

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2026



SUNSHINE COAST
**LOCAL MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION**
SCLMA.COM.AU

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The Sunshine Coast Local Medical Association acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, the Kabi Kabi and Jinibara peoples, and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise their ongoing connection to land, waters, and community.



For general enquiries, editorial or advertising contributions and costs, please email:

newsletters@sclma.com.au

Contributions are welcome from members, especially 'Letters to the Editor.' Please address all correspondence to **Dr Steven Lawrie**

newsletters@sclma.com.au



President's Message

Dr Jon Harper

For this month's newsletter article, I thought I would reflect on the purpose of the SCLMA.

The SCLMA was formed by a group of doctors on the Sunshine Coast. The creation of the Association formalised their gatherings and provided fiscal means to commit to regular educational activities. It also meant that the Association could also act as a point of contact and representation for "doctors working on the Sunshine Coast".

Doctors work in a number of different employment and governance streams. Those working in public hospitals have clear management lines and can express their concerns up that line right up to, in theory, the Minister. In the private sector, however, many are self-employed, some in single-handed clinics, with limited leverage to change systems, particularly in the public sector.

Equally, leaders within a health system understand the importance of feedback from doctors working outside their system but interacting with it on regular basis. But opportunities for cross-sector feedback and collaboration are difficult to facilitate.

The SCLMA is the only local organisation with a membership that spans the full range of healthcare - public, private, specialist, general practice and medical students. It is uniquely placed to access cross-sector feedback.

The SCLMA's monthly educational meetings provide continuing professional development for attendees and, for many presenters, are a key advertising launch for new clinical services.

But choosing to become a member of the SCLMA is not simply about access to meetings or getting excellent advertising for a new business.

Becoming a member of the SCLMA is a decision to choose to be part of a community that cares about the future of healthcare on the Sunshine Coast.

Join today!

Jon Harper

President



SUNSHINE COAST
LOCAL MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION

Gala Celebration





SUNSHINE COAST
LOCAL MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION

Gala Celebration



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SUNSHINECOAST
ORTHOPAEDIC GROUP



WELCOME

to our new members!

One of the greatest strengths of the Sunshine Coast Local Medical Association (SCLMA) is the diversity, talent and collegiality of its members. With each new member who joins, our network grows stronger – creating more opportunities to learn from one another, support each other, and collectively advance health care in our region.

In this issue, we are pleased to welcome the following new members below, to the SCLMA. We look forward to seeing you at upcoming meetings, events and social gatherings, and to the contributions you'll bring to our professional community.

- **Madeleine Foster**
- **Brianna Maxted - Med Student**
- **Micheal Farrer - Med Student**
- **Brendan Nguyen - Med Student**
- **Matthew Tung**

Membership in the SCLMA offers a range of benefits, including:

- Regular educational meetings with high-quality clinical updates and guest speakers
- Members only access to podcasts of monthly meeting presentations
- Gala dinner and/or other events
- Opportunities for collegial networking and collaboration across specialties
- Advocacy on local medical issues and representation of members' interests
- Access to our newsletter and communication channels for keeping up-to-date with medical news and events
- A strong professional and social support network within the Sunshine Coast medical community

If you know of colleagues who are new to the area, recently commenced practice, or who might benefit from joining, please encourage them to connect with us. The more voices and perspectives we bring together, the more vibrant and effective our Association becomes.

We warmly welcome our new members and look forward to building an even stronger medical community together!

GenesisCare, Sunshine Coast

Experts in cancer care, specialists in radiation oncology

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, prostate, breast and urological cancers, 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



Jean Kelly

Breast Cancer
Specialist Nurse



Kirsty Ferguson

Prostate Cancer
Specialist Nurse

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 the palliative setting
- Treatment for specific benign conditions e.g., osteoarthritis, Dupuytren's disease, plantar fibromatosis, plantar fasciitis and keloid scars
- Patient transport services between Gympie and Noosa (for eligible patients)
- Stereotactic radiation therapy for cranial, lung, spine, prostate, bone, soft tissue, and liver cancers
- Access to allied health services on site
- Breast Cancer Wellness and Survivorship Clinic with dedicated on site breast cancer specialist nurse
- Prostate Cancer Wellness and Survivorship Clinic with dedicated on site PCFA prostate cancer specialist nurse

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.

GP Liaison

*Your hospital connection, together
we can deliver better healthcare.*

Dr Edwin Kruys and Dr Michelle Johnston



GP Smart Referrals update

In the Sunshine Coast and Gympie region about 80% of GP referrals are submitted to the public hospital system via GP Smart Referrals (GPSR). This percentage continues to gradually climb. Local GPs have also submitted close to 3000 requests for advice to hospital specialists via GPSR since the electronic clinical advice system went live.

Queensland Health is now gradually rolling out the same platform for internal use to allow QH clinicians to submit urgent internal referrals and requests for advice.

For guides and factsheets please visit the online GPSR resources website: [Self-help resources | Queensland Health](#). For technical assistance and support with the Smart Referrals application, contact the Queensland Health support line on 1300 478 439 or by email at QH-SmartReferrals@health.qld.gov.au

GPs copied in hospital imaging reports

From mid-September 2026, GPs will receive a copy of imaging reports (including interventional imaging but excluding echocardiograms) requested in hospital outpatient clinics, day procedure units and emergency departments in the Sunshine Coast and Gympie, as well as imaging requested by GPs and other community providers.

These correspondences contain the written imaging report only and do not include image files. Imaging reports requested during inpatient admissions will not be routinely copied to the GP at this stage.

New Electronic Discharge Summaries

New electronic clinical handover letters have now commenced from Emergency Departments and Minor Injury and Illness Clinics.

The STS digital address book is used to send letters to GPs.

- please ensure your details are up to date so that you can receive correspondence!

This helps to ensure discharge summaries reach the right provider.

GP Liaison

*Your hospital connection, together
we can deliver better healthcare.*

Dr Edwin Kruids and Dr Michelle Johnston



FAQs:

Are discharge summaries available on My Health Record?

No. My Health Record uploads were not active at go-live but are expected from 2027.

Does The Viewer (Health Provider Portal) contain clinical handover documents from ED?

Yes. Discharge Summaries are available to view on the Health Provider portal.

Why is the discharge date blank?

The discharge date may be blank however the admission date and time spent in ED will be documented.

Tests Awaiting Results: This section advises which results were still pending for the patient at time of discharge.

Medication section: Please note that changes to medications may not always appear under the medication heading, as the author may decide to include information in the 'Clinical Summary', 'Advice to GP' or 'Information to patient' sections of the discharge summary/clinical handover.

How to report missing or unclear information

If clinical handover documents contain missing or unclear information, please contact us. Thanks to those who have provided feedback about receiving incorrect clinical handover documents – steps have been taken to correct this issue. Please contact the GP Liaison Unit for further feedback:

GP Liaison Unit:

Ph: 5202 3822

SCHHS-GPLO@health.qld.gov.au

**Sunshine Coast
Health**



Supporting Queensland doctors,
creating better health.

Queensland Update



**Dr Brett Dale, AMA CEO
and President Associate
Professor Erica Gannon**

Thousands of Queenslanders are waiting for specialist treatment. Thousands more are waiting just to see a specialist in the first place.

As doctors, we're sick of waiting too.

That's why we've formed the Public Outpatients Working Group, which will shine a light on this "hidden" waiting list, and produce practical, profession-led solutions to get more patients seen faster.

Elsewhere we've been advocating for transparency on how Queensland's mental health levy is being spent, calling on the Commonwealth to offer prac payment support to medical students, and demanding better regulation of medicinal cannabis products across jurisdictions.

Our Junior Doctor Conference in Mackay was a resounding success and included a mine safety training exercise that saw a group of medical students respond to a real-world medical emergency scenario.

Advocacy

Queensland Public Outpatients Working Group

Queensland Health data from May 2026 shows 362,886 Queenslanders are waiting for initial specialist appointments – up 15% from the same time in 2025.

This is on top of the time they will then spend waiting for appropriate treatment, hence why it's often known as the "hidden" waiting list.

Our six-member Public Outpatients Working

Group comprises expert doctors from different specialties and regions across Queensland and will deliver its findings in early 2027.

This working group builds on our strong track record of finding solutions to critical issues in our sector, following our 2021 Ramping Roundtable Action Plan, 2024 Surgical Wait List Action Plan and 2025 Workforce Action Plan.



Backing medical students against placement poverty

We've backed AMSA to call on the federal government to grant medical students access to the new Commonwealth Prac Payment scheme. Medical students complete up to 4,000 hours of mandatory, unpaid practical training. Extending financial support to them is essential to ease placement poverty and ensure we build a strong, diverse medical workforce for tomorrow.

[READ MORE](#)

Demanding transparency on mental health levy funding

Earlier this year the Queensland government announced its Mental Health Levy had already raised \$1.2 billion and is set to collect more than previously expected.

In June, Queensland Health released data showing nearly 15,000 alcohol-related presentations to emergency departments in 2025, with another 7700 presentations related to drugs. Appropriate and timely services for alcohol and drug use funded by the Mental Health Levy could have prevented thousands of those ED presentations.

Alongside our colleagues from the Royal Australian

and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists (RANZCP) Queensland, we called on the government to be upfront about how the levy revenue is being spent.

Queensland needs 600 new and refurbished acute psychiatry beds and 2,000 frontline mental health workers, and we'll continue to press for transparency on when they'll be delivered. continuing to engage with the Minister and his department.

[READ MORE](#)

Cracking down on unregulated medicinal cannabis products

Following alarming research showing that over 1,000 medicinal cannabis products are on the market without pre-market TGA evaluation, we're lobbying hard for stricter federal and state regulations.

Alarming research by the Monash Addiction Research Centre published in the Drug and Alcohol Review found over 1000 medicinal cannabis products are on the market without TGA evaluation.

Many products contain up to 88% of the active ingredient THC, but only products containing up to 22% had been subject to proper testing.



High-THC products are being prescribed for conditions for which there is no evidence of their efficacy and are causing a noticeable spike in psychosis-related ED visits.

We are pushing to remove unproven high-dose products, restrict prescribing to qualified specialists, and ban corporate arrangements that put profits ahead of patient safety.

[READ MORE](#)

Queensland health workers taking the hit

AMA Queensland has called on state and federal governments to do more to reverse a dramatic rise in assaults against health care workers.

It follows figures released by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare that showed assaults were the second leading cause of injury hospitalisations among health care workers in 2024-25, up from fourth in 2015-16.

The stark statistic reflects the increasing pressure on doctors, nurses, paramedics and other workers just trying to do their job.

[READ MORE](#)



Latest News

- Calling out systemic inaction in healthcare - [READ MORE HERE](#)
- Driving reform in the pharmacy sector - [READ MORE HERE](#)
- GPTQ Research and Training Bursary - [READ MORE HERE](#)
- AMA Queensland Education and Training Institute - [READ MORE HERE](#)

Events

Women in Medicine Breakfast

AMA Queensland is the only national organisation that runs annual Women in Medicine breakfasts, and we urge you to join us on Thursday 29 October for this year's event in Brisbane.

With a theme of "balance", this year's speakers will discuss everything from managing demanding clinical roles and leadership responsibilities to caring for families, supporting loved ones and maintaining personal wellbeing.

Reflect, connect and learn from those who have navigated these challenges with honesty, resilience and purpose. Guests may reserve tables of 10 to celebrate with colleagues and friends, or join mixed tables and connect with peers from across the profession.

[Read more](#)



Junior Doctor Conference

More than 100 people gathered in Mackay on July 25-26 for our annual Junior Doctor Conference.

Designed to encourage the next generation of doctors to explore careers in Mackay and regional medicine, the event showcased the diverse opportunities available in regional Queensland while fostering valuable professional connections.

A standout feature of the conference was Sunday's immersive Deep Dive into Emergency Medicine



Underground workshop, held inside a replica underground mine.

Believed to be a world first, the workshop marked the first time medical students and junior doctors had been granted access to the facility, providing an exceptional hands-on learning experience focused on emergency medicine in a challenging environment.

Can fish oil omega-3 help your heart and blood vessels?

Join a 12-week study testing individualised fish oil doses for people with heart disease.

What we're studying:

- Test if an individualised omega-3 dose can:
 - improve vascular health
 - lower inflammation in the body.
- Find the optimal dose based on your omega-3 level.

Who can join:

Adults with diagnosed coronary artery disease (previous heart attack, heart vascular surgery or angina).

Benefits to you:

- Personalised feedback on your omega-3 levels and advice for a healthy diet
- Learn about your blood vessel health.

What is involved:

- Four visits to UniSC
- Take daily capsules (omega-3 or placebo) for 12 weeks
- Quick blood tests and cardiovascular checks
- Questionnaire to assess your diet.

Location:

UniSC Sunshine Coast campus,
90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs.

University of the Sunshine Coast | CRICOS: 01595D | TEQSA PRV12082



Interested? Contact us today to learn about eligibility and next steps.

Farzad Nikaein, Trial Coordinator

Email: nikaein.f@research.usc.edu.au

Tel: +61 451 134 418

Ethics approvals: 117780 (MNHHS), S262229 (UniSC)

Infusion Care, Closer to Home

Supporting your patients with safe, convenient and specialist-led infusion services across the Sunshine Coast

Our infusion services provide a safe, effective and accessible treatment option for patients requiring management of *iron deficiency, bone conditions and a range of autoimmune diseases*.

Be confident your patients will receive timely, personalised care in a supportive environment, with a focus on safety, comfort and clinical excellence throughout their treatment journey.

Infusion Services Available For:



Deficiency States



Bone Conditions



Autoimmune Conditions



Neurological/Immune-Modulating Therapies

Please note that available services differ between CCA centres.

Our friendly team at a convenient location for your patients can provide more information or help book an appointment.

Sunshine Coast Haematology & Oncology Clinic

 10 King St, Buderim QLD 4556

 07 5479 0000

 reception@schoc.com.au

 www.schoc.com.au

Cancer Care Noosa

 36-40 Hofmann Drive
Noosaville QLD 4566

 07 5293 7200

 admin@cancercarenoosa.com.au

 www.cancercare.com.au

Cancer Care Moreton Bay

 128 McKean Street
Caboolture QLD 4510

 07 5212 3000

 admin@cancercaremoretonbay.com.au

 www.cancercare.com.au

Clinical Excellence and Care across the Sunshine Coast and Moreton Bay

Local access, connected specialist care, and nursing leaders supporting patients throughout their cancer journey.



Convenient expert cancer care

Because where you live should never limit the care you receive.

At Cancer Care Associates, we believe patients should have access to high-quality cancer care close to home, with the flexibility to receive care where it suits best. With our doctors consulting and treating across multiple locations, patients can access their clinical team at the centre most convenient to them.

We have also recently expanded services at Cancer Care Noosa with the introduction of haematology, providing local specialist care for patients with blood disorders and haematological cancers.

EASY ACCESS TO SPECIALIST CARE

Dr Manjunath Narayana and Dr Jason Conn, haematologists, believe accessible and integrated haematology services are an important part of making care easier for patients.

“Being able to offer haematology care across Noosa and the Sunshine Coast gives patients more choice about where they are seen and treated, while maintaining continuity with their clinical team.

Dr Manjunath Narayana and Dr Jason Conn,
Haematologists

For referring GPs and specialists, our integrated services provide clear referral pathways, with our team available to help with identifying and scheduling the most appropriate clinician and location for each patient.

We are expanding our clinical trials, and have well established allied health and supportive care services, recognising that excellent cancer care extends beyond medical treatment alone.

Across Cancer Care Noosa and Sunshine Coast Haematology & Oncology, our services continue to grow, with Oncology, Radiation Oncology and Haematology care available to provide patients across the Sunshine Coast with greater choice, convenience and continuity throughout their treatment.



CELEBRATING OUR NURSING LEADERS



What does specialist cancer care close to home mean for patients and their families?

Nurse Unit Manager, Alice Bovalino, Cancer Care Noosa “Specialist care close to home means our patients receive expert treatment and support locally. It also means less time travelling for treatment which can lower their stress levels, lower the cost accompanied with travel/overnight accommodation, and help families stay more involved in the care of their loved one.”



What do you love most about being an oncology nurse, and what makes caring for cancer patients so rewarding?

Nurse Unit Manager, Vicky Tanzer, Cancer Care Moreton Bay “I have been a cancer care nurse for 29 years, predominantly working in the day oncology setting, and what I love most is the opportunity to meet patients and their families at different stages of their cancer trajectory. Every patient teaches me something new, and I’m continually learning from those experiences and incorporating that knowledge into the care I provide. That is one of the things I find so rewarding about oncology nursing, no two patients or journeys are the same. Oncology nursing can be incredibly challenging and, at times, emotionally draining. But those challenges are tempered by the small wins we see every day. Meeting a patient for the first time, educating and supporting them through their treatment, and helping them feel more confident and informed can make a real difference.”



How do you and the wider team support patients throughout their treatment journey — beyond the treatment itself?

Nurse Unit Manager, Sue Poehhacker, Sunshine Coast Haematology and Oncology Clinic “The team at the Sunshine Coast Haematology Clinic support our patients and carers through coordinating not only treatments but support for the whole cancer journey. Our dedicated cancer care coordinator works tirelessly to streamline care, link our patients with dietitians, counsellors, local support groups, and so much more.”

By strengthening services across Noosa, The Sunshine Coast and Moreton Bay, our focus is simple: excellent clinical care, greater access to treatment, clinical trials, and supportive services, closer to home, with more choice and flexibility for our patients and their families.



Sunshine Coast Haematology & Oncology Clinic

10 King St
Buderim QLD 4556

07 5479 0000

reception@schoc.com.au

www.schoc.com.au

Cancer Care Noosa

36-40 Hofmann Drive
Noosaville QLD 4566

07 5293 7200

admin@cancercarenoosa.com.au

www.cancercarenoosa.com.au

Cancer Care Moreton Bay

128 McKean Street
Caboolture QLD 4510

07 5212 3000

admin@cancercaremoretonbay.com.au

www.cancercare.com.au



ATHENA O&G

OBSTETRICS GYNAECOLOGY FERTILITY

Thank you for entrusting us with your patients.

Over the past 12 months, we've had the privilege of caring for hundreds of women across the Sunshine Coast and Wide Bay.

Every referral represents the trust of a GP—and the beginning of a thoughtful, collaborative relationship centred on each patient.

Thank you for continuing
to choose Athena O&G.



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MBChB, FRACP, FRCPA (2013)
CLINICAL HAEMATOLOGIST
Provider # 2762447F



DR ALICE LIVINGS

BSc(Hons), MBBS(Hons), FRACP, FRCPA
CLINICAL HAEMATOLOGIST
Provider # 449568BX



DR JACINTA PERRAM

MBBS(Hons), BMedSc, BA(Psych), MPH,
FRACP, FRCPA
CLINICAL HAEMATOLOGIST
Provider # 463771BA



PROF JAMES O'BEIRNE

MBBS (Hons) FRCP FRACP MD
HEPATOLOGIST
Provider # 5296936W

THE SOLACE CLINIC SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Personalised haematology, oncology and hepatology care for patients, combining the latest treatments and research built around each patient and their individual needs
- Sunshine Coast's only private liver cancer service
- Onsite FibroScan technology
- 15-chair and 4-bed licensed day infusion unit providing chemotherapy, immunotherapy, targeted therapy, blood and blood products, IVIg and iron infusions
- Supervised infusion services for patients under other specialists, including neurology and gastroenterology
- Onsite compounding pharmacy and pharmacist onsite for patient support and education
- Contracts with all major private health insurers

ACCEPTING REFERRALS

Need to discuss a patient or unsure whether to refer? Speak to one of our Specialists via our GP Priority Line on 07 5300 0902

Level 7, 12 Future Way, Maroochydore, QLD 4558

P: 07 5300 0900 | **F:** 07 4456 0009

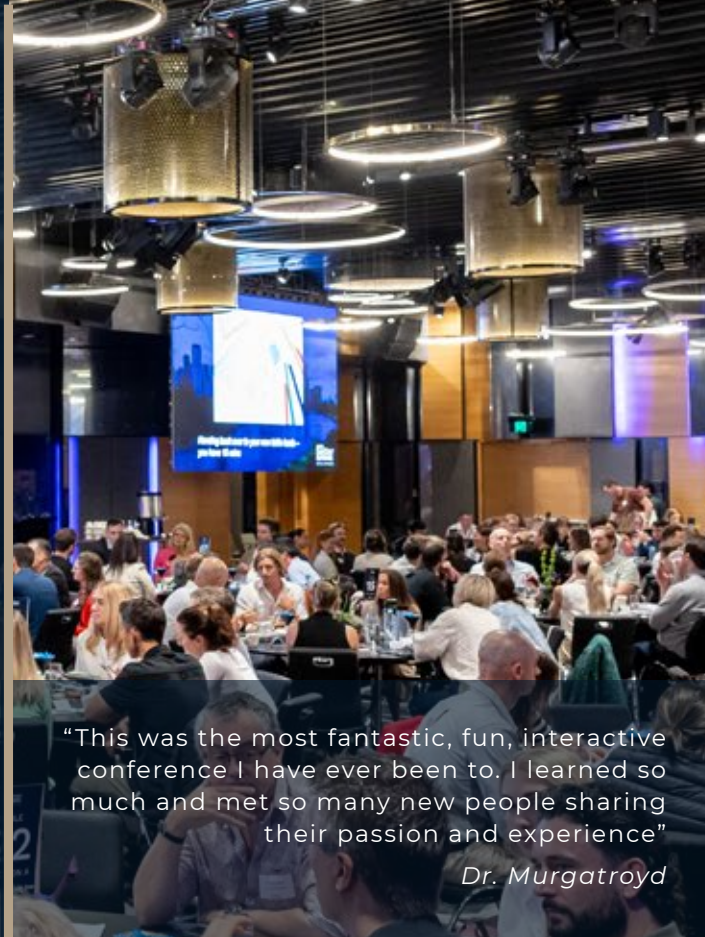
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2026 better OUTCOMES

MEDICAL CONFERENCE

EXPERIENCE A MEDICAL
CONFERENCE LIKE
NO OTHER



"This was the most fantastic, fun, interactive conference I have ever been to. I learned so much and met so many new people sharing their passion and experience"

Dr. Murgatroyd

The 2026 Better Outcomes Conference brought together leading medical specialists, allied health professionals, and personal injury lawyers for a multidisciplinary event focused on advancing patient-centred care.

Highlights included keynote interviews with Rob LoPresti, CEO of the Australian Physiotherapy Association, and Katie Lyndon, CEO of Exercise & Sports Science Australia.

Delegates engaged in interactive expert-led sessions, live healthcare technology demonstrations, and a dynamic mock courtroom examination.

Interested in joining us as an expert speaker, delegate or sponsor for the 2027 Better Outcomes Medical Conference? Email faye.hamilton-sturdy@schultzlaw.com.au to register your interest.





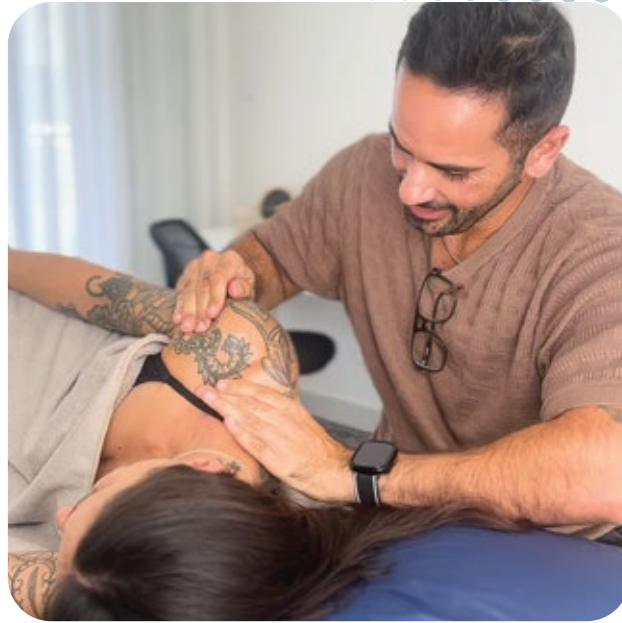
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Therapy & Laser
Therapy



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Sports & Exercise
Rehabilitation



Clinical Pilates
based
rehabilitation

Phone: 07 5406 1941

Fax: 07 3555 2539

Email: info@excelsiuswellness.com.au

excelsiuswellness.com.au

FEES & FUNDING

We believe quality care should be accessible. We proudly accept a variety of funding options to help cover the cost of your patients visits with Chloe and Paulo, including:

- Home Care Packages (HCP)
- Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA)
- GP Referrals (Medicare/EPC plans)
- Private Health Insurance & more!



SUNNY COAST ORTHOPAEDIC & FRACTURE CLINIC

Dr Navi Bali - Orthopaedic Surgeon

Hip • Knee • Foot & Ankle • Trauma

Dr Bali provides a comprehensive patient centred approach to orthopaedic elective and injury management on the Sunshine coast, with a strong focus on personalised treatment plans.

CLINICS IN
GYMPIE,
NOOSA &
BIRTINYA



- ✓ Timely appointments with urgent care clinic slots
- ✓ Non operative treatment options (PRP, HA, RFA)
- ✓ Muscle sparing 3D modelled and robotic joint replacements

- ✓ Knee and ankle arthroscopy
- ✓ Foot and Ankle conditions with affiliated podiatry input
- ✓ Sports injury, ligament and fracture care including WorkCover



REFERRAL



WEBSITE

Student-centred learning for patient-centred care

The Griffith MD has a central focus on generalism, primary care, public health, rural and First Peoples health. We are inviting GPs to partner with us as GP Supervisors to impart their knowledge, inspire our students to choose general practice as their profession, and build workforce capacity in this critical area of need.

GP Supervisors can apply for academic titles. Academic Titleholders are valued affiliate members of the University and enjoy access to the University's library and information technology facilities.

Visit: griffith.edu.au/griffith-health/academic-titles

Additionally, most accredited general practices will be eligible for Teaching Practice Incentives Program through Services Australia.

Visit servicesaustralia.gov.au/teaching-payment-for-practice-incentives-program

Structure

1st and 2nd year students join a general practice team in a supported longitudinal program.
4th/final year students join a general practice team for a total of six weeks.

Students will also have opportunities for extended rural placements.

We value your expertise and ongoing support of medical education, a vital contribution to the maintenance and continuity of the medical workforce. We invite you to partner with us in training the next generation of health professionals.

To become a GP Supervisor, contact:

Associate Professor Bryan Palmer

Associate Professor in Primary Care and Academic Lead in General Practice, Sunshine Coast
School of Medicine and Dentistry
b.palmer@griffith.edu.au
(07) 5202 0333

Associate Professor Alyson Hee

Associate Professor in Primary Care and Academic Lead in General Practice, Gold Coast
School of Medicine and Dentistry
a.hee@griffith.edu.au
(07) 5678 0355

Associate Professor Robert Heffernan

Clinical Sub-Dean Rural
School of Medicine and Dentistry, Toowoomba
r.heffernan@ruralmeded.org.au
(07) 4638 7999





Train the next generation: become a GP Supervisor

Griffith University's Doctor of Medicine equips the next generation of doctors to meet the high expectations for patient-centred care. We're committed to producing competent, compassionate graduates ready to make a successful transition to professional practice.

Make it matter

Three Million Dollar Super Tax: The Conversation to Have Now

After years of debate, Division 296 is now law and took effect on 1 July 2026. Division 296 reduces the concessional tax treatment of superannuation earnings for individuals with "large superannuation balances" by imposing an additional "Division 296 tax" on earnings attributable to superannuation above prescribed thresholds. Broadly, Division 296 tax applies at a tax rate of 15% where an individual's "total superannuation balance" exceeds the "large superannuation balance threshold" of \$3 million for the income year.

A further 10% tax applies to the "very large superannuation balance threshold" where an individual's total superannuation balance exceeds \$10 million for the income year. These superannuation balance thresholds will be incrementally indexed in line with the Consumer Price Index from 2027-28 and later income years.

In effect, from 2026-27 onwards, Division 296 can increase the concessional tax rate on the relevant portion of superannuation earnings to the following:

- Up to 30% for the portion attributable to balances between \$3 million and \$10 million, and
- Up to 40% for the portion attributable to balances above \$10 million.

For many Australians, the changes will have very little impact. However, business owners, professionals, investors and individuals who have accumulated substantial wealth may find themselves affected sooner than they expect.

More than just another tax

While the headlines focus on an additional tax, Division 296 is really a prompt for a broader conversation about wealth management and retirement planning.

If your superannuation balance is approaching or exceeds \$3 million, it may be time to review:

- Your current super balance and projected growth.
- Future wealth accumulation strategies.
- Investment structures inside and outside super.
- Retirement and succession planning objectives.
- The role of superannuation within your overall wealth strategy.

For some individuals, the impact may be modest. For others, the new rules could influence future investment and retirement planning decisions.

Why planning matters

The first assessments will relate to the 2026-27 financial year, but the best outcomes are rarely achieved through last-minute decisions.

Understanding your position now provides an opportunity to assess potential impacts, consider available options and ensure your strategy remains aligned with your long-term goals.

The bottom line

Division 296 is now law and commenced on 1 July 2026. For anyone with \$3 million or more in superannuation, this is a conversation worth having sooner rather than later.

As with any significant tax change, proactive planning is often the difference between simply reacting to legislation and making informed decisions that support your long-term financial objectives.

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



SUNSHINE COAST
RADIOLOGY

Now Open

New Maroochy Private Hospital Clinic

Sunshine Coast Radiology is proud to now be operating our new advanced imaging clinic at Maroochy Private Hospital, Ground Floor, 12 Future Way, Maroochydore.

This clinic is purpose-built within a future-focused healthcare environment, supporting collaboration between imaging, surgical and clinical teams, while also caring for patients in the community.

Sunshine Coast Radiology has been a trusted provider of high-quality imaging services across the region since 2007. This new location extends our commitment to the growing community, while keeping more advanced care local.

Services will include:



MRI



X-ray



CT



Ultrasound



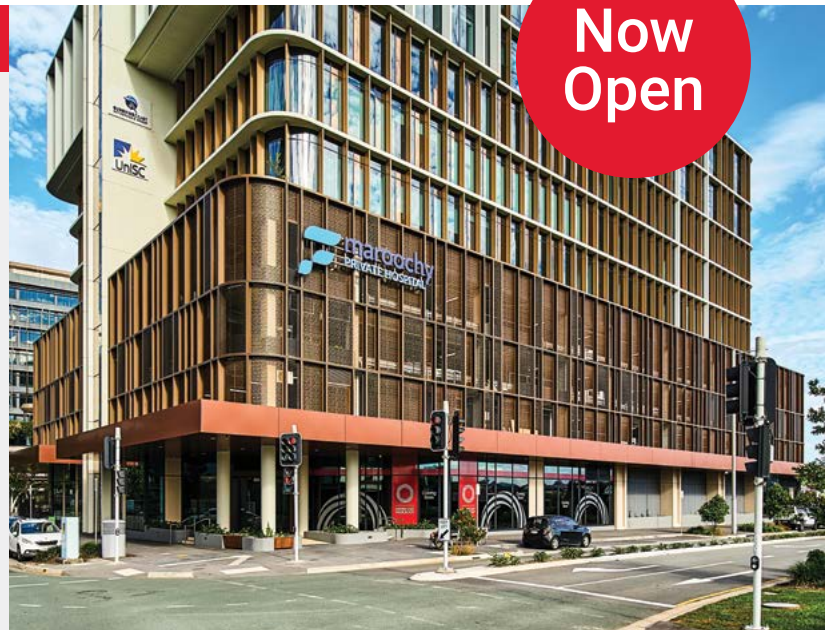
Nuclear
Medicine



Bone Mineral
Density (BMD)



Interventional
Procedures



For more information, please contact your Referrer Relationship Specialists:

Bernie on 0477 444 230 | brushton@scradiology.com.au

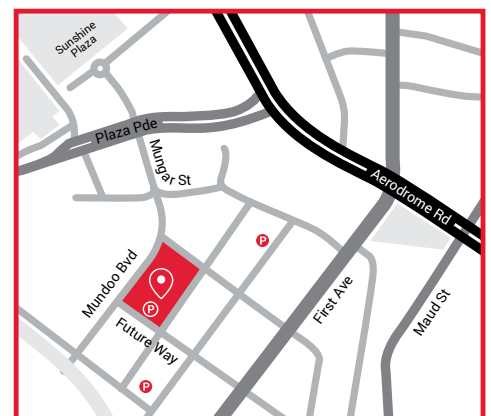
Tremain on 0418 289 686 | tremain@scradiology.com.au

Or contact our Referrer Hotline: 07 5430 3926

Maroochy Private Hospital,

Ground Floor, 12 Future Way, Maroochydore

Ample on-site parking available



Evaluating the Role of General Practitioners in the National Lung Cancer Screening Program



SHORT GP SURVEY



We want to know
how **you** are getting on.

Your feedback helps **improve**
GP support and outcomes
for patients.

ELIGIBILITY



Registered GP
or GP trainee



Currently
practicing in
Australia



SCAN TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY



OR CLICK THE LINK BELOW:

<https://bit.ly/4vKTct1>



For more information,
please contact:
Dr. Elaine Halcrow
e.halcrow@griffith.edu.au



Approved by
Griffith Ethics
Reference:
HREC/2026/0061



Your voice.
Your practice.
**Better care for
our patients.**



CDH
RESEARCH
INSTITUTE

Diagnosed with Eosinophilic Esophagitis (EoE)?

**Still experiencing pain or difficulty
swallowing despite treatment?
Now enrolling adults diagnosed with EoE.
Study care and travel support provided**

To learn more

Phone 07 5408 0900

An innovative approach to hip and knee replacement

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

- Anterior, minimally invasive total hip replacement
- Patient specific and Robotic knee replacement
- Complex revision hip and knee replacement

Telehealth appointments available for regional patients.



Dr Daevyd Rodda
Orthopaedic Surgeon

Contact us today for patient referrals.

Phone: 07 5493 8038 | www.scorthogroup.com.au



SUNSHINECOAST
ORTHOPAEDIC GROUP



Helping the Sunshine Coast

Move Without Pain.®



To book call 1300 130 410
or visit daneverson.com.au

Maroochydore | Noosa | Nambour | Caloundra | Deception Bay | Taringa



Sunshine Coast Neurosurgery

Specialist practice of Dr Stephen Byrne

Working on the Sunshine Coast since 2017, Dr Byrne MBChB, MRCSEd, FRACS underwent his neurosurgical training in Melbourne, Adelaide and New Zealand before gaining his Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons.

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

At Sunshine Coast Neurosurgery all patients receive personalised care using the latest techniques to deliver world-class healthcare. We offer advice on surgical and non-surgical strategies of care.

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



List of services

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

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

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

P: 07 5437 7256

E: info@scneuro.com.au

W: scneurosurgery.com.au

**Suite 104, Vitality Village,
5 Discovery Court Birtinya Qld 4575**

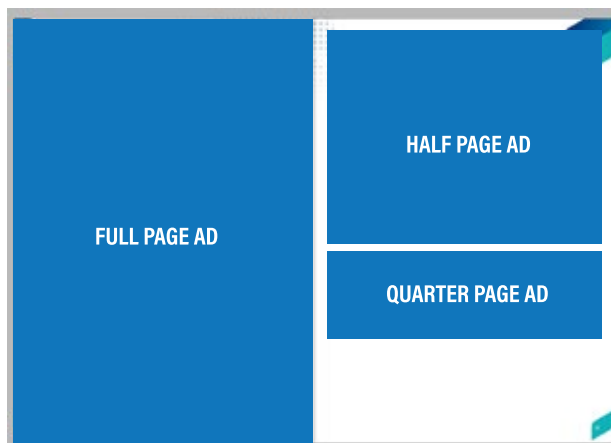




SCLMA

Newsletter Advertising Kit 2026

- **Full page ad:** \$500 + GST
210mm x 297mm
- **Half page ad:** \$400 + GST
210mm x 148mm
- **Quarter page ad:** \$200 + GST
30mm x 95mm
- **Advertorials:** \$400 + GST



Please note the following discounts:

- 3 months - 10% discount
- 6 months - 17% discount
- 12 months - 30% discount

*Full payment is required prior,
to be eligible for offer.*

CLASSIFIEDS

- All classifieds are subject to the editor's discretion.
- No charge to current SCLMA members.
- Non-members: \$100.
- Word count no more than 120 words.
- The Sunshine Coast Local Medical Association's Newsletter is a monthly publication.
- All newsletters are uploaded to our website: sclma.com.au and our Facebook page, both attracting strong traffic.

- The newsletter has a electronic distribution to over 1,500 recipients in Sunshine Coast and areas of Qld and NSW, including specialists, GPs, hospital and retired doctors, doctors in training, allied health workers, practice managers, local councillors and politicians.
- The newsletter size varies between 20 and 40 pages. The cut-off date for advertisements and advertorials is the 1st of the month for that month's newsletter. The newsletter is distributed on the last week of each month.
- All content has to be approved by the Newsletter Editor.
- Please note that advertising guidelines apply. These are published in each newsletter.

Contact: Lee-Anne Williams

newsletters@sclma.com.au

DISCLAIMER

While SCLMA will do all possible to ensure advertising material is reproduced as intended, the responsibility is firmly with the client / advertiser to supply advertising material according to our specifications.



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, e. g. 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.



Thank you to our August 2026 sponsors:



**Colonoscopy[®]
Clinic**



Thursday 24th September 2026

Venue: Maroochydore Surf Club Function Room

Address: 34-36 Alexandra Parade, Maroochydore QLD 4558



NOTICE BOARD

The Notice Board may include:

- Rooms for lease
- Medical equipment for sale
- Notice of retirement, cessation of practice or practice closure

All notices are subject to the Editor's discretion.

- **Current SCLMA Members: No charge**
- **Non-members: \$100 + GST**

Maximum length: 120 words

Photos: Not permitted

Any listing that exceeds these guidelines will be treated as a paid advertisement. Submissions are due by the first business day of the month.

Sessional rooms available in Maroochydore

- Available M-F with great flexibility
- Currently specialist use and suited for the same (non-procedural).
- Includes front desk meet and greet. Additional services available upon request.

All enquiries to David on: 0411 411 802



October 2026 NEWSLETTER

Content deadline:

Thursday 1 October 2026

- Our circulation reaches more than 1,500 recipients!
- 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

Are you a member?

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

sclma.com.au

newsletters@sclma.com.au



SUNSHINE COAST
**LOCAL MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION**