



SCLMA President's Message

Dr Jon Harper



SCLMA CLINICAL MEETING FOR 2025 - THURSDAY 1st May 2025

First things first - we have a date and venue for the annual SCLMA Gala Event! The format this year will be a Cocktail Party and it will be held at Peppers Resort Noosa on Friday 22nd August. So mark it in your diary!

The committee has been working hard on the logistics. As it will be a cocktail party rather than a dinner, tickets will be sold individually rather than by tables. Rest assured there will be food. Substantial canapés will be served so no one will be going hungry. There will be a guest speaker, live music, and dancing. More information will follow soon.

It was a relief to learn recently that the Olympic political football is heading towards a goal. Big wins for the Sunshine Coast include much needed public transport improvements, like the rail link from Beerwah to Birtinya (via Caloundra) and then the "seamless" getting-off-a-train-and-getting-on-a-bus for Maroochydore.

The stadium at Kawana will be upgraded to 10,000 seats drawing bigger sporting teams and entertainment events. But, as a keen cyclist, I am most excited about the planned upgrade to Parklands mountain bike trails. Every Parklands devotee knows that it is a diamond in the rough and with a little cash thrown its way could become a world class mountain bike hub. It is also a very peaceful place to just go for a walk.

It was National Doctors' Day on 30th March. I hope you had a chance to celebrate and reflect on the profession. In a culture of scientific scepticism and social media-driven, anecdote-based health advice, we need to remember how the great medical pioneers transformed healthcare. They shunned populism, and only rejected the null hypothesis if the numbers told them to.

Doctors have to be many things - diagnosticians, counsellors, educators - as well as guardians of this great legacy.

I hope you enjoy the Easter break!

Dr Jon Harper
3/4/2025

SUNSHINE COAST LOCAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



Gala Cocktail Party

ELEVATE YOUR BRAND - SPONSOR CALL OUT!

Enquiries & Sponsorship Packages: admin@sclma.com.au

FRIDAY 22ND
AUGUST 2025

PEPPERS RESORT
NOOSA

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MAY 2025 NEWSLETTER

Content Deadline Thursday 8 May 2025

Our circulation reaches more than 1,500 recipients!

Email: admin@sclma.com.au

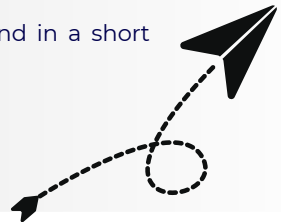
We welcome new content - case studies, local news and photos.

Would you like to comment or suggest articles to be published?

What would you like to see in the newsletter?

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

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

Flooding in Central and Southern Queensland has caused havoc for many in recent weeks, and we salute our members working in tough conditions in rural and regional areas. We remain available for advice and support and urge you to remember the importance of your own wellbeing in times of natural disasters.

This month, we have spoken out against developments in both pharmacy prescribing and pill testing and called for better anti-infection controls in our hospitals. We have also urged the government to publish more real-time health data for clinicians and patients. Our focus is now turning to the upcoming state budget, the first from the new LNP government, where medical workforce investment will be our key issue.

On April 9, AMA Queensland president Dr Nick Yim and CEO Dr Brett Dale met with Queensland Health Minister Tim Nicholls to outline our organisation's priorities ahead of the LNP government's first budget in June. Workforce was again a priority discussion topic with the Minister confirming the government is set to release its workforce plan in the second half of 2025. Issues with Medicare bulk billing reforms, elective surgery, preventive health and maternity services were also discussed.

Dr Yim spoke to many wonderful young doctors at our Medical Careers Expo and is looking forward to mingling once more at the Junior Doctors Conference in his hometown of Hervey Bay next month.

PHARMACY PRESCRIBING

We were disappointed to see the Queensland government make pharmacy prescribing for certain conditions permanent in March – before final evaluation of two ongoing trials was completed.

Convenient access to healthcare is challenging, particularly considering medical workforce shortages, but we believe this move is dangerous and motivated by politics, not people.

AMA Queensland has long opposed the pharmacy prescribing program due to a lack of independent evaluation, increased costs to the health system and fragmentation of care.

This program is not the answer to overcrowded emergency departments and hospitals around Queensland – we need more staff, with proper qualifications, and better resourcing, not a political quick fix.



[Read the media release](#)

ama.com.au/qld



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



www.sclma.com.au



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PILL TESTING

The two CheQpoint pill-testing sites in Brisbane and on the Gold Coast closed their doors on 4 April, after the Queensland Government pulled its support from the program.

The service – operated by not-for-profit The Loop – tested more than 1000 drug samples since its pilot program began last year, with one in ten containing an unexpected psychoactive substance.



CheQpoint detected four samples of the highly toxic synthetic opioid nitazene since November – the most recent on the last day of operation.

AMA Queensland has called for the service to be reinstated to identify high-risk substances and provide education and support to those seeking information on pills they have bought online to try save costs on prescription medicines. Nearly 700 people were given free and confidential health advice during the program's run, which shows the benefit of having an early warning system.



[Read the media release](#)

CAMPAIGNING FOR BETTER INFECTION PREVENTION

AMA Queensland President Dr Nick Yim and CEO Dr Brett Dale met with Queensland Chief Health Officer Dr Heidi Carroll on April 7 to discuss key issues in the sector.

Chief among them was the need for improved infection control measures in public hospitals to reduce the spread of airborne diseases that could affect both patients and clinicians.

This is most critical for high-risk areas such as emergency departments, intensive care units, oncology services and maternity wards.

Our members are concerned that critical upgrades due to be constructed may now be shelved because of budget restraints.

We continue to call for the adoption of readily available ventilation systems to reduce the spread of airborne disease.

We also discussed the need to see routine testing for infections, clear, standardised processes for symptomatic staff, including remaining home pending test results, and the wearing of appropriate personal protective equipment.

Patients must also be regularly tested and isolated or at least separated from other patients in high-risk areas if they are positive for COVID, influenza, measles and other respiratory diseases.



[Read more](#)

ama.com.au/qld





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INCREASING VACCINATION RATES

During our meeting with Dr Carroll, we recommitted to working together to increase vaccination rates in Queensland.

Falling flu vaccination numbers has been a hot media topic this year, and with predictions of a bad winter flu season, it's important our members advocate the vaccines to patients – particularly to the elderly and parents of young children, cohorts more likely to require hospitalisation from the flu. The flu vaccine program is once again free across Queensland, and a vital public health measure to reduce pressure on emergency departments.

Queensland recently saw a confirmed measles case in a tourist who visited the Sunshine Coast as well as Brisbane and the Gold Coast. Public health units across the country are watching evolving cases closely.



The Japanese Encephalitis Virus vaccine program has also been expanded to allow more at-risk Queenslanders to access a free shot, following the suspected death of a man in Bowen due to the virus.

We urge members to check in with patients about vaccination status to avoid preventable illness.

NEW ADDITIONS TO OUR COMMITTEE FOR DOCTORS IN TRAINING

It's always thrilling to see members stepping up into our advocacy work, and we're pleased to welcome two incredible people as Deputy Co-Chairs of the Committee for Doctors in Training.

Dr Natasha Abeysekera is a dermatology unaccredited registrar at Sunshine Coast University Hospital and a Master of Philosophy candidate at the University of Queensland. She holds a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery and a Master of Public Health. Natasha has received multiple awards for her research and advocacy, including the AMA's 2023 National Doctor in Training of the Year.

Dr Nikhil Dwivedi is a dermatology senior house officer at the Princess Alexandra Hospital and a Master of Philosophy candidate at the University of Queensland. He holds a Doctor of Medicine, a Master of Medicine (Clinical Epidemiology) and is admitted as a solicitor in New South Wales. Nikhil has a strong passion for advocacy and medical education and is serving as this year's Chair of Queensland Health's Junior Medical Officer Forum Queensland (JMOFQ).

Congratulations to Dr Abeysekera and Dr Dwivedi – your expertise and experience will be invaluable to the committee.



[Read more](#)

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MEDICAL CAREERS EXPO

After a delay while Cyclone Alfred hovered offshore, our Medical Careers Expo finally went ahead on Saturday 22 March at the Voco Hotel in Brisbane.

We welcomed 556 junior doctors and medical students, all hungry for information about what career options were open to them.



AMA Queensland President Dr Nick Yim and Councillor Dr Mikaela Seymour hosted panels and speakers, with topics including specialties, recruitment, education, and financial planning.

49 of our industry and corporate partners had stalls at the event, with plenty of conversations held throughout the day about where our next generation of doctors will go.



[Read more](#)

PRIVATE PRACTICE EVENTS



We are running specialised workshops aimed at private practitioners this year, focused both on those just starting out, and those wanting to grow their business.

Building a Private Practice will be held in the beautiful Victoria Park in Brisbane on Saturday 24 May.

Private Practice Refreshed will take place in Brisbane on Friday 20 June, Townsville on Friday 18 July and on the Gold Coast on Friday 5 December.

These are free for AMA Queensland members, and we encourage you to check our website for more details.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Join AMA Queensland President Dr Nick Yim in his hometown for this year's **Junior Doctor Conference**. For Sunshine Coast medicos, it's only two hours away by car.

The beautiful Fraser Coast is the perfect place for young doctors to hear from inspiring speakers, make friends, and meet important contacts. Dr Fiona Baker, Director of Integrated Care, Fraser Coast, and Chair of QDAF Clinical Network will be our keynote speaker.

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!



[Read more](#)

ama.com.au/qld



Connecting Prostate Cancer Care: The Role of Icon's Prostate Cancer Nurse for the Sunshine Coast

With more than 550 men diagnosed with prostate cancer on the Sunshine Coast every year, there is a growing need for coordinated, holistic care in the region.

Prostate Cancer Specialist Nurses like Michelle Sumegi are helping to meet that need by supporting patients regardless of where they receive treatment setting and by enhancing collaboration across the medical community.

Based at Icon Cancer Centre Noosa, Michelle's role is supported by the [Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia \(PCFA\)](#), and funded by the Noosa Prostate Association (NPA), a dedicated group of local men who have been raising awareness and funds since 2018.



Michelle provides support from the point of diagnosis through treatment and into survivorship, offering men and their families:

- Assistance with treatment side effects such as urinary incontinence, emotional distress, and sexual dysfunction
- Tailored education to support informed, shared decision-making
- A consistent point of contact for men and their families throughout the cancer journey
- Access and navigation support across hospital, community, and support services

With 14 years of nursing experience across oncology, haematology, palliative care and regional care coordination, Michelle brings deep insight into the needs of men facing prostate cancer, particularly when navigating complex or personal side effects.

After observing a significant disparity in the level of psychosocial support available to male patients, Michelle pursued a community-based role to help fill that gap.



"While there's a strong network of support for women facing breast cancer, there is a gap in the support provided to men who are often left to manage their journey more quietly," Michelle said.

"My goal is to normalise difficult conversations, guide men through their recovery, and help them access care that supports their whole wellbeing."

A key aspect of her role involves supporting prostate cancer survivors by addressing the complex challenges of treatment, including sexual dysfunction, urinary incontinence, and emotional distress.

"Prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in men in Australia, yet many patients face significant challenges, not just in managing the disease, but in talking about and coping with the treatment side effects," she said.

Michelle offers a valuable point of continuity in care for Sunshine Coast patients. By working collaboratively with the region's medical specialists, primary care network and the broader multidisciplinary team, Michelle supports men in receiving not only timely diagnosis and treatment

but in also accessing the holistic psychosocial and sexual health support that is critical to post-treatment outcomes.

Michelle completed her Bachelor of Nursing from Queensland University of Technology in 2010 and completed a Postgraduate Certificate in Palliative Care from Flinders University in 2021. She is currently studying a Postgraduate Diploma in Nursing (Oncology Nursing) at the University of Tasmania.

Coordination and support services available for all men with prostate cancer

Michelle's services are available to all prostate cancer patients in the Noosa region, regardless of where they are receiving treatment. She works in partnership with the broader medical community to ensure each man can access the support he needs.

Her support to medical specialists and GPs includes:

- Acting as a nursing point of contact for patient queries post-diagnosis
- Supporting shared decision-making with patients, based on clinical guidelines
- Helping reduce unnecessary hospital visits by managing treatment side effects in the community
- Providing psychosocial screening and referring back to GPs for mental health care plans
- Assisting with sexual health and incontinence discussions, especially for those who have found side effects difficult to address or overcome.

Referral Information

Specialists and GPs can refer patients directly to Michelle via Icon Cancer Centre Noosa. Patients can also self-refer.

Phone: Mobile 0448 681 685 and office number 07 3363 9779

Email: michelle.sumegi@icon.team

Location: 28 Eenie Creek Road, Noosaville

Michelle is available from Tuesday to Thursday at Icon Cancer Centre Noosa for patient consults and multidisciplinary collaboration.

You can find out more about prostate cancer treatment at Icon Cancer Centre [here](#).



World-class care in Maroochydore and Noosa



Icon Cancer Centre provides state-of-the-art cancer care across more than 40 centres nationwide, including two dedicated radiation therapy facilities on the Sunshine Coast.

Advanced radiation oncology technology

- Stereotactic radiation therapy
- HyperArc™ for brain cancer
- IDENTIFY™ tattoo-less radiation therapy
- Deep Inspiration Breath Hold (DIBH) for breast cancer

No wait list for consultation or treatment

Affordable care

- No private health insurance required, with up to 90% of fees covered by Medicare.

Free on-site parking

Comprehensive allied health and support services

- Cancer Survivorship Program (Maroochydore)
- Cancer Council Queensland Supportive Program (Maroochydore)
- Prostate Cancer Specialist Nurse (Noosa)
- Access to dietetics, exercise physiology, physiotherapy and psychology

Direct link with the Gympie region

- A private bus can transport Gympie residents to and from treatment at Icon Noosa.

Our specialist team

Our highly experienced, local specialists are dedicated to delivering exceptional patient care. Their special clinical interests are indicated below.

Radiation Oncologists



Dr Joanne Castelli

BSc, MBBS (Hons), FRANZCR

Located at Icon Maroochydore and Icon Noosa
Skin, brain, lung, breast and gynaecological cancers.



A/Prof Matthew Foote

BSc, MBBS (Hons), FRANZCR

Located at Icon Noosa
Brain and spinal, head, neck and skin cancers.



Dr Marcel Knesl

MBChB, FRANZCR, GAICD

Located at Icon Maroochydore and Icon Noosa
Breast, prostate, genitourinary, skin cancers and lymphoma.



A/Prof Alex Tan

MBBS, FRANZCR

Located at Icon Maroochydore and Icon Noosa, consults fortnightly at Gympie Specialist Clinic
Prostate, lung, gastrointestinal, genitourinary and breast cancers.

Clinical Haematologist



Dr Lydia Pitcher

MBBS (Hons), BmedSc, FRACP, FRACPA, Amusa

Located at Icon Maroochydore
Offering on-site consultations for patients with blood cancers and disorders.

Prostate Cancer Specialist Nurse



Michelle Sumegi

Located at Icon Noosa

Providing free confidential and supportive care for all patients in the local area diagnosed with prostate cancer.

Proudly supported by:



Scan to learn more and refer

Specialists and GPs can refer patients via
[IconDoctorApp.com](https://www.iconcancercentre.com) and [Medical Objects](https://www.MedicalObjects.com)
[iconcancercentre.com.au](https://www.iconcancercentre.com.au)



CDH

We're not just doing more; we're doing it right.

GP – Special Interest in Gastroenterology and Clinical Research

We are seeking an experienced GP with a special interest in gastroenterology and clinical research to join our team here at CDH Research Institute as a Sub-Investigator on a contract basis. As a Sub-Investigator, you will play a vital role in the conduct of our clinical trials, which are focused on advancing medical research and improving patient outcomes. This is a contract position located in Maroochydore, Queensland.

What you'll be doing:

- o Work on Phase I-IV clinical studies
- o Have an understanding of study protocol, investigator's brochure (IB) and informed consent form (ICF)
- o Conducting physical assessments and medical evaluations of study participants
- o Educating patients on trials
- o Collaborating with the staff at CDH and CDHRI to ensure the successful contribution to patient care
- o Collaborating with gastroenterologists and other specialists in the development of treatment plans, patient care, and referrals when necessary
- o Adhering to good clinical practice guidelines and all relevant regulatory requirements
- o Provide follow-up care for patients with chronic gastrointestinal conditions, monitoring their progress and adjusting treatment plans as necessary
- o

What we're looking for

- o MBBS or equivalent medical degree
- o Registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)
- o Prefer some experience in a clinical research or healthcare setting
- o Excellent communication and interpersonal skills to engage with study participants
- o Ability to work collaboratively within a multidisciplinary team
- o Proficient in medical documentation and data management
- o High attention to detail

What we offer

At CDH and CDHRI, we are committed to providing a supportive and rewarding work environment for our team. As a GP here at CDH and CDHRI, you will have the opportunity to contribute to groundbreaking medical research and make a meaningful impact on patient lives. We offer competitive remuneration, flexible work arrangements and ongoing professional development opportunities.

CDH Research Institute is a leading provider of clinical research services, dedicated to advancing medical knowledge and improving patient outcomes. Our state-of-the-art facilities and highly skilled team of researchers, clinicians, and support staff are at the forefront of medical innovation. We are passionate about both our patients and our work. We strive to create a collaborative and inclusive work culture.

If you are a passionate and experienced GP with a special interest in gastroenterology and clinical research looking to make a difference, we encourage you to apply now.

You can apply via email (researchadmin@coastaldigestivehealth.com.au). Please ensure you have a current and relevant CV and Cover Letter to submit with your application.

Don't hesitate to contact our research team on 5408 0900 should you have any questions.



CDH Research Institute

We're not just doing more; we're doing it right.

Currently Recruiting Clinical Trials

CDH Research Institute currently has several clinical trials which are still open for recruitment. These clinical trials are listed below with their relevant indication.

For more information regarding inclusion/ exclusion criteria please contact our research team on 5408 0900 or via email (researchadmin@coastaldigestivehealth.com.au).

Note: we will accept referrals for interested patients via email or medical objects.

Coeliac Disease:CHUGAI

Who can participate?

- People who have mild/no symptoms
- Aged between 18 and 70 years old.
- Have been medically diagnosed with Coeliac Disease (biopsy/serology proven)
- Have been on a gluten-free diet for at least 12 months.
- Willing to consume food containing gluten protein as part of a 3-day gluten challenge.

If eligible for the study, your participation is expected to last approximately 30 weeks.

Eosinophilic Esophagitis: UNIQUITY

Who can participate?

- Aged 18+
- Documented diagnosis of EoE
- Have a stable food diet for the past 4 weeks
- Cannot have uncontrolled GERD
- Cannot have a history or presence of other GI tract diseases

If eligible for the study, your participation is expected to last approximately 72 weeks.

Ileostomy:LUMEN

Who can participate?

- Aged 19+
- Have a mature and stable ileostomy
- Medically Stable
- Cannot be using or plan to use anti-diarrheal medication or opioids
- Cannot have Gastroparesis or any clinically significant disease

If eligible for the study, your participation is expected to last up to approximately 6 months.

Weight Management: ASCEND

Who can participate?

- Aged 19 years +
- Medically stable
- Have a BMI of 30 or 27 with at least one comorbidity
- Willing and able to participate in all study visits

If eligible for the study, your participation is expected to last up to approximately 10 months.





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

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We are excited to announce the merging of Imaging Queensland's two Sunshine Coast based radiology brands, heralding a new era of excellence in patient care and medical expertise.

X-Ray & Imaging will soon operate as Sunshine Coast Radiology, providing 13 practices for patients across the Coast.

Same Great Team

- Same Radiologists
- Same Management
- Same Leadership
- Same Clinical Teams
- Same Admin Teams

Stronger Together

- More Locations
- More Services
- More Staffing
- More Support
- Greater Resources
- Increased Community Support

Excellence in Diagnostics

Find out how to get ready for the change, by visiting scradiology.com.au/our-evolution or speak with your Referrer Relationship Specialist



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SUNSHINE COAST HEALTH?

Sunshine Coast University Hospital Wayfinding Update



Patients you refer to Sunshine Coast University Hospital (SCUH) may notice a change in the colours of our walls and how we talk about our clinics and wards.

We acknowledge the critical role that wayfinding plays for all users of our hospitals, and in 2023, we engaged a wayfinding and access expert to help us make signage better. We're currently embedding a system called 'coding' to make it easier to navigate SCUH, especially for people living with a disability.

Think of coding as an address for each location or destination around the hospital. It's less about where you're going, rather what you're doing. Like when you're at the airport and you navigate to a gate, or in Aisle 17 at your local hardware store.

The lifts are coloured Lift A (Blue) and Lift B (Green) and the hospital is split into two zones (Zone A and Zone B). Each part of the hospital has a unique code that corresponds to the lift, the floor, and the area you need to go.

For example, if your appointment is in A19, you would go to Lift A, travel to the first floor, and follow the signs to A19. Or if your appointment is B26, you would go to Lift B, travel to the second floor, and follow the signs to B26.

The emergency department will remain red – so it is easy to find.

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Rainfall and Queensland JEV cases prompt mosquito warning

Sunshine Coast residents are being urged to avoid mosquito bites, after recent rainfall and detections of Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV) in Queensland.

Sunshine Coast Health's Public Health Physician Dr Nicholas Smoll said while the risk of JEV in our region is low, residents should be vigilant in light of Queensland's recent cases and detections in mosquitoes in Brisbane.



"Typically JEV's transmitted through what we know as a culex type of mosquito, which we have in our region and therefore it's important that while we haven't had any cases, that we remain vigilant," Dr Smoll said.

JEV is spread through bites from mosquitoes which have caught the virus from biting infected pigs or wading birds.

"Fortunately, on the Sunshine Coast we don't have a lot of amplifying hosts," Dr Smoll said.

"We don't have a lot of pigs, but waterbirds remain a risk, but compared to other areas in Queensland we would be on the lower spectrum of risk." The virus does not spread between people and cannot be acquired by eating meat from an infected animal.

Dr Smoll said 99% of cases cause mild to moderate disease, but when it becomes severe it can be very dangerous.

The best safeguard against JEV is vigilant mosquito bite prevention such as wearing DEET repellent, wearing long sleeves and long pants, using mosquito coils and having fly screens.





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

Experts in cancer care,
specialists in radiation oncology



Doctors refer to us and patients choose us for two reasons –
clinical excellence and an exceptional service experience.

Where compassion meets
contemporary care

Our Radiation Oncologists



Dr Bradley Wong



Dr David Schlect



Dr Sophia Ly



Dr Yvonne Yip



GenesisCare, Noosa
Tel: (07) 5377 2200
genesiscare.com/noosa

GenesisCare, Buderim
Tel: (07) 5374 8100
genesiscare.com/buderim





New QAS patient transport request system

The Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) will be releasing a new Non-Emergency Patient Transport (NEPT) Request System which is an online platform implemented by the QAS to improve the process for Queensland Health (QHealth) and all private medical facilities to request non-emergency patient transport services for **eligible patients**.

QAS NEPT will replace manual paper-based documents, emailing, faxing and calling 13 12 33 and will aid in reducing time lost by health care providers, when requesting non-emergency patient transport services delivered by the QAS.

The Sunshine Coast, Wide Bay and South Burnett areas will **commence onboarding from 9 June 2025**. Further communication regarding the new online QAS Non-Emergency Patient Transport (NEPT) Request System will be distributed via the Primary Health Network and General Practice Liaison Office over the next few weeks. For more information please visit the Queensland Ambulance Service website for more information **about NEPT**.

For any questions, please email nept@ambulance.qld.gov.au.

Chronic Wound Consumables Scheme

From May 2025, the Commonwealth Chronic Wound Consumables Scheme (CWCS) will cover the cost of wound consumable products for people aged 65 and over, or First Nations people aged 50 and over, who have diabetes and a chronic wound.

To access further information about the CWCS on the Department of Health and Aged Care webpage: [Chronic Wound Consumables Scheme | Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care](#)

Podcast: Clinicians guide to the First 2000 days

This podcast series is a Health and Wellbeing Queensland initiative. It offers practical advice to healthcare professionals to empower them to have meaningful discussions with parents and parents-to-be. Recommended listening for all GPs caring for patients in their reproductive years.

Listen to the podcast here: [Clinician's Guide to the First 2000 Days](#).

Sunshine Coast
Hospital and Health Service
Exceptional people. Exceptional healthcare.

 **Choosing Wisely**
Australia
An initiative of NPS MedicineWise



General practice shared antenatal care workshop

Over 70 local GPs attended the GP antenatal shared care workshop, part 1, on Saturday 22 March 2025.



Speakers at the event included from the Sunshine Coast Health Obs & Gynae team: Dr Chris Weekes, Dr Sophie Poulter, Dr Saskia Olivier, Dr Melissa Acreman, Dr Melissa Yeoh and Lisa Broad (CNC GP Liaison)

Update: Julian's Key Health Passport

Queensland Health has launched an updated version of Julian's Key Health Passport, a hand-held, consumer-controlled communication tool specifically designed for Queenslanders, particularly those with intellectual disability who may need assistance when communicating with healthcare staff.

The Health Passport empowers users and involves them in their care and helps healthcare staff understand a person's care requirements, minimises misunderstandings, and ensures optimal outcomes.

It allows individuals to update their health information as needed, especially when there are changes to their care needs. It solely serves as a communication tool and does not request nor contain any financial details. It is not meant to replace routine clinical care or treatment.

Currently, users may download the [digital version](#) from the [Julian's Key Health Passport website](#).

Alternatively, they may request a printed copy by emailing Queensland Health at JuliansKey@health.qld.gov.au or by calling 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84).

YOU'RE INVITED

Radiofrequency Ablation & Interventional Pain Management

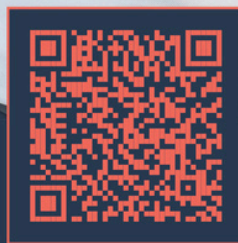
EDUCATION EVENING

Join us for an informative discussion with our expert Interventional Radiologists, Dr. Mat Bateman and Dr. Jonathan Langton.

Topics will include:

- ” Latest advances in RFA techniques
- ” Clinical criteria for patient selection
- ” Practical application of RFA in pain management
- ” Q&A session with our expert panel

Don't miss this opportunity to learn from leading experts in the field and gain valuable insights into the latest developments in RFA and pain management.



LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE

THURSDAY, 5TH JUNE

From 6:00pm, Function Room 1, The Bower Tree, Sippy Downs

INCLUDES

3 Course Dinner & Drinks
Certificates for CPD will be provided.

RSVP - SCAN FOR RSVP

Please RSVP to Samara via text: 0423 667 188 by May 5th, 2025



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

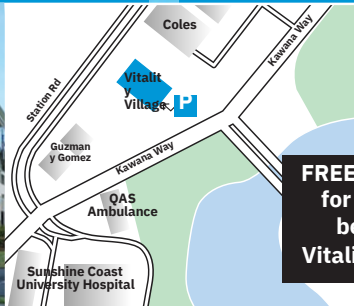
Let Dr Ramsey Jabbour and Dr Frank Thomas, together with the trusted team at QPain look after your patient.

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.



FREE PARKING for patients beneath Vitality Village



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 a 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 treatment for non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC)

Individuals over 18 years of age, who have locally advanced non-small cell lung cancer that has not responded to previous therapies, or metastatic non-squamous (Stage III-IV), may be eligible to participate in this trial.

The trial will be overseen by Principal Investigator Dr Brenton Seidl at Sunshine Coast Haematology and Oncology Clinic and supported by our experienced clinical trials staff.

We are calling for participants who:

- are aged 18 years or older
- have locally advanced NSCLC
- can attend regular visits at our Buderim clinic

New investigational injection aimed at slowing the progression of early Alzheimer's disease

We are working on a Phase 3 trial that aims to evaluate whether the investigational treatment can slow or delay the progression of early Alzheimer's disease by targeting and reducing amyloid plaque in the brain.

We are calling for participants who:

- are aged between 65 and 80 years old
- are willing to take a blood test to check for an Alzheimer's disease biomarker
- have a reliable study partner to accompany them throughout the trial
- can attend up to 16 visits over up to 5 years at our South Bank clinic in Brisbane or our Birtinya clinic on the Sunshine Coast

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 email trialparticipant@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 Cordelia 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

Medical Freehold Building for Lease or Sale

Medical property, purpose built. Stand alone building with its own secure basement carpark underneath. Corner position, Golden Beach, Caloundra.

Quality medical fit out with premium finishes.

Comprehensive facilities including, waiting area, reception, consulting rooms, operating theatre, staff room & restroom facilities.

Turnkey solution. Fully fitted, minimal set up required for quick and efficient start.

340 m2 NLA. Land size 511 m2. Contemporary design building.

Enquiries:

Contact Paul Bell at Henzells on 0400 711 969 or pbell@henzells.com.au

NEEDED - MEDICAL SECRETARY - SUNSHINE COAST

Medical secretary required for specialist physician.

Monday to Thursday from 8.30 am to 5.00 pm with 1/2 hour lunch break.

Either sole trader on company ABN or part time permanent staff proficient in typing specialist physician letter and Genie specialist software .

Contact phone 0424 608 807



SUNSHINE COAST LOCAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

Gala Cocktail Party



ELEVATE YOUR BRAND - SPONSOR CALL OUT!

Partner with us for one of the most anticipated events on the Sunshine Coast medical calendar. The SCLMA Gala Cocktail Party is your opportunity to connect with healthcare professionals in a sophisticated, relaxed setting.

Sponsor Benefits Include:

- Logo featured in event promotions
- Promotional stall at the venue
- Complimentary tickets to attend
- Direct exposure to medical professionals

Showcase your business in front of industry influencers and decision-makers.

Spaces are limited - secure your partnership today!

Enquiries & Sponsorship Packages:

admin@sclma.com.au



FRIDAY 22ND
AUGUST 2025

PEPPERS RESORT
NOOSA



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.





Helping the Sunshine Coast

Move Without Pain.

To book call 1300 300 410
or visit daneverson.com.au



Maroochydore | Noosa | Nambour | Caloundra | Deception Bay | Indooroopilly



HOW OUR MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM ASSISTS WORKCOVER QLD PATIENTS

Work-related injuries place a significant burden on individuals and businesses, with over 100,000 WorkCover QLD claims filed annually in Australia (74,127 WC QLD claims made during 2023-2024).

As a **multidisciplinary team**, Sports & Spinal focus on early active rehabilitation, working together to improve functional outcomes and reduce the economic impact of workplace injuries.

We keep the medical team informed, providing realistic recovery guidelines and preventing relapses for optimal long-term results and also recommendations for other supports like OT, host employment and psychological involvement if needed.

Early intervention is critical when managing WorkCover claims. The evidence is clear — early multidisciplinary rehabilitation (MDT), including physiotherapy and exercise physiology, leads to faster recovery, better functional outcomes, and a successful return to work (RTW).

100,000 WC Claims
are filed annually and of the claims that go longer than 1 year, only around 50% actually get back to some meaningful employment

VALD Technology
We use VALD testing technology for objective data collection and program planning for a more targeted approach for our patients to ensure we give better outcomes



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REFER TO OUR TEAM TODAY

REFERRALS CAN ALSO BE MADE VIA MEDICAL OBJECTS, FAX OR PHONE



Ascend

Together we advance the future of obesity care

Will you join us in a new clinical study?



CDH
RESEARCH
INSTITUTE

Maroochydore

Phone: (07) 5408 0900

researchadmin@coastaldigestivehealth.com.au



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





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

W. buderimprostateclinic.com.au



Thank you from Jo Bourke

On Thursday 20 March 2025 I was privileged to attend a memorable farewell from my role as SCLMA Secretariat over the past 30 years. It was a humbling experience which will remain with me forever. Thank you to all who came along – it meant so much to see you all. Special thanks to Dr Ian Colledge, SCLMA Patron who attended the first meeting in 1979 in Nambour! I was blown away by the screen showing all the tributes – I am looking forward to reading them all and thanking you all. And thank you to Jon and Maryanne who organised it all! Believe me I know how much work was involved!! It was a big attendance and beautifully planned!

Welcome aboard Maryanne – I hope you enjoy your role as much as I have over the years! The SCLMA is in good hands, and I look forward to watching from the sidelines!



MARCH 2025 Maroochy Surf Club Function Room



Thank you to the
sponsors



Sunshine Coast University
Private Hospital
Part of Ramsay Health Care



SUNSHINE COAST LOCAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
SCLMA Monthly Clinical Meetings

THURSDAY 1ST MAY 2025
(*PLEASE NOTE NOT LAST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH)

Presenters:
Dr Robert Edwards - 'OCS stewardship in asthma'
Kerryn Philips - "Obstructive Sleep Apnoea Diagnosis and Therapy"

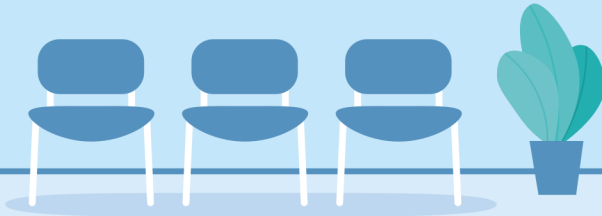
MAROOCHY SURF CLUB FUNCTION ROOM - Alexandra Parade, Cotton Tree
6.30 pm for 7.00 pm (9.00 pm finish)

BUILDING YOUR *Private Practice*



ESSENTIAL STEPS TO BUILD YOUR BUSINESS

Saturday, 24 May | Victoria Park, Brisbane



PRIVATE PRACTICE *Refreshed*

STRATEGIES TO GROW YOUR BUSINESS



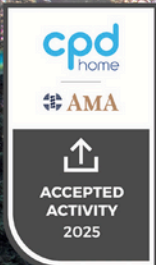
BRISBANE | 20 JUNE



TOWNSVILLE | 18 JULY



GOLD COAST | 5 DECEMBER



Vancouver

CANADA

21 TO 27 SEPTEMBER 2025

