our streamlined recruitment and screening system makes this easy, so it won't take much of your time or your staff's.
2. Display promotional leaflets and posters about the trial in your clinic. This way, your clinic can become a central place for potential participants to easily join our study.

**We will pay you. You will receive an honorarium/ administration fee for each patient recruited through your clinic.**



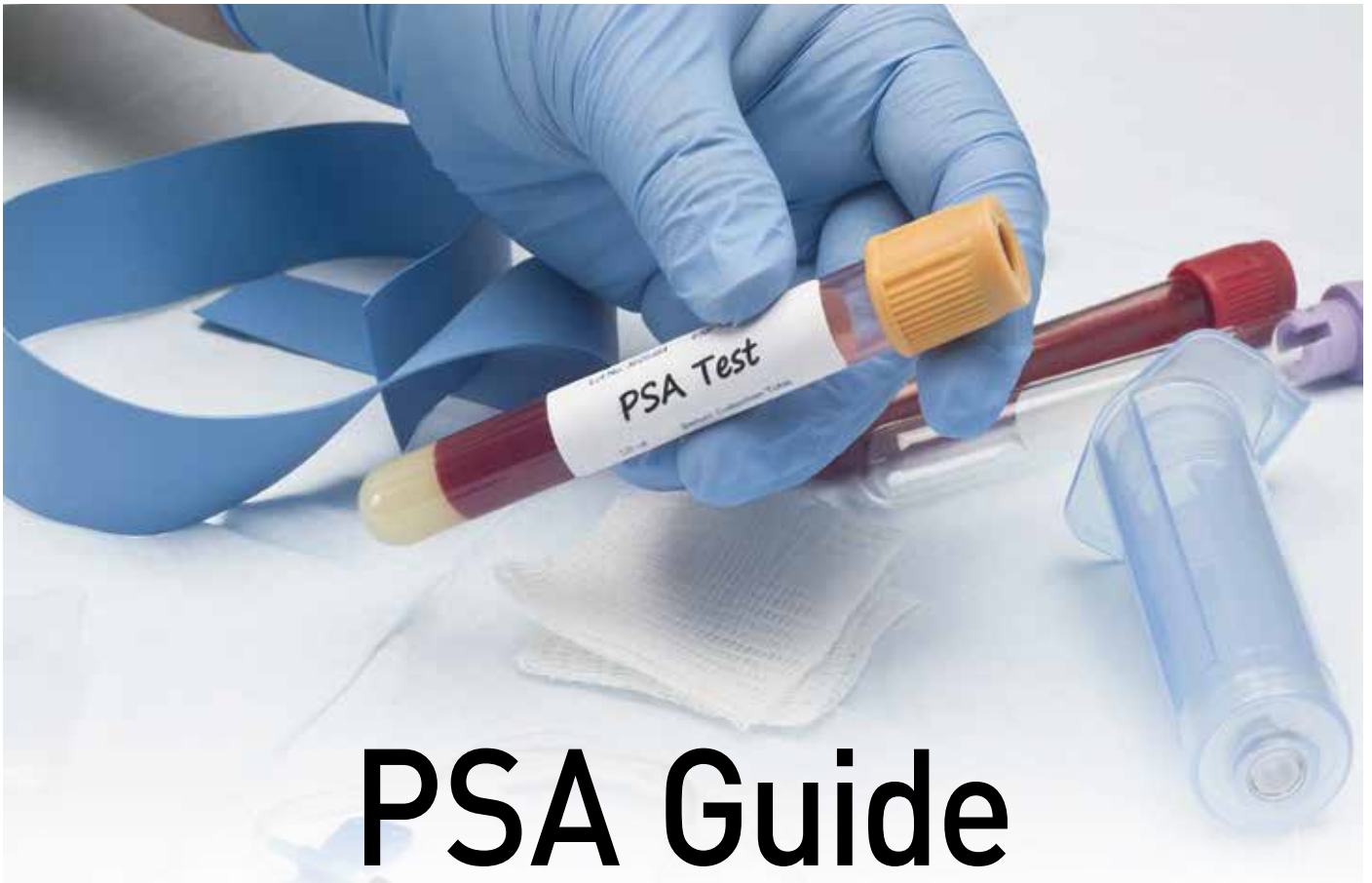
UniSC HREC: A211659  
TPCH (The Prince Charles Hospital): 78962

6345/0823

## More information

Dr Mark Windsor  
Trial Coordinator  
Email: [footpad@usc.edu.au](mailto:footpad@usc.edu.au)  
Tel: 07 5456 5364  
[usc.edu.au/footpad](http://usc.edu.au/footpad)





# PSA Guide

Early detection saves lives

**PSA >3 is a red flag**

(>2 if positive Family Hx, BRCA)

Repeat PSA in 1-3 months with free/ total ratio

**Refer if:**

Second PSA is still >3 (2)

Or anytime if there is a hard prostatic nodule  
or PSA increases while on Duodart

**Refer to:**

**Dr. Tony Gianduzzo or A/Prof. Troy Gianduzzo**



Sunshine Coast Urology Clinic

**Buderim Prostate Clinic**

**A.** Suite 2/5 Lyrebird St, Buderim QLD 4556

**P.** +61 7 5444 0672 **F.** +61 7 5444 0997

**E.** [info@buderimprostateclinic.com.au](mailto:info@buderimprostateclinic.com.au)

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- ✓ **MORE DETAIL**  
Fast, low dose CT featuring 32 to 64 slices to provide more detail.
- ✓ **MORE CLARITY**  
Automatic SPECT motion correction delivers more clarity.
- ✓ **MORE FREEDOM**  
A single, intuitive interface and a smart workflow create more freedom to provide the best patient care.
- ✓ **MORE FLEXIBILITY**  
Specialized tools offer more flexibility to customise the system to meet clinical needs, optimizing image quality for cardiology, neurology, oncology and more.
- ✓ **QUANTATIVE OPTIONS AT EVERY ENERGY LEVEL**  
Allowing for standardization and comparability.
- ✓ **HIGH ENERGY CAPABILITIES**  
Supporting theranostic-readiness.



### NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Contact your dedicated Medical Liaison Officer, Bernie, who is here to help with any questions you may have.

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**E: [mlo@xrayimaging.com.au](mailto:mlo@xrayimaging.com.au)**

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**SELANGOR PRIVATE**  
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3 Doherty Street

Excellence in Diagnostics

# Do you have a patient suffering from Chronic pain?

## We can help.



**Dr Ramsey Jabbour**

BSc (Hons), MBBS, FAFOEM,  
FFPMANZCA

**Specialist Pain Medicine  
Physician**



**Dr Frank Thomas**

BSc (Hons), MBCHB, FANZCA,  
FFPMANZCA

**Specialist Pain Medicine  
Physician**

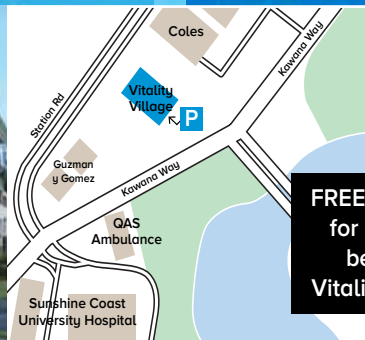
Let Dr Ramsey Jabbour and Dr Frank Thomas, together with the trusted team at QPain look after your patient.

**Help your patients get **back** to what they love doing most...**

Special interests:

- Management of back and neck pain
- Persistent post-surgical pain
- Neuropathic pain
- Overuse MSK injuries
- CRPS
- Headaches
- Minimally invasive procedures to control pain
- Advanced Interventional techniques - including Spinal Cord and Dorsal Root Ganglion Stimulation.

Please feel free to contact QPain to discuss management options of your patients with chronic pain.



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for patients  
beneath  
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**QPain**

Phone: 07 5318 7275

Fax: 07 3112 6885

Email: [sc@qpain.com.au](mailto:sc@qpain.com.au)

[www.qpain.com.au](http://www.qpain.com.au)

Suite 404, Level 4, Vitality Village, 5 Discovery Court, Birtinya Qld 4575

## Specialist Palliative Care

When you and your loved ones are faced with a terminal illness, Cittamani is here.



**CITTAMANI**  
HOSPICE SERVICE LTD



### About Cittamani

Cittamani Hospice Service is a not-for-profit public benevolent institution and registered charity. It was founded by health professionals and community members on the Sunshine Coast in 1996.

Our team includes nurses and social workers who offer comprehensive support for the physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs of the individual.

By taking hospice care into the home, Cittamani offers choice and promotes quality of life.

Our goal is to offer an opportunity for people with a terminal illness — and their loved ones — to have the highest quality of remaining life.

Our philosophy is based on Buddhist principles of love and compassion.

#### Cittamani Hospice Service Ltd

ABN 67 110 865 560

**P. O. Box 324, Palmwoods QLD 4555**  
230 Woombye – Palmwoods Road,  
Palmwoods Qld 4555

TELEPHONE: (07) 5445 0822

EMAIL: [info@cittamanihospice.com.au](mailto:info@cittamanihospice.com.au)  
[www.cittamanihospice.com.au](http://www.cittamanihospice.com.au)



Cittamani is affiliated with the Foundation for the Preservation of the Mahayana Tradition (FPMT).

You have choices. You don't need to do this alone. The staff and volunteers of Cittamani support people at the end of life.

They can assist you to live out your life in the way you wish and to remain at home in comfort, knowing you will have specialist support available.

### Physical

Comprehensive nursing care and helping with day to day symptom management.

### Emotional

Providing counselling, spiritual and bereavement support. Someone who understands ... someone to 'have a chat'.

### Practical

Providing the equipment you need to make life more comfortable at home.



QUALITY ASSURED ORGANISATION

Cittamani Hospice Service Ltd appreciates the support of Queensland Health.

## Cittamani's Services

Cittamani offers specialist palliative care at home for individuals with a terminal illness and their loved ones.

The service emphasises a provision of care supporting individual choices.

Specialist palliative care nurses work closely with your doctor to assist with medication regimes, symptom management and other health issues.

Qualified social workers offer counselling and support.

Spiritual support is available on request.

Bereavement support is provided over the phone, face to face and in a group setting.

Specialist home care equipment available for loan.

Education is provided at community and professional levels.

*I wish to express my gratitude for all the help and care you gave to my husband and I during his illness. The support, understanding and extreme kindnesses shown by your nurses gave me the confidence necessary to undertake his care, here in our home until his death. Their efforts ensured he was pain free and as comfortable as possible at all times for which I am most thankful.*



*There are no words to describe our gratitude to you for the kindness and care you gave to my husband and the strength you gave to us all, both before and after he left us. We will never forget the last few precious hours we had with him.*



*What you supply in many areas of support — there aren't enough words to explain how the responsibility for making medical decisions was lifted off my heavy shoulders. I often felt I had to make decisions I was not qualified to do, but your team turned up and what a release, a new confidence.*



*I would like to thank you for the continued bereavement counselling that I have received and I will always be grateful to Cittamani for their assistance which enabled my wife to fulfil her wish to pass away peacefully in her own home.*

## How to help

Cittamani appreciates the generous support of donations from the community. This generosity enables the service to provide the holistic care needed, whilst honoring our client's wishes.

### YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Visit our website to make a secure online donation.

[www.cittamanihospice.com.au](http://www.cittamanihospice.com.au)

### Donate via direct deposit into our bank account.

BSB 484 799  
Account No. 160 888 044  
Reference: Your surname and first initial

Please email or phone us to provide your contact details, so a tax receipt can be forwarded to you.

### Complete the below information and we will process your donation securely via our website.

I would like to donate \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Card No: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ CCV \_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email / Postal address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact our office for more information about fundraising and social activities, becoming a regular donor or giving to Cittamani through your will.

ALL DONATIONS OF \$2 AND OVER ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.





# Designing better care

## GenesisCare radiation oncology

We provide modern radiation therapy techniques and continuously invest in cancer treatments and technology with the aim of reducing side effects and improving quality of life.

Our team of radiation oncologists have experience across many types of tumours in adults. They aim to combine their knowledge, experience, and a multidisciplinary approach to offer personalised, evidence-based care to all patients.



**Dr Debra Furniss**

Regional Medical Director

Gastrointestinal, breast, lung, skin and haematological malignancies, benign disease and palliative treatments



**Dr Bradley Wong**

Radiation Oncologist

Wide field skin cancer, breast, prostate and urological lesions, benign conditions and palliative treatments

### On the Sunshine Coast, GenesisCare provides:

- Radiation therapy for most adult cancer types
- Treatment for non melanoma skin cancer
- Rapid access palliative radiation therapy
- Treatment for benign conditions e.g Dupuytren's disease, plantar fasciitis and keloid scars
- Stereotactic radiation therapy for cranial, lung, spine, prostate, bone, and liver lesions
- Personalised care, treating the individual, not just the condition
- Patient transport service

#### Treatment centres:

Buderim 10 King Street  
Nambour 10 Mapleton Road

#### Get in touch:

**Tel: 5374 8100**

receptiononcologybuderim@genesiscare.com

#### Coming soon:

Noosaville  
90 Goodchap Street

#### Consulting clinics:

Caboolture • Dr Debra Furniss  
Noosa • Dr Debra Furniss  
• Dr Bradley Wong  
Gympie • Dr Bradley Wong

**Disclaimer:** Any procedure including treatments involving radiation carry risks, including skin irritation and associated pain. Before proceeding with a referral for treatment, patients should be advised to seek a second opinion from an appropriately qualified health practitioner. As in any medical procedure, patient experiences and outcomes will vary.

[genesiscare.com](https://genesiscare.com)

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# An innovative approach to hip and knee replacement

Dr. Daevyd Rodda is a highly experienced and innovative hip and knee replacement surgeon based on the Sunshine Coast. He leads a specialised, multi-disciplinary team and regularly trains Australian and International surgeons in advanced techniques including:

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Dr Daevyd Rodda  
Orthopaedic Surgeon



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## WANT TO TAKE PART IN A WORLD FIRST BREAST DENSITY RESEARCH TRIAL?



BreastScreen Queensland Sunshine Coast Service invites women who are 40 years or over and due for a breast screen, to take part in a research project.

The results from this research will help inform future policy for breast screening programs in Australia and around the world.

For more information contact:  
[breastdensity.study@sydney.edu.au](mailto:breastdensity.study@sydney.edu.au)

To book your BreastScreen appointment  
call **13 20 50** or scan the QR code.

*You will receive an SMS invitation from BreastScreen to consent into the study*





Choosing the right surgeon for your patients on the Sunshine Coast isn't rocket science - it's brain surgery.

**Sunshine Coast Neurosurgery is the specialist practice of Dr Stephen Byrne, who has worked on the Sunshine Coast since 2017.**

Dr Byrne MBChB, MRCSEd, FRACS underwent his neurosurgical training in Melbourne, Adelaide & New Zealand before gaining his Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons.

In fact, Stephen is the only fellowship-trained spine surgeon on the coast endorsed by both the Australian Orthopaedic Association and the Neurosurgical Society of Australasia.

At Sunshine Coast Neurosurgery all patients receive one-to-one pre-operative counselling and tailored personalised care using the latest techniques to deliver world-class healthcare.

Please feel free to call Sunshine Coast Neurosurgery to discuss any neurosurgical issue and we look forward to helping your patients along the road to recovery.

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**T** 07 5437 7256  
**E** info@scneuro.com.au

#### List of Services

Sunshine Coast Neurosurgery use their extensive experience to treat many common conditions such as:

- Cervical and lumbar degenerative conditions
- Brain tumours
- Spine tumours
- Pituitary tumours
- Chiari malformations.

Plus they have a specialist interest in minimally invasive brain and spine surgery.



**SUNSHINE COAST  
NEUROSURGERY**

[www.scneurosurgery.com.au](http://www.scneurosurgery.com.au)

## GP Education Dinner

# Complex skin cancer: Multidisciplinary updates around diagnosis, treatment options and ongoing management



You are invited to join us for an educational dinner meeting to hear from and engage with local specialists who specialise in skin cancer management.

### Date

Wednesday 27th March 2024

### Time

6:00pm – 9:00pm

### Location

The Bower Tree, Level 1, 10 Courage Street,  
Sippy Downs QLD 4556

### Parking

Free undercover parking and lift access to function space

## Our presenters



**Dr Kendall Sharpe**  
Dermatologist  
FACD

Derm management of skin cancer, referral criteria (incl Moh's Surgery) and skin toxicities



**Dr Jay Wiper**  
Plastic Surgeon  
FRCS(PLAST), FRACS(PLAST)

Surgical management of lesions in difficult areas



**Dr Bradley Wong**  
Radiation Oncologist  
MBBS, FRANZCR

Modern radiation therapy and referral indications for high risk lesions



**Dr Debra Furniss**  
Radiation Oncologist  
MBChB, MRCP (UK),  
FRCR (UK), MSc(Oncology),  
FRANZCR

Complex skin cancer case discussion



**Dr Brenton Seidl**  
Medical Oncologist  
MBBS, BSc, FRACP

Topics: Adjuvant/Neoadjuvant  
Immunotherapy and toxicity  
management



**Dr Hong Shue**  
Medical Oncologist  
MBBS (Monash), FRACP

Immunotherapy case discussion

Evening will be chaired by Dr John O'Bryen, Specialist GP (Skin Cancer Medicine and Surgery).

## Contact us

For further information about this event, please contact:

### Beverley Blakeway

Mobile: 0419 689 590

Email: [beverley.blakeway@genesiscare.com](mailto:beverley.blakeway@genesiscare.com)

### Brooke Treby

Mobile: 0497 166 577

Email: [brooke.treby@genesiscare.com](mailto:brooke.treby@genesiscare.com)



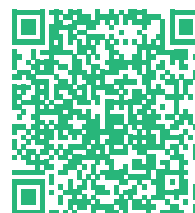
[genesiscare.com](http://genesiscare.com)

This event is brought to you by:



## RSVP

RSVP by scanning the QR Code:





# The Sunshine Coast's only integrated Cancer Centre

## Our facility is home to:

- Highly experienced team of Medical Oncologists & Clinical Haematologists
- Day infusion unit providing the latest & cutting edge treatments (including chemotherapy, immunotherapy, targeted therapy, blood products, iron infusions & venesections)
- GenesisCare Radiation Oncology
- Cold cap therapy to prevent / minimise hair loss caused by certain chemotherapy treatments
- Allied Health including Clinical Psychology, Exercise Physiology, Dietetics & Oncology Massage Therapy
- McGrath Breast Care Nurse
- Clinical Trials



## Our Team:



**Dr Hong Shue**  
Medical Oncologist  
MBBS (Monash), FRACP



**Dr Brenton Seidl**  
Medical Oncologist  
MBBS, BSc, FRACP



**Dr Sorab Shavaksha**  
Clinical Haematologist  
MBChB (Leeds), FRACP,  
FRCPA (2013)



**Dr Joshua Richmond**  
Clinical Haematologist  
MBBS(Hons), FRACGP,  
FRACP, FRCPA



**Dr Alice Livings**  
Clinical Haematologist  
BSc(Hons), MBBS(Hons),  
FRACP, FRCPA



**Dr Manjunath Narayana**  
Clinical Haematologist  
MBBS, FRACP, FRCPA



**Samantha Clutton**  
Clinical Psychologist  
MPsychClin, FCCLP



**Sarah Bloomfield**  
Dietitian & Nutritionist  
APD, APN



**Jesse Goldfinch**  
Exercise Physiologist  
BClinExSc, ESSAM, AEP



**Tania Shaw**  
Massage Therapist  
DipRM, CLT, OMT



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*Leading Queensland Doctors  
Creating Better Health*

## AMA QUEENSLAND UPDATE FEBRUARY 2024

Less than two months into the year, AMA Queensland is already seeing the effects of its advocacy efforts with recent State and Federal Government interventions to fund more of our ambulance ramping roundtable initiatives, crack down on vaping, improve COVID infection controls and fight silica dust. We have also seen the rollout of the Meningococcal B vaccine in our high schools.

This year marks our 130th anniversary working for communities, patients and doctors and we will continue this work focussing on the changing healthcare needs of Queenslanders.

We thank all of our members who have already renewed their memberships and look forward to working with you in 2024.



*Dr Maria Boulton and Dr Brett Dale*

### ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

AMA Queensland has released its advocacy priorities for the next three years, prioritising regional workforce, support for general practice and making hospitals more environmentally sustainable.

The past few years have been dominated by COVID-19 but the stresses on our system were there long before the pandemic, particularly the many challenges impacting workforce, infrastructure and primary care.



*Health Minister Shannon Fentiman and Dr Maria Boulton*

Workforce is our number one priority, as we cannot open new hospital beds without staff to operate them, solve our regional workforce crisis without recruiting and supporting healthcare workers, or watch our healthcare system continue to crumble.

We are also aware that some hospitals are experiencing vacancies in their intern positions for the first time. AMA Queensland will advocate for interns to be included in appropriate workforce attraction incentive programs in coming Budgets.

Our Advocacy Priorities 2024-26 will inform our submissions to government and other consultations over the next three years.

Read more at <https://www.ama.com.au/qld/news/Workforce-prevention-and-sustainability-key-to-next-three-years>

### COVID INFECTION CONTROLS

In November 2023 and again in January 2024, AMA Queensland wrote to the Chief Health Officer (CHO) with members' concerns about inadequate infection control measures amid a rise in hospital acquired COVID cases.

Our members were concerned for their patients and colleagues as the eighth wave of COVID hit.

The CHO's response was that COVID was no longer a communicable disease incident of national significance and responses to continuing outbreaks must be 'balanced and proportionate'.

After The Courier-Mail published Right to Information (RTI) figures showing hundreds of Queenslanders had died of hospital-acquired COVID since 2022, the CHO sent a second letter acknowledging the seriousness of the issue and promising to visit hospitals to work on suitable solutions.

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We thank him for taking our members' concerns seriously and consider his intentions to revisit hospital infection controls a good opportunity to assure healthcare workers they can raise concerns without risk to their jobs.

Most importantly, we must protect patients attending hospitals for emergency care, planned surgeries or outpatient treatment, as well as our hard-working doctors and nurses, from catching other infections while in hospital.

Read more at <https://www.ama.com.au/qld/correspondence/CHOCovid>

## AMA QUEENSLAND FOUNDATION

The AMA Queensland Foundation has again delivered on its fundraising goals – this time to support people experiencing homelessness and disadvantaged medical students.

Each year the Foundation selects a major charity partner. Beddown, a charity supporting the increasing number of people experiencing homelessness, was the selected beneficiary for 2023.

In December, AMA Queensland Foundation Chair Dr Dilip Dhupelia presented Beddown with a cheque for \$173,780 to help it continue its work connecting clients with vital outreach medical, healthcare, counselling and hygiene services.



*Dr Dilip Dhupelia and Beddown Deputy CEO  
Nerissa Wade*

The Foundation's annual Christmas Appeal also raised \$14,010 for its Medical Students Scholarship, which will help support up to three medical students experiencing financial hardship pursue their dreams of becoming a doctor.

The AMA Queensland Foundation has worked tirelessly to achieve these donations and looks forward to seeing the funds improve people's lives.

Read more at <https://www.ama.com.au/qld/news/Beddowncheque> and <https://www.ama.com.au/qld/news/AMA-Queensland-Foundation-Christmas-Appeal>

## VAPING

AMA Queensland has persistently called for tighter regulations and interventions to address the public health battle against vapes and were pleased to see the Federal Government take action by banning the import of disposable vapes from 1 January.

Vaping is now extremely prevalent in our society with more than 1.72 million people over 18 using vapes, but we are even more concerned by the rising use among our children.



The new laws mean nicotine vapes are prescription-only. Even then, they should be used as a last resort considering the little to no evidence available regarding their safety and effectiveness as a smoking cessation aid.

While we're already seeing the ban's effects prompt public health education campaigns and police raids on retailers, broader intervention is needed to prevent the next generation from becoming addicted to nicotine.

We will continue to call for enforcements to protect consumers while retailers are still selling non-therapeutic and flavoured vapes.

Read more at <https://www.ama.com.au/qld/news/New-vaping-laws-will-protect-children>



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## **BULK BILLING AND MEDICARE**

AMA Queensland continues to call for urgent reform of Medicare to meet the evolving health needs of patients and prevent GPs from having to make the difficult decision between charging a gap or closing their doors.

The Federal Government claimed its tripling of the incentive paid to GPs to bulk bill children and concession card holders from 1 November meant 11 million Australians could now be bulk billed.

While their data showing a 2.2 per cent increase in the bulk billing rate in Queensland late last year is encouraging, it highlights the need for more investment into primary care and general practice.

Tripling the incentive has helped some practices, particularly in regional and remote communities, continue to bulk bill vulnerable patients, but it has made little difference for many practices as Medicare rebates are too low to combat cost-of-living pressures and the increased complexity of Australia's healthcare needs.

The bulk billing incentive cannot solely address the decades of neglect of the Medicare system, and we will continue to call for reform in the interests of patients, GPs and primary care.

Read more at <https://www.ama.com.au/qld/news/Bulk-billing-figures-show-need-for-investment>



## **FLOOD, CYCLONES, NATURAL DISASTERS**

As ex-Tropical Cyclone Jasper and associated floods swept through Far North Queensland (FNQ), we saw a powerful display of community strength and generosity amid the tragedy.

Many local practices were left with no choice but to temporarily close, and those who were able to remain open worked under very challenging and unique circumstances.

In support of FNQ doctors, we requested urgent State Government support to help practices get back on their feet, offered advice around telehealth requirements and contacted members and raised their concerns in meetings with local stakeholders. We also spoke with the CHO to ensure the government enacted effective measures to prevent and mitigate the risk of disease and infection.

Unfortunately, extreme weather events are becoming more frequent, and our concerns for community health remain. AMA Queensland's Committee of General Practice is working on advocacy to ensure medical practitioners, patients and the community can access health care, especially during and after natural disasters.

We have raised the need for more funding for private practices to help respond to these events with the Queensland Health Minister, and will be co-writing a letter to the Federal Government requesting assistance.

Read more at <https://www.ama.com.au/qld/news/updates-on-the-far-north-queensland-natural-disasters>

## **AUSTRALIA DAY HONOURS**

Four AMA Queensland members have been recognised in this year's Australia Day Honours for their outstanding service to medicine and the community.



Drs Matthew Young, Christine McConnell and David Stabler were awarded Medals of the Order of Australia (OAM), and Dr Robin Cooke was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

We are incredibly proud of all our members and their efforts to improve the standard of health in Queensland. Queensland doctors work tirelessly to protect and ensure the health of all communities, and these four have certainly been a standout.

Read more at <https://www.ama.com.au/qld/news/Australia-Day-Honours-for-AMA-Queensland-members>

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## RESPIRATORY ILLNESSES

With an unusual surge in respiratory illnesses including mycoplasma pneumonia, RSV, COVID, and the expected February rise in asthma cases, we have urged people to stay up to date with vaccines and for parents to review their children's asthma plan.

The Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) recently approved Australia's first vaccine for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and it is important all eligible patients see their GP for a prescription once it becomes available.

Last year our advocacy efforts saw the Queensland Government announce the meningococcal B strain vaccine would be free for eligible infants and older teenagers.

We're pleased to see the rollout of this vaccine has now commenced for year 10 students as part of the Queensland School Immunisation Program. From mid-March, all other eligible cohorts can access the free vaccine via registered Vaccination Service Providers under the Queensland Health Immunisation Program.

Read more at <https://www.ama.com.au/qld/news/Transcript-ABC-RSV-Vaccine> and <https://www.ama.com.au/qld/correspondence/Queensland/Health/update/on/Meningococcal/B/Vaccination/Program>

## PATIENT CARE FACILITATORS

In November 2023, Health Minister Shannon Fentiman announced five initiatives to improve patient flow, accompanied by an initial investment of \$20 million, to be progressed immediately.

We welcome any investment in healthcare and are particularly pleased many of these initiatives are recommendations from the AMA Queensland Ramping Roundtable, specifically, measures to ensure acute hospitals are fully operational and function seven days a week with extended hours.

Our Patient Care Facilitators initiative in general practice has been allocated approximately \$2.4 million over two financial years for a pilot on care coordination for patients post discharge from hospital. The program will fund nurses and other health care workers working in General Practices with the aim of reducing patients returning to hospital after discharge.

This is a simple measure that will reduce emergency department presentations and re-admissions, improve bed block in hospitals by freeing up beds for ED patients and the overall functionality of our health system.

It can be difficult to source state funding for general practice, which is traditionally funded by the Federal Government through Medicare, and we commend the State Government for listening and responding to our members.

Read more at <https://www.ama.com.au/qld/campaigns/ramping-roundtable-action-plan>

## CDT SURVEY ON WARD CALL

The Committee of Doctors in Training (CDT) recently released a survey aiming to identify the current state of ward call in Queensland in response to concerns raised by junior doctors.

The survey has now closed, and we look forward to incorporating the CDT's results and suggestions into our next meetings with the Health Minister, Queensland Health and Hospital and Health Services (HHS).



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*Leading Queensland Doctors  
Creating Better Health*

### QSCRIPT

AMA Queensland has long advocated for changes to QScript to address members' concerns about unnecessary red tape that wastes clinicians' valuable time.

Queensland Health has now acted, proposing welcome amendments including exempting look-up requirements for inpatients and Residential Aged Care Facility residents.

They have also proposed to reduce the scope of the Monitored Medical Standard (MMS) to the existing, minimum requirements applicable to patients currently registered on the Queensland Opioid Treatment Program.

We anticipate this will significantly alleviate the regulatory burden on our healthcare workers.

Read more at <https://www.ama.com.au/qld/news/QScriptadvocacy>



### ENGINEERED STONE BAN

The Federal Government has implemented a national ban on engineered stone to protect workers exposed to silica dust.

The ban follows a Safe Work Australia report on the associated dangers, including silicosis. We commend the Government for acting to ensure the health and safety of workers.

No day at work should include potential exposure to toxic, dangerous products and it is a tragedy that



people have suffered avoidable and irreversible respiratory conditions simply from doing their jobs.

We continue to encourage all measures to prevent future patients suffering from silicosis and related diseases and support for those who have been diagnosed.

Read more at

<https://www.ama.com.au/qld/news/National-ban-on-engineered-stone-will-protect-lives>

### JOIN AMA QUEENSLAND

As the peak medical professional body, AMA Queensland represents all doctors no matter your craft group or career stage. We support you and your colleagues in advocating for the strongest health system in Queensland while also offering exclusive member benefits, expert workplace relations support and representation on issues that affect you in the workplace.

Sign up or renew now at <https://www.ama.com.au/qld/join>



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## MORE CLASSIFIEDS

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**Dr Ajay Verma**  
**M.B.B.S, MD., FRACP**  
**SPECIALIST PHYSICIAN**

**Private Consulting Rooms**  
**Phone: 07 5437 7390**  
**Fax: 5302 6660**

**Pulse Oceanside Medical**  
**Suite 604, Level 5**  
**11 Eccles Boulevard**  
**Birtinya Qld 4575**

**Nucleus Medical Suites**  
**Building A, Suite 4, Level 2**  
**23 Elsa Wilson Drive**  
**Buderim Qld 4556**

**Dr Verma, as well as consulting at both locations,**  
**has admitting rights to Buderim Private Hospital**  
**and Sunshine Coast University Private Hospital**

**Email: [reception@drajayverma.com.au](mailto:reception@drajayverma.com.au)**

### **GP - COOLUM BEACH**

**Well established, independent practice ideally**  
**situated in the heart of Coolum Beach on the**  
**Sunshine Coast.**

**Private billing with attractive remuneration**  
**package and opportunity for ownership or**  
**partnership if interested.**

**Accredited with a supportive and friendly**  
**professional team including Care Plan Nurse**  
**and fully equipped treatment room with separate**  
**procedure room.**

**Please contact Practice Manager Anne:**

**Phone: 0413 371 887**

**Nov 2023**

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### **REDCLIFFE LOCAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**

Redcliffe LMA produces a similar newsletter

For full details re advertising go to their website: **[www.rdma.org.au](http://www.rdma.org.au)**

**Email: [RDMAnews@gmail.com](mailto:RDMAnews@gmail.com)**

### **SCLMA ADVERTISING GUIDELINES:**

To comply with Section 133 of the National Law and guidelines, advertising of services must not:

Paragraph (a) "Create or be likely to create unwarranted and unrealistic expectations about the effectiveness of the health services advertised"

Paragraph (f) "Claim that the services provided by a particular regulated health profession are better, as safe as or safer than others"

Paragraph (o) "Contain any claim, statement or implication that a practitioner provides superior services to those provided by other registered health practitioners"

### **PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:**

**The anti discrimination commission of Queensland has the following statement on job advertising:**

**Discriminatory advertising is against the law. Job advertisements need to give the impression that all suitable applicants are welcome to apply. References to sex, relationship status, age, race, religion etc should be avoided, as should the use of words that may indicate a preference for particular groups or may discourage others from applying, eg foreman, tradesman, glamorous, well-built, mature, youthful, office girl etc. Publishers can be fined and be the subject of a complaint to the Commission for publishing discriminatory advertisements that show an intention to contravene the Anti-Discrimination Act 1991. Discriminatory advertisements will therefore often be refused or modified by publishers in order to avoid legal liability.**

# CLASSIFIEDS

## *Get with the Strength at Lake Kawana General Practice*

**The Practice:** Doctor owned and operated. The practice has been established for 16 years and situated on the edge of Lake Kawana: 1km from the surf beach, 60 minutes to the international airport and 20 minutes to the domestic airport.

Twelve consult rooms with a five-bed treatment room in addition to a dedicated excision room and vaccination zone. 15-minute appointments. Underground secure car park for doctors.

Open Monday to Friday 8.00am to 5.00pm – no after hours. (Rotational Saturday roster of a 3-hour session may be required in 2024)

Childcare facility located next door.

**The Building:** Situated on the ground level of the Sunshine Coast Surgical and Specialist Centre, together with Kawana Private Hospital, specialists (ortho, gynae, plastics, ophthalmology and vascular), pharmacy, physio, podiatry, dietetics, and pathology.

**The Team:** Practice Manager, five nurses, including CDM, and six receptionists.

**The Situation:** 12,000 active patients on the books. The medical team has a combined 150 years of GP experience on the Sunshine Coast. Seeking full or part-time GPs to conduct their business within the premises known as Lake Kawana General Practice.

Call me – Dr Jim Williams – 0400 414 191 – for a confidential discussion. [www.lkgp.com.au](http://www.lkgp.com.au)

## **VR GP-MAROOCHYDORE**

We are seeking a VR GP, PT or FT at our busy, well established non-corporate Family Practice. We are a fully accredited, fully computerised, mixed billing practice with a friendly and happy professional team including nursing support and a fully equipped treatment room.

**Please contact Practice Manager [pm.wrmc@yahoo.com.au](mailto:pm.wrmc@yahoo.com.au) or 0412 305 296**

*April 2023*

## **NOTE: CLASSIFIEDS FOR 2023**

***Always let us know if you no longer wish to advertise.***

***Limit words to 150 - include website if possible.***

**CONTACT: [admin@sclma.com.au](mailto:admin@sclma.com.au)  
Free to SCLMA members \$110 for non members.  
Queries: Jo 0407 037 112**

## **ON CALL MEDICAL TYPIST**

**(for relief and annual leave work only)**

- Based in Maroochydore, we are a fast-paced Plastic surgery clinic.
- The right person for the position would require flexibility as this would be an on call position for relief work from our in house medical typist.

Requirements:

- Ability to be on call and work flexible hours
- Accurate medical typing skills with audio typing experience
- Sound understanding of medical terminology
- Uncompromising attention to detail

**If you fit these criteria, please contact Katie at Vie Institute on [info@plasticsurgeon.net.au](mailto:info@plasticsurgeon.net.au) or 0754792922 for further details**

*March 2023*

## **PRACTITIONER (VR) - SUNSHINE COAST QUEENSLAND**

To find out more, please email your resume to [admin@nambourclinic.com.au](mailto:admin@nambourclinic.com.au) or ring Rowena for an informal chat

Ph: **0412 292 666**. *Continuing.*

**SCLMA CLINICAL MEETING - 29 FEBRUARY 2024**  
Maroochydore Surf Club Function Room

**Presenter: A/Prof Debbie Rigby, Clinical Lead, National Asthma Council.**

**Topic: “Device matters: selection and assessment of inhalers technique”**

**Presenter: Dr Russell Wiseman, General Practitioner.**

**Topic: “What are the real world challenges to respiratory medicine in Primary Care”.**

**SPONSOR: Chiesi Australia.**



*Our presenters A/Prof Debbie Rigby  
and Dr Russell Wiseman.*



*T  
The SCLMA welcomes our medical students!*

