

Welcome from the General Manager

Welcome to the inaugural edition of GP Nexus. We have created this newsletter in response to feedback from our local medical community about the need to better communicate the hospital's latest news, events and service developments.



As the region's only not-for-profit private hospital with a strong ethos grounded in the values of respect, compassion, justice and leading through learning, we are committed to supporting and caring for this community and providing high quality care to your patients.

You may not know the hospital has over 20,000 patient admissions every year, has delivered more than 13,000 babies and employs more than 700 local people. We are the Sunshine Coast's only not-for-profit private hospital and we very much see the community as our shareholders – we are committed to re-investing any surplus funds back into providing local people with cutting-edge and high quality services in our own backyard.

I am proud to say this newsletter highlights some of our recent service innovations. We see the opening of the Sunshine Coast's first private Emergency Centre and the launch of our new Postnatal Depression Program as another way of investing in this community and its future.

I hope you enjoy reading GP Nexus. I welcome any feedback you may have and look forward to bringing you future editions over the coming months.

Kind regards,

Wallis Westbrook

General Manager

Introducing the Sunshine Coast's first private Emergency Centre

Sunshine Coast residents will soon have access to a new private emergency centre which will open in early 2018 here at The Sunshine Coast Private Hospital at Buderim.



A first for the Sunshine Coast region, the \$4 million private Emergency Centre (EC) will be a custom-designed facility featuring the latest medical technology.

General Manager, Wallis Westbrook, said the establishment of the specialist service at the hospital will address an unmet community need.

"Over the years we have received countless requests from both patients and doctors for the hospital to establish an emergency department," Mr Westbrook said.

"We see this as a major step forward for local people as they will have the option to easily access a new specialist health service close to where they work and live," he said.

The EC will be developed within the existing footprint of the hospital's Buderim site and will provide high quality emergency care, 365 days a year.

The EC is being designed with patient privacy and comfort as a guiding principle, ensuring that waiting times are kept to a minimum. There are no expected impacts to patients or existing services during the construction phase of the EC.

Highly qualified emergency and critical care medical specialists and nurses will work closely with existing specialty areas, including cardiology and general medicine. The EC will be further supported by the hospital's existing 24-hour Intensive and Critical Care Units and Cardiac Catheter Labs.

"The hospital and our specialist medical practitioners have together become highly regarded for bringing innovation and new services in healthcare to the people of the Sunshine Coast and we see the delivery of this new service as an important next step for the hospital and the community we serve," Mr Westbrook said.

Further updates will be provided over the coming months, including information about how you and your patients can best access this unique new service.

Book now for the Men's Health Conference

RSVP Date: 14 Jul 2017

Our annual Men's Health CPD Conference will take place at the Mantra Mooloolaba from 8am - 5pm on Saturday 22 July.

To review the program and speakers and register your interest to attend this free event, please visit www.sunshinecoasthospital.com.au/gpeducation or call Melinda Steyn on 07 5430 3305.

**40 category 1 RACGP points have been approved*



Welcome to our new specialists

We would like to welcome the following new credentialed specialists to our team here at The Sunshine Coast Private Hospital.

Specialist	Specialty area	Business Phone
Dr Stephen Byrne	Neurosurgeon and Spinal Surgeon	07 5493 5100
Dr Greg Finch	Orthopaedic Spine Surgeon	07 5444 7579
Dr David Hogan	Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon	0435 776 123
Dr Spencer Kajeju	Paediatric Gastroenterologist	07 5408 0900

New postnatal depression program

The hospital recently launched a new treatment program which aims to help mothers suffering from postnatal depression.

The six week program will be delivered from the hospital's Cooinda Mental Health Service and aims to help participants gain a better understanding of postnatal



depression and learn strategies that can assist to alleviate its symptoms and prevent relapse.

Berquin Human, Senior Psychologist at The Sunshine Coast Private Hospital, said the program will help participants gain a deeper understanding of the factors that contribute to and prolong postnatal depression.

In the first couple of weeks after delivery, up to 80% of women will experience 'baby blues', which includes fluctuating emotions of sadness and anxiety. These feelings are due to the sudden change in hormones after giving birth and typically subside after a couple of weeks. However, recent research reveals that for about 15% of mothers these feelings worsen and develop into postnatal depression.

To support the launch of this special program, the hospital has ensured we have the facilities and equipment in place to allow mothers to bring their baby to these group sessions, including special child minding services so babies can be cared for onsite.

The hospital is now accepting referrals for this program. For more information, visit www.sunshinecoasthospital.com.au/postnataldepression

Updated Breast Clinic referral form

Our Breast Clinic has recently produced a new referral form template to make it easier for you to refer patients for a diagnostic screening or mammogram.

Opened in March 2015, the hospital's state-of-the-art Breast Clinic features the latest technology and equipment, including 3D mammography and high-resolution ultrasound, and offers patients same day results for same day peace of mind.

Visit <http://sunshinecoasthospital.com.au/our-services/breast-clinic/for-doctors-breast-clinic> to access the new referral form

OR

call the Breast Clinic on 07 5252 0500 to request a referral pad be delivered to your practice.



New health education video series

The hospital recently launched a new video series for the Sunshine Coast community, featuring



relevant medical education from the hospital's highly experienced doctors and clinicians.

The video series, called 'Care to Share', is designed to provide local people with health education and information they can use to lead a healthier life.

Wallis Westbrook, General Manager, said the hospital was inspired to create the video series after identifying an unmet community need among patients and their families for access to general healthcare information in an accessible and innovative format.

"Our decades of experience serving the Sunshine Coast community has shown us that our own health and the health of our family and friends is highly valued by everyone, but we realise that accessing general healthcare information still isn't as easy as it could be - so we've decided to create the Care to Share video series," Mr Westbrook said.

"The series features local doctors from the hospital sharing their expertise so our local community can use the information to help make informed healthcare decisions."

View one of the videos in the series, '*How is clinical depression different from feeling sad?*' below. The video features the hospital's Director of Psychiatry, Dr Dhushan Illesinghe.

Visit www.sunshinecoasthospital.com.au/caretoshare to view all the videos in the series.

Upcoming community education sessions

The hospital regularly holds FREE education sessions for members of the community to help them gain access to information and support about a range of medical conditions.

You may wish to make your patients aware of the following education sessions:

Date	Topic	RSVP
5.30pm, Wednesday 2 August	Supporting loved ones with anxiety disorders	P: 1300 780 413
5.30pm, Wednesday 30 August	Life after breast cancer and its physical and emotional impacts	P: 1300 557 710
5.30pm, Wednesday 4 October	Supporting loved ones with depression	P: 1300 780 413
5.30pm, Wednesday 25 October	What you need to know about the prevention and early detection of breast cancer	P: 1300 557 710

Did you know?

Did you know the hospital now administers the **Cindy Mackenzie Breast Cancer Program**?



Anyone from the Sunshine Coast who has been diagnosed with breast cancer is able to access the range of support services offered by the program.

Please let any of your patients who may require assistance to reach out to the program. More information, including the online application form, are available by visiting www.sunshinecoasthospital.com.au/cindy

Quick info

Acute Admissions - 07 5430 3314	Breast Clinic referrals - 07 5452 0500
Buderim Heart Centre - 1300 675 897	Acute Mental Health referrals - 1300 780 413

Subscribe to GP Nexus

Are you reading this newsletter for the first time and would like to subscribe and receive future editions?

Simply complete the online form below to be added to our subscription list:

<https://unitingcareqld.schoolzineplus.com/subscribe-to-nexus>