



SCLMA President's Message Dr Jon Harper

SCLMA CLINICAL MEETING FOR 2025 -
THURSDAY 1st May 2025



The Sunshine Coast is frequently described by its inhabitants as the 'best place on earth'. So it was an uneasy time, as we waited while Cyclone Alfred idled just out to sea, as if deliberating on which part of South East Queensland he should decimate. The Coast's beautiful beaches, national parks, and local businesses were all under threat.

Despite the eye of the cyclone landing only a few kilometres south of Caloundra, amazingly the Sunshine Coast was spared from the worst of the wind. On waking up that weekend, I'm sure I was not alone in feeling incredibly grateful that our region had fared so well. The community mood remained buoyant and, judging from the pre-cyclone panic buying in the supermarkets, there will probably be a few impromptu parties in the next couple of weeks!

There has also been plenty of bluster in medical politics. Like a game of high stakes poker, both political parties have matched each other's 8.5 billion dollar bet that health and Medicare will win the next election. There have been a range of responses to this "single largest investment in Medicare since its creation." Although, technically, it is only an investment if the money actually gets spent - if the Medicare bulk-billing incentive payments are claimed.

And here is the problem. For many clinics, even with the increased incentive payments, the income is not sufficient to maintain their current business model, let alone add a margin for inevitably rising costs. The Albanese government seems to concede this and, by focusing on bulk-billing and not Medicare attendance item rebates, it is tacitly committing to a 2-tier future of general practice.

There will be 100% bulk-billing clinics providing primary care to those who cannot afford gap payments. The business model of these clinics will depend on economies of scale - centralised administration, uniform billing practices, and high throughput. It is hard to imagine how preventative care - cancer screening, lifestyle medicine - will work in this model.

And there will be private general practice clinics who will maintain control of their billing practices. They will determine their own value in a market environment. Their doctors will provide a level of care that is perceived by their patients to be worth parting with their hard-earned cash.

Unlike previous iterations of this model, I worry that there will be fewer 'middle' practices that skilfully manage their billing to create a microcosm of the perfect mixed economy. Here the money spent by the affluent directly meets the needs of the hard-up, and all the while the same standard of care is maintained for all.

Nevertheless, the injection of cash into Medicare to support patients who are really struggling at the moment is a good thing. The government can sort out any unintended consequences later on. There were also positive investments in general practice training which is great news.

On the subject of trainees, it was great to see so many medical students attending the February SCLMA clinical education dinner meeting.

Dr Jon Harper
9th March 2025

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APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER

Deadline Thursday 10 April 2025

Our circulation via email, post and courier
It reaches more than 1,500 recipients!

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

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.

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





Supporting Queensland doctors,
creating better health.

AMA QUEENSLAND UPDATE



AMA Queensland CEO Dr Brett Dale and President Dr Nick Yim

This year, AMA Queensland has already secured several wins for Queensland doctors, patients and the community. Most notably, our continued advocacy against payroll tax saw the QRO issue updated guidance for non-GP specialists, providing businesses with clarity and assurance.

We also welcomed the launch of the Open Hospitals portal and funding boost for Surgery Connect and continue to seek to work with the government to ensure these initiatives are effective in the long-term.

PAYROLL TAX CERTAINTY

AMA Queensland President Dr Nick Yim appeared before a parliamentary committee inquiry into the Revenue Legislation Bill 2024 in January, speaking to the need to extend payroll tax exemption certainty to non-GP specialists.

The parliamentary committee recommended the Queensland Revenue Office (QRO) issue clear and updated guidance about existing exemptions that may apply to non-GP specialists, and confirm whether GP practices need to complete the onerous disclosure obligations currently required under the amnesty.

Less than three weeks after the inquiry, the [QRO wrote to AMA Queensland with updated guidance on the amnesty](#) and links to information about existing exemptions that may apply to non-GP specialists.

Doctors and practice owners have been struggling to clarify what they must do under payroll tax laws and the QRO's amnesty, and this updated guidance will help these businesses know where they stand.

We are disappointed the committee did not simplify payroll tax for all medical practices and will continue to advocate for inclusion of non-GP specialists.



RACGP Queensland Chair Dr Cath Hester with AMA Queensland President Dr Nick Yim



[Read our media release](#)

WORKFORCE WORKING GROUP

The health sector is currently experiencing the highest turnover since the peak of COVID-19 in 2020, with rural and remote regions suffering the most at a turnover rate of 9.5 per cent – five per cent higher than in metropolitan areas.

To respond to this turnover and meet the increasing demand, it is projected that workforce will need to increase by 30.3 per cent by 2032.

This is a complex issue requiring multifaceted solutions, which is why we have established its new Workforce Working Group to help guide government policies directed at attracting and retaining Queensland's health workforce.

The group commenced on Thursday 16 January and is working to provide advice in the lead up to the Queensland Budget in June 2025.



[Read our media release](#)

ama.com.au/qld





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REAL TIME EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT DATA

The state government's launch of its Open Hospitals portal is a welcome first step in modernising our health system.

AMA Queensland has urged the government to introduce such a model for years, including in our *Ambulance Ramping Roundtable* and *Surgical Wait List Roundtable Action Plans*.

We cannot improve hospital performance and patients cannot make informed decisions about when and where to seek treatment without transparent and up-to-date information. Real-time data also has the potential to allow clinicians to better manage hospital resources, diverting them where they are needed most.

However, the portal still has a long way to go if it is going to provide a full picture of the situation in our hospitals at any given moment in time.

Our members have advised us of some frustrations faced by emergency department doctors and patients, including that the capturing of data currently does not reflect the patient's journey.

We look forward to working with the government to expand the metrics and other information available in the portal so it can truly help transform our health system for the future.



[Read our media release](#)



NURSE-LED CLINICS INADEQUATELY FUNDED

Queensland Health has advised that a rapid review of its nurse-led walk-in clinics revealed they are not adequately funded to operate during the hours and with the staff announced by the former government.

Nurses are an integral part of general practice multidisciplinary teams which are proven to provide the highest quality, best practice care for patients. However, AMA Queensland has always been concerned that these clinics risk fragmenting patient care and robbing existing primary care services of their essential staff.

The department advised it will now undertake relevant industrial processes, including consultation on business cases for change, to help the clinics operate within the approved funding envelope.



[Read more](#)

SURGERY CONNECT FUNDING BOOST

In February, the state government announced a \$100 million investment in Surgery Connect.

We commend the government for taking a step towards stabilising Queensland's growing elective surgery wait lists in line with the recommendations in our *Surgical Wait List Roundtable Action Plan*.

ama.com.au/qld





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creating better health.*

However, fundamental reform of how hospitals are run and funded remains crucial to ensure all Queenslanders have equitable access. Increasing outpatient surgical activity must be implemented with our long-term recommendations to ensure wait lists are not only stabilised but reduced.

We continue to urge the government to implement the rest of our recommendations to reduce wait times and ensure no Queenslanders are suffering from inequitable access to essential care.



[Read our media release](#)



FREE FLU VACCINE CONTINUES

For the past three years, Queensland has led the nation in making flu jabs free. We are pleased to see the new government continue Queensland's leadership by funding the annual free influenza vaccination program for 2025.



This year's program commenced on Saturday 1 March.

We continue to call on the state government to make this program permanent, similar to the RSV and meningococcal vaccines, and to advocate for the influenza vaccine to be made free for all Australians under the National Immunisation Program.



[Read more](#)

SATELLITE HOSPITAL NAME CHANGE AND CONSULTATION

Following AMA Queensland advocacy, the Queensland Government conducted a survey seeking more appropriate name alternatives for satellite hospitals, aiming to reduce confusion around their services offered.

The clinical advisory group established to consider the survey results supported the survey's overwhelming recommendation to call the facilities Satellite Health Centres.

This decision is one step towards ensuring all Queenslanders can access timely, essential health care services by reducing confusion and minimising fragmentation of care. However, we must continue with a public education campaign to eliminate the risk of people with life threatening conditions presenting to these health centres.

In addition to the name change, AMA Queensland is working with Queensland Health to provide input, including our members' perspectives, to their evaluation of the facilities.

If the government does not work with local practitioners, the facilities will continue to risk confusing patients, poaching staff and duplicating existing services.



[Read our media release](#)



ama.com.au/qld





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UPCOMING EVENTS

AMA Queensland has a range of upcoming events this year for every doctor at every stage of their career.

Junior doctors! Join us on the Fraser Coast for this year's Junior Doctor Conference to hear from inspiring doctors, make friends and meet important contacts.

Join us and the Australian Senior Active Doctors Association this August for our engaging and inspiring one-day Senior Doctor Conference tailored to senior active and retired doctors.

Are you thinking about travelling overseas this year? Join us for our Annual Conference 2025 in Vancouver, Canada to earn CPD points and learn key issues facing the profession while immersed in a unique tourism destination.

We can't wait to see you at one of our 2025 events!



MEDICAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The AMA Queensland Foundation offers its annual Medical Student Scholarships to financially disadvantaged students studying an MBBS course or equivalent at a university in Queensland.



[Read more](#)

Applications have now opened for 2025, and we encourage all students seeking support to continue studying and achieve their dream of becoming a doctor to apply.

Scholarships of \$10,000 paid in two equal instalments will be awarded to up to three students this year.



ama.com.au/qld





Cervical Screening and Self-Collection Testing in General Practice

In our region, more than 90,000 women who should be screened for cervical cancer aren't participating—and 3,500 more women need to screen just to reach the national average.^{1,2}

To improve participation, Country to Coast, QLD (CCQ) has teamed up with Queensland Health's Cancer Screening Unit to launch a joint campaign, Your Health. Your Way. — a local initiative promoting cervical screening and self-collection across the region.

Self-collection is a game changer; it removes barriers that may have discouraged people from screening in the past.

Your Health. Your Way. Digital Media Kit

General practices are invited to download the digital media kit (.zip, 13MB) to use in local promotion.

Cervical Screening Quality Improvement Toolkit

Primary care providers play a critical role in driving cervical screening participation through their trusted relationships, clinical expertise and accessibility to engage patients in preventative care.

Opportunistic discussions, continuity of care and patient-centred care position primary care providers to support participation and promote equitable access to drive improved cancer outcomes.

CCQ's new cervical screening QI toolkit offers general practice teams tips and ideas to support a dedicated QI activity.



Visit <https://bit.ly/QI-CervicalScreening> to hear from CCQ's Medical Educator and GP, Dr Amy Langford-Ely, as she discusses the benefits of cervical screening self-collection.

The CCQ QI activity also contributes to practice and professional development requirements.

Discover how the QI cervical screening toolkit can help your practice.

Insights from Local CCQ QI Pilot

A recent CCQ QI pilot in three Maryborough practices increased cervical screening self-collection uptake from 16 per cent to over 45 per cent in just three months.

With self-collection now available and updated guidelines in place, there's never been a better time to boost participation.

For more support, connect with your Primary Health Coordinator: pracsupport@c2coast.org.au



SUNSHINE COAST HEALTH – SCLMA

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SUNSHINE COAST HEALTH?

Boost for mental health services on southern end of the Sunshine Coast



Sunshine Coast Health staff at the Caloundra Mental Health Clinic

Sunshine Coast Health has expanded its mental health services to provide care closer to home for consumers living on the southern end of the region.

A community mental health clinic has opened in Caloundra on Mayes Avenue, which will help meet the growing demand for mental health services in the area.

Until now, consumers who received treatment for severe and enduring mental ill health had to travel to Maroochydore for their appointments, which wasn't always easy with limited public transport options. This often resulted in a higher percentage of consumers not attending appointments, which are a key part of recovery to help prevent relapses or hospital admissions.

The specialised teams will provide treatment for a range of mental health services, including adult mental health, older persons mental health and alcohol and other drugs support and treatment.

People can access mental health support by phoning 1300 MH CALL (1300 642 255), which is a 24/7 confidential telephone triage service that provides the first point of contact to public mental health services to Queenslanders.



People can access the Alcohol and Other Drugs service by phoning 07 5319 4899 for information and support. Sunshine Coast Health offers a safe space to access help.

Sunshine Coast Health launches new van to help improve health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people



A new health van is hitting the streets of the Sunshine Coast and beyond, to provide a culturally safe place for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to receive care.

Sunshine Coast Health has launched the Nyina Budja (Live Strong) Health Equity Van – a mobile space that can provide health checks and give basic healthcare education to community members. The health service is committed to improving health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and the van provides an additional path to achieving this.

The van will be used for a number of health screening activities including lung health, vaccinations, child health checks, foot health checks, sexual health and health assessments.

The artwork on the Nyina Budja Health Equity Van was created in collaboration with Aunty Betty McMahon, a Sunshine Coast community elder. Her painting, The Gathering, represents the importance of community coming together and yarning to drive real change.



Healthcare leaders gather on the Sunshine Coast to discuss regional cancer care

Healthcare leaders and experts gathered in Noosa on February 19 to discuss Australia's healthcare landscape with a focus on regional cancer care, highlighting disparities in access and the role of innovation in improving patient outcomes.

The event, organised by Icon Group, was attended by Icon Group Board members, Icon Queensland leaders and significant local representation from clinicians, patient advocacy groups and allied health providers.



Icon Group Board Chairman, Paul McClintock AO opened the event emphasising the importance of addressing cancer care gaps. He noted regional communities have limited access to specialist services and advanced treatments, often requiring extensive travel, causing greater financial and emotional stress.



Citing the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Paul highlighted that people living in major cities have a five-year observed survival rate of 63% (for all cancers combined), compared to 61% for those in regional and remote areas, and a further drop to 55% in more remote regions.

With 30% of Icon's Australian cancer centres located in regional locations and 50% in outer-metro and regional communities, Icon has deep roots and a proven track record of bringing comprehensive care to underserved areas.

Icon Group CEO, Mark Middleton OAM highlighted this commitment.

"Combined, Icon delivers approximately 50% of the nation's private cancer care. There are unique challenges to operating regional centres, but we've invested in innovative care models and solutions to enable world-class care," Mark said.

"Our approach provides a sustainable model that supports more equitable and timely care for patients navigating their cancer journey. It also provides a model for governments and communities to think openly about what's possible in regional care."

Mark shared Noosa as an example noting Icon's longstanding presence in the region and surrounding Queensland communities. "Our Icon Maroochydore centre has been part of the community for many years and our new centre in the heart of Noosa highlights our ongoing commitment to bringing care closer to where people live."

Attendees also heard insights into international best practices. Dr Keith Ridge CBE reflected on impactful changes from his tenure at NHS England, while Lord Patrick Carter shared how his UK healthcare experience influenced efficiency and accessibility in care delivery.

Lord Carter and Dr Ridge were recently appointed to Icon's newly established European Board Committee to support Icon's growth in the UK.

Following the event, attendees were invited to tour the new Icon Cancer Centre Noosa facility, which opened in October 2024.



Find out more about Icon Cancer Centre Noosa at iconcancercentre.com.au/centre/noosa





Now Open!



Cancer Care Noosa is the region's only comprehensive oncology centre and offers access to affordable cancer care services without a waitlist. Our multidisciplinary team of local oncology specialists offer personalised healthcare utilising advanced treatments and technologies, to ensure the best possible outcomes for patients.



Dr. Debra Furniss

Radiation Oncologist & Medical Director

Clinical interests in breast, GI, bone, brain, spine, lung and skin cancers, haematological malignancies, palliative radiotherapy and treatment for benign conditions



Dr Michelle Morris

Medical Oncologist

Experienced in managing a wide range of solid tumour malignancies with clinical interests in breast cancer, melanoma, genealogical and urological malignancies



Dr Harry Gasper

Medical Oncologist

Experienced in treating a broad range of malignancies with an interest in GI, lung, breast, skin, prostate and brain cancer.



Mr James Chapman

Nurse Practitioner/Lymphoedema

Accredited and experienced in the assessment of lymphoedema and lipoedema and offers affordable and patient centric treatment options

Cancer Care Noosa provides:

- Radiation oncology
 - Medical oncology
 - Oncology pharmacy
 - Clinical trials and research
 - Pathology
 - Local specialists you know and trust
 - Lymphoedema nurse practitioner clinic
 - Specialist consulting
 - Easy access and 150 car parks
 - Affordable cancer care
- Coming later this year: Noosa Breast Clinic and comprehensive medical imaging services



Cancer Care Noosa
36-40 Hofmann Drive
Noosaville QLD 4566



07 5293 7200



admin@cancercarenoosa.com.au

A better way, a brighter outcome





Sunshine Coast Radiology is excited to announce the opening of our brand new clinic at Noosa Civic Medihub, 28 Eenie Creek Road, Noosaville.

As part of our commitment to delivering exceptional care across the Sunshine Coast, we are proud to extend our service offering into Noosa, whilst also introducing our first digital PET/CT scanning service.

Boasting state-of-the-art facilities and all-new diagnostic imaging technology, together with our expert radiologists and friendly team, we look forward to providing our dedicated care to your patients.

Our services include X-ray, ultrasound, interventional procedures, dental imaging, CT, and our PET/CT service, improving healthcare access and outcomes for patients in the northern Sunshine Coast region.



X-RAY



ULTRASOUND



CT SCAN



PET-CT SCAN

Coming soon

Referrer enquiries:

Please contact your local Referrer Relationship Specialist, Tremain Permewan
Email: tremain@scradiology.com.au



Noosa Civic Medihub
28 Eenie Creek Road, Noosaville

☎ 1300 MY SCAN
1300 697 226

🌐 scradiology.com.au
✉ bookings@scradiology.com.au

BUDERIM
12-14 King Street

MAROOCHYDORE
60 Wisers Road

NAMBOUR
29 Ann Street

SCUPH
3 Doherty Street

SELANGOR PRIVATE
62 Netherton Street

WARANA
1 Main Drive

NOOSA
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PO Box 549 Cotton Tree QLD 4558

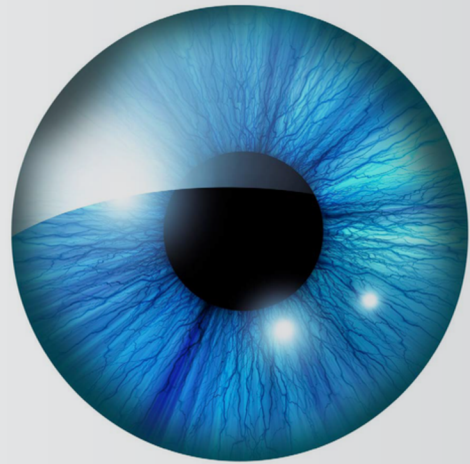


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Gunabal Homestead
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Gympie QLD 4570



Tuesday 11 March 2025
RSVP Friday 7 March



BurfordJ@ramsayhealth.com.au
0427 327 321

PROGRAM**6.30pm** Registrations**7.00pm** Presentations**Vision Loss – More than just the Eye**Prof Tom Campbell, *Ophthalmology***Shared Care - Anticoagulants in oculoplastics cases and glaucoma management**Dr Ebony Smith, *Ophthalmology***'Peering into the body' Ophthalmic presentations of systemic conditions**Dr Tuan Tran, *Ophthalmology***8.00pm** **Q&A round tables****9.00pm** Evaluation and close**LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- Identify common causes of vision loss and differentiate between urgent and non-urgent presentations
- Recognise when to adjust or cease anticoagulants in patients undergoing ophthalmic procedures
- Understand the GPs role in detecting and managing systemic conditions with ocular manifestations



Email if you wish to be removed from our mailing list

Scan to register



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Caloundra
Private Day Hospital
Part of Ramsay Health Care



Sunshine Coast Local Medical Association
Inc PO Box 549 Cotton Tree QLD 4558



www.sclma.com.au

MEDICARE GOLD GRAB.

AKA smoke and mirrors.

The \$8.5B election promise for enhanced Medicare funding is going to happen. Both major parties are promising roughly the same.

That's a lot of money, and it's expressed intent is to increase the rates of bulk billing. Period. No mention of an intent to increase the quality of primary care.

Wait for the devil in the detail, but even on the surface, the package is at best unattractive and deceptive.

The RACGP survey of GP members revealed that 69% of GP's thought the promise made them LESS optimistic about the future of the profession. (17% more optimistic and 12% unsure). I am with the majority.

The deception? The official announcement said that there will be a meteoric increase in GP's incomes. Taking just one example, the published figures say that the standard consultation for a GP in my practice will increase from \$42.85 to \$80.71, an increase of 88%. Hey, I'd better go and buy a new car before I hit the highest marginal tax rate! But is it true?

If I BB a standard consult today for \$42.85, plus the BB incentive of \$21.35, I am presently paid \$64.20. The promised fee will go up to \$80.71. This is an increase – but only 26%, not 88%.

These figures are based on the published expected BB incentive increase. But the plan includes a 12.5% incentive for the PRACTICE. I cannot clarify from the hype how much of the increased BB incentive is going directly to the practitioner, and how much is counted in that 12.5% incentive to the practice owner. If, as I understand, half of the incentive goes to the practice, not to the doctor, it will be at the discretion of the practice owner how much of the package ends up as an increase in the income of the doctor. Even with a beneficent practice owner (and, let's face it, the corporates are in the game because of their bottom line), it looks as if the individual doctor in a group practice is not likely to achieve the full 26% increase.

Unattractive for some? I have said enough about the uncertainty of incomes for doctors in fully BB practices if they can't predict the share of the bucket of gold.

It is worse for the government's hope to draw GP's away from private-billing. If my neighbour is currently private-billing \$80, he will be losing 71 cents. Some of my colleagues are private-billing \$100. They stand to lose \$20.71 per consult, ie a 21% loss if they accept the BB carrot. Enhanced quality of primary care? This does not even enter the political equation.

The increased rebates focus only on the BB incentive component. This favours the 6-minute consultation. On dollar-per-hour rate, it disadvantages the longer consultation. Who does longer consultations? Complex chronic disease management (isn't that where a majority of general practice is heading? Correction – WAS heading?). Female doctors, especially those who focus on women's health. Rural doctors – if the local farmer has just driven 100km for a GP consult, who is going to say "only one problem per consultation"? Minority practices that focus on mental health, indigenous health. And, in my case, addiction medicine and homeless persons.

If I may indulge briefly in one of my soapbox issues, I cannot see a magnet to draw young GP's into aged care practice. Another RACGP survey of its members this year – "Which incentive payment will encourage you to provide a specific level of services to a residential aged care patient?" 54% responded "I would not provide [residential] aged care services regardless of incentive". 54% of GP's refuse to go to nursing homes !! Don't get me started on this one.....

Training. There is a small but limited light hidden away in this murky mire. More funding to increase and modernize GP training programs. But I haven't seen any detailed comment of the fact that \$500M of this "GP money" is dedicated to upskilling NURSES. I see the thin edge of a very large wedge that will grow oh so quickly. Nurses are still cheaper than doctors.

The opinions expressed herein are those of your humble correspondent.

Wayne Herdy.





Monthly update

Shane Mitchell, General Manager

E: shane.mitchell@uhealth.com.au

P: 07 5430 3260

Meet our new VMPs



Dr Saskia Olivier
General and Obstetric
Physician



Dr Kunal Nagar
Interventional
Cardiologist

To search all of our doctors, visit
buderimprivatehospital.com.au

Mother's Day High Tea

Tickets are now available for the Buderim Private Hospital **Cindy Mackenzie Breast Cancer Program** Mother's Day High Tea!

Join us on **Saturday 10 May** at the stunning Pier 33 for a heartwarming afternoon hosted by our ambassador, Mayor Rosanna Natoli. This special fundraising event will help raise vital funds to support those living with breast cancer on the Sunshine Coast.

Let's come together to celebrate Mother's Day and make a meaningful impact. Tickets are available at www.cindymackenzieprogram.com.au

Cindy Mackenzie
Breast Cancer Program

Take a look inside our newly renovated Ward 2A

Ward 2A, one of our original wards at Buderim Private Hospital, received a much-needed renovation over the Christmas and New Year period, creating a fresh and contemporary environment for our patients and their visitors, as well as our staff and doctors to enjoy.

A small ceremony was held in the ward recently to bless the new space and honour the generosity of our donor who made the renovations possible.



Proudly part of



Acute Admissions: (07) 5430 3314
buderimprivatehospital.com.au



GenesisCare, Sunshine Coast: Where compassion meets contemporary care

Care is what we do, every day. Care is not just our job, it's our responsibility. We are a proudly Australian-run cancer care provider, with over 30,000 people each year entrusting us with their care.

At GenesisCare, we aim to deliver a personalised care experience provided by a team of compassionate healthcare professionals. Our team of radiation oncologists have experience across a range of adult tumour types.



Dr Bradley Wong
Radiation Oncologist

Skin cancer, prostate cancer, urological cancers, breast cancer, benign conditions, and palliative radiation therapy



Dr David Schlect
Radiation Oncologist

Neurological, brain and spine, lung, and skin cancers, rare tumours, sarcoma and benign conditions



Dr Sophia Ly
Radiation Oncologist

Gastrointestinal (upper and lower), lung, breast and palliative radiation therapy



On the Sunshine Coast, our services offered include:

- Personalised care, treating the individual, not just the condition
- Radiation therapy for most adult cancer types
- Non-invasive treatment for non-melanoma skin cancer
- Rapid access to radiation therapy treatment in palliative setting
- Treatment for specific benign conditions e.g Dupuytren's disease, plantar fasciitis, plantar fibromatosis and keloid scars
- Stereotactic radiation therapy for cranial, lung, spine, prostate, bone, soft tissue, and liver lesions
- Patient transport services Gympie to Noosa route (for eligible patients)
- Access to allied health services on site
- On site breast cancer specialist nurse
- Breast Cancer Wellness and Survivorship Clinic

Treatment centres:

GenesisCare, Buderim
10 King Street

Tel: (07) 5374 8100 | Fax: (07) 5374 8110
ReceptionOncologyBuderim@genesiscare.com

GenesisCare, Noosa
90 Goodchap Street

Tel: (07) 5377 2200 | Fax: (07) 5377 2210
ReceptionOncologyNoosa@genesiscare.com

Outreach consulting clinic:

Gympie fortnightly clinic – 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





March 17th, 2025

Dr. Peter Larsen

Interventional Cardiologist

Is now practicing at

Oceanside Cardiology

with

Nurse Practitioner: Silvia Gres

Phone #: 5313 3023

Fax #: 5313 3219

Email: admin@oceansidecardiology.com.au

On-call: 0448 888 551

(For all general and interventional cardiology referrals)

We welcome all new and current patients

Sunshine Coast University
Private Hospital
Suite 17, 3 Doherty St
Birtinya, Queensland
Australia 4575

Birtinya
Suite 604, 11 Eccles Blvd
Birtinya, Queensland
Australia 4575

Buderim Private Hospital
12 Elsa Wilson Drv
Buderim, Queensland
Australia 4556

Noosa
Suite 111, 90 Goodchap St
Noosaville, Queensland
Australia 4566

Gympie
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GP Liaison

Your hospital connection, together we can deliver better healthcare.

Dr Edwin Krays and Dr Michelle Johnston



New Respiratory Clinics for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people

Several respiratory clinics are planned for 2025 for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people in the Sunshine Coast/Gympie region.

We have two tentative clinic dates for the Gympie region, 24 April 2025 and 28 August 2025, and we are working towards dates for clinics in the Caloundra area. Interest in the clinic (numbers of GP referrals) will govern the frequency of the clinic and we will subsequently confirm clinic dates.

The clinic will involve the community member having the opportunity to have spirometry with a respiratory scientist, then a consultation with a nurse practitioner or respiratory consultant.

Referral process: If you have Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community members who need specialist respiratory care, please refer to the SCUH respiratory service and state the term **"Moo'roo Moo'roo"** respiratory clinic in the referral letter. Moo'roo Moo'roo is a name given to us by a Traditional owner and means "Full of life".

Free foot screening

'Footprints Walking on Country' is a Sunshine Coast Health foot disease prevention program which focuses on the prevention and management of foot complications and the risk factors and other chronic diseases.

The Footprints Walking on Country mobile foot bus has been visiting locations across the Sunshine Coast and Gympie regions, offering the community easy access to assessment and treatment of foot problems, which can help prevent diabetic foot disease.

Who can visit the Foot bus? This service is open to everyone.

How much does it cost? It is a free service funded by Queensland Health.

Do I need to book an appointment? No appointment is required; the mobile foot clinic operates on a walk-in basis.

Where to find us? Visit our website: [Footprints – Walking on country program | Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service](#), or contact the Footprints team at 0487 763 417 or email SCFootprintsWalkingonCountry@health.qld.gov.au

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Assistance with GP Smart Referrals

Self-help resources are available on the GP Smart Referrals (GPSR) webpage: www.health.qld.gov.au/clinical-practice/innovation/smart-referrals/smart-referrals-resources

- Phone Support: 1300 478 439
- Email support: qh-smartreferrals@health.qld.gov.au

Please contact the *GP Liaison Unit* for any other queries, concerns, or feedback about GPSR:

- Phone: 07 5202 3822
- Email: schhs-gplo@health.qld.gov.au



Junior Doctor Careers Night

Choose your own adventure 

Save the Date

15 May 2025
1700 - 2000

Sunshine Coast University Hospital
Sunshine Coast Health Institute (SCHI Hub) Building

Sunshine Coast
Hospital and Health Service



Financial Year End 2025 – Tax Planning to Minimise Your Tax

As we approach the end of the 2025 financial year, now is the perfect time to consider strategies to minimise your tax before 30 June. These are just a few strategies that can be used for planning your end-of-financial year.

Superannuation Contributions

The tax-deductible superannuation contribution (or concessional contribution) cap is \$30,000 for all individuals under the age of 75. Individuals over the age of 67 need to pass a work test. The advantage of making tax-deductible superannuation contributions is that they are taxed between 15% and 30%, compared to the individual income tax rates of between 16% and 45%.

Carry-Forward Concessional Superannuation Contributions

If your 30th June 2024 total superannuation balance was less than \$500,000, the carry-forward superannuation contribution provisions allow you to use any of your unused concessional contributions cap on a rolling basis over the preceding five years. This is particularly useful if you have experienced an increase in income this financial year (for example, from capital gains incurred due to the sale of a CGT investment or receipt of a one-off bonus or other such income). These carry-forward amounts are calculated on a rolling basis of five years; any amount unused after five years will expire.

Spouse Superannuation Contribution Tax Offset

If your spouse's income is \$37,000 or less, and you make a superannuation contribution of up to \$3,000 on their behalf, you may be eligible for a tax offset of up to \$540. The offset reduces for income above \$37,000 and completely phases out at \$40,000 or above.

Salary Sacrifice to Superannuation

If your taxable income is \$45,000 or more, salary sacrificing your superannuation is a means to reducing the amount of tax paid on your income, where the pre-tax salary is paid into superannuation. The tax savings are the difference between the usual amount of tax paid on your income and the 15% tax paid on superannuation contributions. This can be beneficial when an employee is nearing their retirement age as these funds can be accessed sooner.

Rental Property Depreciation and Capital Works

A rental property depreciation report prepared by a quantity surveyor in certain circumstances enables you to claim depreciation and capital works deductions on capital items. The cost of preparing the report is also tax deductible.

Prepaid Interest and Expenses on Investments

Expenses paid on investments can be prepaid before 30 June 2025. Up to 12 months of interest on an investment loan (for a rental property or share investments) can be prepaid, and a tax deduction can be claimed this financial year. Other expenses directly related to your investments can also be prepaid before 30 June, including rental property repairs and maintenance.

Defer Investment Income and Capital Gains

Arrange for the receipt of investment income, such as interest on term deposits and contract date for the sale of a capital gains asset to occur after 30 June 2025 if practical. The tax on the investment income and capital gains will be payable in the subsequent financial year.

Realise Capital Losses

It may be beneficial to consider selling any underperforming investments prior to 30 June to crystallise a capital loss. The capital loss may reduce or eliminate a current-year capital gains tax liability. Unused capital losses can be carried forward and used to offset future capital gains.

Motor Vehicle Expenses

To make a claim for motor vehicle expenses, an accurate and complete motor vehicle logbook must be kept for at least a 12-week period and must broadly be a representation of your travel. All invoices and receipts for your motor vehicle expenditure must be kept. Once a logbook is prepared, it can generally be used for a period of five years. Another method is to claim up to 5,000 business kilometres based on a reasonable estimate, using the cents per kilometre method, which is \$0.88 per kilometre for the 2024/25 financial year.

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





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

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Specialist Pain Medicine Physician



Dr Frank Thomas
BSc (Hons), MBChB, FANZCA, FFPMANZCA
Specialist Pain Medicine Physician

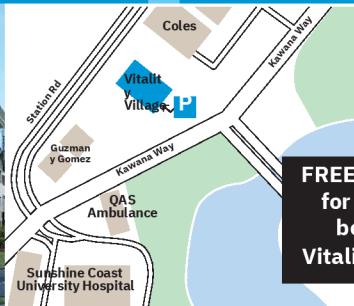
Let Dr Ramsey Jabbour and Dr Frank Thomas, together with the trusted team at QPain look after your patient.

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- Persistent post-surgical pain
- Neuropathic pain
- Overuse MSK injuries
- CRPS
- Headaches
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Please feel free to contact QPain to discuss management options of your patients with chronic pain.



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Phone: 07 5318 7275
Fax: 07 3112 6885
Email: sc@qpain.com.au
www.qpain.com.au

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





University of the Sunshine Coast is seeking participant referrals to contribute to medical research

Triple-combination inhaler to target better lung and heart health outcomes

We are trialling a triple-combination inhaler to determine if it provides better outcomes for respiratory and cardiovascular health compared to current therapies for people with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD).

We are calling for participants who:

- are aged between 40 and 80 years
- have diagnosed COPD
- are current or former smoker
- can attend one visit about every three months for the first year, followed by one visit every six months for two years at our Birtinya clinic

Potential new treatment for advanced solid tumours

We are working on a Phase I trial to assess the safety, tolerability, and antitumour activity of a potential new treatment for people with advanced or metastatic solid tumours.

We are calling for participants who:

- are over 18 years old
- have an advanced (metastatic and/or unresectable) solid tumour that has not responded to standard therapy
- are able to attend regular visits at the Buderim clinic on the Sunshine Coast

Potential treatment to reduce dementia-related agitation

Individuals who have, or care for someone living with dementia, with agitation, are invited to participate in this trial.

We are calling for participants who:

- are aged between 50 and 90, have been diagnosed with dementia and experience significant agitation two or more times per week on average
- live at home
- have a consenting caregiver/ study partner who is available to attend all study visits in person, and is willing and capable of providing accurate information in relation to the participant's behavioural symptoms and daily diary completion
- can attend up to five clinic visits and one phone call at our clinic in Birtinya over approximately 10 weeks

A growing clinical trials network

Do you have patients who might benefit from participating in a clinical trial?

If you would like to receive information on currently available clinical trials, please contact our Participant Outreach Coordinator, Koren Clarke on 07 5456 3569 or email kclarke2@usc.edu.au.



Ochre Health
Level 1, 9 Ochre Way
Sippy Downs QLD 4556



Health Hub Morayfield
Level 1/19-31 Dickson Road
Morayfield QLD 4506



South Brisbane
Building A1, SW1 Complex
32 Cordella Street
South Brisbane QLD 4101



Vitality Village
5 Discovery Court
Birtinya QLD 4575



Sunshine Coast Haematology and Oncology Clinic
10 King Street
Buderim QLD 4556



Maroochydore Private Hospital (under construction)
Maroochydore City Centre
Maroochydore QLD 4558

To learn more, visit:
usc.edu.au/trials



Classifieds

Dr Ajay Verma

M.B.B.S, MD., FRACP

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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
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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

We are looking for a new RN to join our team at Nambour Day Surgery/East Coast Women's Health Centre.

The role involves set-up and minor assistance of our surgeon during procedures, under sedation only. These are mostly pregnancy terminations, but also IUD insertions/removals and an occasional vasectomy.

There would be some time also in recovery assisting patients to prepare for home. Training will be done with you, so theatre experience is not necessary, but some recovery, emergency room or acute care would be beneficial.

We are a small team, and the successful applicant needs to be able to work well with others, and be supportive to our patients coming through, as many are experiencing

a traumatic time in their lives. The position is a casual role, but we generally operate two days a week, on Thursdays and Fridays. We are looking for someone who is able to commit to those days. Hours for those days are usually between 6-8 hours.

We are under the Private Health Nurses Award (MA000034).

Please email Jacqui at

num@eastcoastwomens.com.au with a current CV, cover letter and references.

Location: Sunshine Coast, Queensland
Position: General Practitioner (GP) with Special Interest in Gastroenterology and Research
Work Schedule: 2 Days a Week

We are seeking an experienced and passionate General Practitioner with a special interest in Gastroenterology to join our dynamic healthcare team.

This is a fantastic opportunity for a GP looking to focus on specialized care while enjoying a balanced work schedule.

Key Responsibilities:

- Provide high-quality primary care with a focus on gastroenterology.
- Work alongside a multidisciplinary team to deliver comprehensive patient care.
- Manage chronic conditions, including gastrointestinal disorders and obesity-related health concerns.
- Educate and support patients in lifestyle modifications and health management.

Essential Qualifications:

- MBBS or equivalent qualification.
- AHPRA registration as a General Practitioner.
- Strong clinical experience.
- Excellent communication skills and a compassionate approach to patient care.
- Ability to work collaboratively in a team environment.



Classifieds continued...

VR GP Positions Available- Are you looking to semi-retire or just wanting flexibility in your work arrangements, regain your life back whilst still earning an income.

We have successfully transitioned from Closing a Practice to now working remotely from home and only servicing Aged Care Facilities. We are registered with the My Medicare Program allowing us to access GPs in Aged Care Incentive, the financial rewards are now here.

You will have the ability to manage your patient load and work your preferred days/hours with an immediate patient base. You will also have management and Registered Nurse support with all correspondence, billings and liaising with other health professionals, minimal over heads and most importantly GP coverage when you wish to take leave!

Please contact Nadine for more information 0409 059 086.

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.





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This advertisement has been reviewed and approved by Bellberry Research Ethics Committee.
Study code: DB460C00004 Version no.: 1.0 Date: 15/10/2024 AU-enUK



FEBRUARY 2025 Maroochy Surf Club Function Room



SUNSHINE COAST LOCAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

SCLMA Monthly Clinical Meetings

THURSDAY 1ST MAY 2025

(*PLEASE NOTE NOT LAST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH)

Presenters:

- Jazlyn Read - Nail pathology and procedures**
- Katherine York - Alopecia Areata: A Changing Landscape**
- Kendall Sharpe - Hyperhidrosis**
- Dr Alex Tedman - Drug Reactions**

MAROOCHY SURF CLUB FUNCTION ROOM - Alexandra Parade, Cotton Tree
6.30 pm for 7.00 pm (9.00 pm finish)

Thank you to the sponsor

