



Healthscope

# *the* Pulse

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Healthscope

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BRISBANE PRIVATE OPENS DEDICATED NEUROSURGICAL WARD

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Improvise, Adapt  
and Overcome



The Victorian  
Rehabilitation Centre  
opens new ward  
and entrance



On the way to recovery  
with Norwest and The  
Hills Private Hospital



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# K2 Guardian Obstetric Solution

The relationship between an expectant mother and her obstetrician and midwife is a special one. They act as the conduit between mother and baby, providing the expectant parents with all the vital information on their child until post-delivery.

For the obstetric team, obtaining and assessing information is a vital element in ensuring the safety of the mother and baby, none more so than when the mother is in labour.

For a number of years monitoring a mother in labour has relied on a series of protocols carried out by the nurses, midwives and obstetricians. A number of these protocols required to monitor the mother and baby are fast becoming outdated, including relaying information from midwife to obstetrician verbally over the phone or even by fax.

With today's technological advancements it was only a matter of when a technology would be created that would be able

to transform the way obstetric teams access information.

In July 2013, the Healthscope Hospitals IT Project Management team, led by Lisa Talbot began the roll out of the K2 Guardian Obstetric Solution project (K2) which is a specialist obstetric solution that provides the full electronic capture of patient information during childbirth including CTG's, partograms, all labour events and outcome information.

K2 centres on a portal that is placed by the patient's bed and through the software is able to track all elements of labour and record all required information through the labour process and post-delivery.

Lisa Talbot explains "The benefit of K2 is that the information can be shown in real time to enhance communication within and outside of the delivery suite. This not only improves the quality of patient care but reduces the potential for human error."

Over four years ago Healthscope's Chief Medical Officer, Dr Michael Coglin and National Clinical Risk Manager, Jenny Spry together with key members of the IT team recognised the importance of adopting and incorporating K2 into our obstetrics teams.

A pilot program was undertaken at Norwest Private Hospital over three years ago, which has clearly demonstrated not only clinical but operational and financial benefits for the hospital.

Lisa explains "K2 provides more efficient use of one-on-one midwife care, as the midwife has access to all patient data both at the bedside and otherwise. The midwife is also able to input all the intrapartum data at the bedside, dramatically reducing administration time."

A key benefit noted in the Norwest pilot was the single data entry capability that removes the need for midwives to repeatedly have to enter duplicate data.



Claire Spinks a midwife at Prince of Wales Private Hospital was seconded onto the K2 roll-out project as a Subject Matter Expert and has had a key role in liaising with the midwives and obstetricians in learning and adopting the system.

“We are gaining great insight into how K2 is benefiting the role of the midwives and obstetricians. Many of our midwives commented on how streamlined their jobs have become, one even noted that she has had a dramatic decrease in overtime as her paperwork is being completed at the patient’s bedside, rather than having to complete it at the nurses’ station post shift,” Claire explained.

The midwives are not the only one’s commenting on the benefits of the project.

An obstetrician at Prince of Wales Private commented that “K2 offers a more effective use of consultant time. I have the information on my tablet smart device and I can assess my patient’s progress whenever I am in the hospital, at my consulting suites or even at home. One of the key elements of K2 is the ability to see in real time the CTG, so I know exactly what is happening with my patients.”



Claire Spinks, Midwife and Subject Matter Expert, Prince of Wales Private

“Often I take a look last thing every night to see how my patient is tracking and whether I need to be prepared for a call.”

Apart from the enhanced on-call clinician effectiveness, K2 also provides adverse incident reporting that allows instantaneous recall on all secured data. All information is stored for the required period of 25 years, a key benefit over paper files which can get damaged and fade over time.

“Since the initial roll out of the pilot we have seen the effectiveness of the K2. The hospitals that have employed the program including Norwest, Knox, Darwin Private, Sunnybank, Newcastle, Nepean, Prince of Wales Private, Sydney Southwest, Northpark and Hobart Private.”

“The feedback we have received has been really positive. Our midwives and obstetricians have really engaged with the technology and appreciate the ability to streamline certain elements of their jobs,” explained Lisa.

# Reflection on the year that was

At this time of year it is always good to look back at what has been achieved in the past 12 months and it has to be said that 2013 was a big year for Healthscope.

In a single year, across the three divisions of our business we have:

- Provided care for almost 800,000 patients in our 44 hospitals through inpatient and outpatient services
- Delivered over 14,000 babies
- Performed 136,000 inpatient operations
- Provided over 2 million GP consultations in our medical centres
- Provided pathology testing for over 5 million patients in Australia
- Provided pathology testing for over 7 million patients in New Zealand, Malaysia, Singapore and Vietnam.

The driving force behind the delivery of health care on this scale is our 21,000 employees who have all played their necessary role in assisting Healthscope to continue to change the way we deliver health care.

Our staff are the backbone of our business and teamwork is a vital element in ensuring that we are able to deliver such big outcomes whilst providing the best level of healthcare to our patients.

As teamwork is one of the Healthscope STAR values this edition focuses on great examples of teamwork within our business.

In this edition we take a look at our new hospital that is currently in construction – the Gold Coast Private Hospital. Led by David Harper and his team, the development of what will be a state of the art hospital provides a good example of the team work needed both internally and externally to undertake and complete a large scale project.

We learn about resilience in the face of adversity and how the



Robert Cooke

team from St Helen's celebrated Mental Health Week with a talk from a special guest, shark attack survivor Paul de Gelder.

The Prince of Wales team celebrate the joyous occasion of the birth of long awaited twins. This story highlights the success of the broader health network supporting the duly anxious parents throughout their pregnancy and post the delivery of the healthy twins.

The Healthscope Pathology team have partnered with a new initiative, *Know Pathology Know Healthcare* that aims to raise the profile and educate the broader community on the importance of pathology.

Developing our eHealth presence remains a major focus across the business and in this edition we learn about the successful roll out of the K2 Guardian Obstetric Solution project which allows our obstetric team to monitor

the progress of mother and baby from smart devices at all times of the day and night.

I'd finally like to draw your attention to the success of the Mount Hospital in Perth who in November achieved a stellar result in their accreditation against EQUIP National standards. These standards are not a requirement for hospitals in Western Australian; however the executive team, led by General Manager Jade Phelan had a sound belief in the quality of their

team and their healthcare offering and achieved a fantastic result.

As we quickly move into 2014, I look forward to another successful year for Healthscope.

**Robert Cooke**  
Managing Director and  
Executive Chairman

# Advertise in *thePulse*

*The Pulse* is a seasonal Healthscope publication which is distributed free to key Healthscope staff, management and Board members. Additionally, it is read by doctors, health industry decision-makers, politicians in the health portfolio, journalists and public subscribers.

*The Pulse* also enjoys a captive audience finding its way into the waiting rooms of every Healthscope hospital, medical centre and pathology collection centre in Australia and internationally across more than 350 locations.

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# Driving Quality: The Never Events initiative



L-R: Robert Cooke, Managing Director and Executive Chairman, Healthscope;  
The Hon Peter Dutton MP; The Hon Teresa Gambaro MP; Dr Paul Bates, Chief Medical Officer, Bupa;  
Dr Michael Coglin, Chief Medical Officer, Healthscope



In October Healthscope and Bupa, with the support of Federal Health Minister, The Hon Peter Dutton, launched a landmark agreement that sets a new quality benchmark between a private healthcare provider and health insurer.

While the majority of patients within the Australian healthcare system experience excellent health outcomes, there are rare occasions when clearly identifiable and preventable errors occur. These incidents, known as Never Events, should never happen.

Healthscope has agreed to forgo payment, from Monday 21 October, if a Bupa member experiences one of 14 defined Never Events in a Healthscope hospital – such as a patient being given the wrong blood for a transfusion, or a medication error resulting in serious disability.

Healthscope Managing Director and Executive Chairman, Robert Cooke, said: “We are confident in our quality health

offering and ultimately would like to drive systematic payment for quality outcomes. Never Events are essentially the reverse of being paid for quality.

“If a Never Event occurs in a Healthscope hospital, and it is due to hospital error, then we do not expect to receive payment from Bupa. We are prepared to stand by our commitment to quality and safety; it’s the right thing to do.

“We were the first private hospital group to publicly report on quality outcomes and we’re proud to be the first Australian private hospital group to develop a link between funding and quality.

“There is currently no industry-wide agreement on what should happen in the rare instance when a Never Event occurs. We hope that this agreement will drive change and set a precedent for the consistent provision of quality healthcare.”

Bupa Chief Medical Officer, Paul Bates, said Australian healthcare is among the best in the world, but even one Never Event is too many.

“Quality and safety is the cornerstone of what every member – and patients in general – should be able to expect and we believe this initiative sends the right message to our customers and the community,” Dr. Bates said.

“This shared commitment to quality leads the industry in terms of improving hospital outcomes for patients, which is something the industry has grappled with for many years.

“We’re extremely proud to partner with Healthscope to put customers and quality at the forefront of everything we do.”

Never Events affect a small but significant number of patients treated in hospitals. For example, in a comparable scheme in the US (the Medicare Never Events scheme) 0.6 per cent of all hospital patients are affected by Never Events (as defined in that scheme). The consequences are avoidable harm and suffering for patients and wasted health care resources.

In a recent study it was found that the cost of medical errors in Australia was estimated at more than \$2.2 billion per year, with the Quality in Australian Health Care Study finding that about half of mistakes made were potentially preventable.

“We see the Never Events agreements as a natural

extension of the MyHealthscope initiative. Our quality healthcare message is fully supported by our transparent reporting. This level of accountability is unmatched in Australia’s public and private hospitals,” Robert Cooke said.

As part of the agreement, Bupa will contribute to a Healthscope quality initiative that focuses

on education and training, including the review of Never Events, writing case studies and disseminating shared learning across Healthscope to further increase the quality of its healthcare services.

## 14 Never Events

1. Procedures involving the wrong patient or body part resulting in deaths or major permanent loss of function.
2. Retained instruments or other material after surgery requiring re-operation or further surgical procedure.
3. Medication error leading to the death of a patient reasonably believed to be due to incorrect administration of drugs (excluding prescribing errors) including;
  4. Maladministration of potassium-containing solutions, and\*
  5. Wrong route administration of chemotherapy, and\*
  6. Maladministration of insulin\* .
  7. Haemolytic blood transfusion reaction resulting from ABO incompatibility.
  8. Suicide of a patient in an inpatient unit.
  9. Intravascular gas embolism resulting in death or neurological damage.
  10. Patient death or serious disability associated with a fall\*.
11. Infant discharged to the wrong family.
12. Stage 3 or 4 pressure ulcers acquired after admission to a healthcare facility.
13. Patient death or serious disability associated with an electric shock while being cared for in a healthcare facility\*.
14. Patient death or serious disability associated with a burn incurred from any source while being cared for in a healthcare facility.

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# Construction begins on Gold Coast Private Hospital

Construction has commenced on the Healthscope operated Gold Coast Private Hospital.

The 284-bed facility will be co-located with Gold Coast University Hospital on Parklands Drive, Southport, forming part of the Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct, and is due for completion in late 2015.

Allamanda Private Hospital General Manager David Harper, who is on the planning committee for the GCPH, said it was great to be moving forward after a lengthy planning process.

“With the commencement of construction, we are on track to deliver our doctors and the people of the Gold Coast a state-of-the-art health facility in 2015 and our project staff will work with the construction company, Watpac to ensure the program remains on schedule,” he said.



The turning of the sod ceremony

“We are creating a private hospital better than the Gold Coast, Queensland and possibly Australia has ever seen, so the design process has been in-depth.

“We have worked very closely with architects and engineers to ensure the design is world-

class and delivers on efficiency, practicality and a level of comfort that will be second-to-none.

“It will be a hospital for the future, designed to meet the needs of patients not just today, but for many years to come.”





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*“It will be a hospital for the future, designed to meet the needs of patients not just today, but for many years to come ”*

Mr Harper said the GCPH would interface with the Gold Coast University Hospital, providing a choice of high quality health care.

“Although we are in the early stage of construction a strong partnership with the Gold Coast Hospital, Health Service and the Health and Knowledge Precinct has already been forged,” he said.

“We look forward to strengthening this alliance as we continue to become a more active member of the Precinct.

“Our presence in the Health and Knowledge Precinct provides many opportunities in all areas of health care including research - an area in which we have already invested with the sponsoring of a Griffith University PhD scholarship into melanoma research.”

Mr Harper said the new hospital had recently been re-designed to incorporate additional beds with the ability to further expand in line with demand.

The GCPH will now open with 284 beds and 13 theatres with the ability to expand to 400 and 20 respectively.

Services will include a 24 hour Emergency Care Centre, cardiac catheterisation lab and a hybrid theatre, intensive care, maternity, paediatrics and special care nursery and the site will be supported by providers of imaging, pharmacy and pathology services.

## Doctor satisfaction soars

**I**n November 2013 Healthscope head office conducted a satisfaction survey of visiting medical officers (20-50) at each hospital.

A total of 650 surveys were returned. Doctors were asked to rate their satisfaction with hospital administration, nursing, facilities, equipment and management.

Results showed significant improvement in overall doctor satisfaction in the past 12 months. Compared to the doctor survey of 2012, overall ratings had increased by nine per cent.

All 12 questions about the hospital showed improvement from 2012 to 2013.

Aggregate Healthscope hospital rates show that doctors are most happy with: nursing staff, discharge processes and theatre.

Each hospital has been given detailed scores and will discuss these with the medical staff at the hospital.

# How much investment risk are you comfortable with?

It might seem a strange idea at first but risk is an essential part of investing.

Risk is simply the chance that, what a particular investment actually earns (the return), could be less or more than expected.

A low-risk investment can provide the comfort of greater certainty of achieving its targeted return. Similarly, higher levels of uncertainty about how an investment will perform, generally means that investment carries higher risk. Generally lower-risk investments are associated with lower returns, while higher-risk investments give the possibility of higher returns.

But there are no guarantees when it comes to investing. While everyone would like higher returns, not everyone can handle uncertainty. How prepared you are to accept changes in your investment returns — including potential losses — will help you understand what's known as your risk profile or tolerance.

## How does risk make you feel?

Everyone's risk tolerance is different depending on their own personal circumstances and mindset. Ensuring your risk tolerance matches your investment choice is key.

The online risk profiler at [hesta.com.au/calculate](http://hesta.com.au/calculate) is designed to help you consider and understand your risk tolerance. Use it to clarify your investment goals and timeframe, your experience level as an investor and your tolerance of a potential short-term fall in the value of your investments. The profiler will also indicate your investor type.

## What type of investor are you?

The online risk profiler identifies three investor types that may help you choose which investment options are most suited to you.

A **cautious investor** typically wants to invest over a shorter timeframe of three years or less. They seek lower-risk investments and, in exchange, are willing to accept lower returns.

An **assertive investor** generally aims to stay invested over a timeframe of five years or more. This investor is prepared to accept some short-term changes in returns, or moderate risk, but aiming for slightly higher returns than a cautious investor.

An **aggressive investor** is likely to invest over longer time periods (10 years or more). They're more comfortable with short-term fluctuations in investment performance, because they're aiming for higher returns over the long term.

## How long do you plan to stay invested?

It's clear that the period of time you intend to stay invested is an important consideration.

Short-term investors are often more concerned with protecting their savings as they will not have time to make back any losses.

On the other hand, a longer-term investor can afford to ride out market ups and downs. That's because they're focused on targeting a high enough return to build their super for the retirement lifestyle they're planning.

They're also aware that — even once they've retired — they're likely to remain an investor for a number of years.

Find out what type of investor you are using the risk profiler at [hesta.com.au/calculate](http://hesta.com.au/calculate)

If you have questions, the HESTA advice team can help members understand investment options and risk. Free call 1800 813 327 to make an appointment.

With more than 25 years of experience and \$24 billion in assets, more people in health and community services choose HESTA for their super.



# Nepean Private Hospital open ICU

**N**epean Private Hospital has officially opened two, Level 1 ICU beds, located within the High Dependency Unit.

General Manager of Nepean Private John Tucker said “We envisage the beds will be mainly utilised by elective patients undergoing major surgery that require short term ICU care, such as, post-surgical patients undergoing short term ventilation prior to extubation, post-surgical patients who are invasively monitored and medical patients with co-morbidities who require short term internal or external mechanical ventilation and/or invasive monitoring.”

Dr Ian Seppelt, Head of Intensive Care at Nepean Private, has supported this anticipated Level 1 service by providing a 24/7 on call intensivist service with his team since 2011.

Even with the opening of the ICU facility the long history of close cooperation with Nepean Public Hospital’s Level 3 ICU will continue, with transfers made when required



L-R: Julieanne Woodward, Educator; Praveen Kumar, Nurse Unit Manager and Dr Ian Seppelt, Head of Intensive Care

and beds available for patients requiring longer term intensive care, or for a deteriorating patient requiring higher levels of care.

In the lead up to opening this ICU service Nurse Unit Manager of HDU/ICU Praveen Kumar worked long and hard, supported by HDU/ICU Educator Julieanne Woodward and their team, to put the necessary policies, procedures, equipment and staffing in place to achieve

requisite NSW Ministry of Health approval and commissioning.

“This ICU service builds on our commitment to supporting higher acuity surgery in the hospital and a higher level of care for our community and patients. Other services include a 24/7 on call physician service and on call access to high quality radiology services at Nepean Diagnostics Pty. Ltd, located on site at the hospital,” said John.



# Improvise, Adapt and Overcome

These three words formed the basis of a very special presentation by Paul de Gelder, hosted by St Helen's Private Hospital to celebrate Mental Health Week 2013.

Clinical Psychologist and Program Coordinator Dr Erin Kelly said that "Mental Health Week provides such an important opportunity to promote mental wellbeing, and to raise awareness and understanding of issues relating to mental health."

"We are passionate about responding to the changing mental health needs of our community, especially given the events in January 2013 when two bushfires tore through the Tasman Peninsula and destroyed more than 100 homes, completely devastating the town of Dunalley.

"In the aftermath of the fires, thousands of people have had to face up to the extent of their losses and the scale of the task involved in reconstruction. This year we wanted to shine the spotlight on the concept of resilience," said Dr Kelly.

There was no better guest to come and speak at Mental Health Week than Paul de Gelder who is an exceptional man with an inspirational story.

On 11 February 2009 Paul, a navy clearance diver, was on an exercise in Sydney Harbour when he was attacked by a massive bull shark, resulting in the loss of his right leg and right hand. His recovery is an inspirational story of mental and physical courage. Today Paul is back surfing, diving, running, and training in the gym with the help of specially made prosthetics.

Improvise, Adapt and Overcome - this mantra Paul learnt when he first joined the Australian Army became his mantra for everyday life.

The event was attended by patients of the hospital, members of the Tasmania Fire Service, residents affected by the bushfires, and volunteers involved in the clean-up. The Mayor of Sorell, Kerry Vincent – an integral driving force behind the bushfire recovery efforts – closed the presentation. Paul was on hand to sign copies of his book and answer questions.



Paul de Gelder and the St Helen's team

"We continue to be inspired and humbled by the courage, spirit and determination shown by our fellow Tasmanians in the aftermath of the January bushfires," said Dr Kelly. "We know that positive psychological change can occur as the result of a struggle with a highly challenging, stressful and traumatic event, and that is where we are focussing our efforts."

"Paul's presentation was truly inspirational," said Dr Kelly. "People who attended were so impressed by Paul's conscious choice to make the best of his life. He is a fantastic model of resilience in action," she said.

# Know Pathology Know Healthcare: Supporting Australian Pathology

**P**athology plays a pivotal role in healthcare, providing the answers that doctors need to prevent, diagnose, treat and manage medical conditions.

Over 70 per cent of clinical treatment decisions are

informed by pathology results, yet the sector accounts for only three per cent of national healthcare expenditure.

Australians are fortunate to access pathology services that feature some of the world's most rigorous quality systems,

a high level of accuracy and fast turnaround times. Healthscope's pathology results are delivered by large teams of highly skilled professionals using cutting-edge technologies.

There are limited opportunities for the public to learn about pathology and develop a true appreciation of the value it represents to healthcare.

Anoop Singh, Chief Operating Office of Healthscope Pathology said "We are proud to support *Know Pathology Know Healthcare*, a new initiative to raise awareness of this unseen medical discipline. The campaign showcases the people who generate the results and tell stories of how pathology results have improved the lives of countless Australians."

*Know Pathology Know Healthcare* ultimately asks Australians to show they believe that pathology is valuable to healthcare.



There are a number of ways to show your support:

- Visit **knowpathology.com.au** and sign up – tell us why pathology matters to you
- Access LabTests Online via **knowpathology.com.au** to understand your pathology test results and what they mean.
- Follow us on social media (Facebook: Know Pathology Know Healthcare; Twitter @Know\_Pathology)

By signing up at **knowpathology.com.au** you are showing that you care about the viability of Australian pathology. Upon signing up you will receive regular newsletters keeping you updated on how pathology adds VALUE to healthcare in Australia your details will only be used for the purposes of this campaign, and will not be shared with third parties.



**Support Australian pathology**

## Pathology Awareness Australia

*Know Pathology Know Healthcare* is an initiative of Pathology Awareness Australia (PAA), a company created to manage this initiative. The group has representation from private pathology companies, public pathology (National Coalition of Public Pathology), the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia and Diagnostic manufacturers/suppliers (IVD Australia). Healthscope is represented via its membership of Pathology Australia. This is the first time in the world that such diverse groups have united to improve recognition of pathology.

# Industry Award Recognition for Ashford Hospital's Clinical Educator

Ashford Hospital's ICU Clinical Educator, Asuman Salkaya was awarded the prestigious Australian College of Critical Care Nurses (ACCCN) Award for *Best Nursing Presentation* at the Australian New Zealand Intensive Care



Asuman Salkaya

Society's (ANZICS) Annual Scientific Meeting in Hobart.

Asuman presented her research titled 'The Lived Experiences of Graduate Nurses Working In An Intensive Care Unit as First Placement After Graduation', which was selected as the winner against 43 other category entrants.

The focus of Asuman's research was to gain insight into the experience of the graduate nurses that undertook working in the Intensive Care Unit as their first placement as well as understanding the meaning of their experiences and the effects that these experiences may have on their careers.

The study also sought graduate nurses' perceptions of the graduate training program and the support they received during their time in the ICU.

Using Heidegger's Hermeneutic Phenomenology as the methodology, five participants were recruited from a Level 3 private hospital ICU. Data was collected through semi-structured interviews.

As a result of thematic analysis of the participants' experiences, seven main themes were identified:

- Challenges
- Hyper-feelings
- Needing education
- Support
- Time
- Confidence
- Wanting to stay in ICU.



*“ The focus of Asuman’s research was to gain insight into the experience of the graduate nurses that undertook working in the Intensive Care Unit as their first placement as well as understanding the meaning of their experiences and the effects that these experiences may have on their careers ”*

Key factors influencing these experiences included the graduate nurse’s prior undergraduate education, the Graduate Nurse Program structure and having an ICU educator.

Time is the key factor for the graduate nurses to develop confidence. Despite all the challenges graduate nurses experience in ICU, it seems that promoting positive practice environment with the education and support of the team members impacts graduate nurses’ decisions to work and stay in ICU.

Asuman’s research concluded that whilst the ICU environment presents challenges initially, with education and support graduate nurses cope well with the complexity of the ICU environment.

With over 16 years’ experience working as a Critical Care Nurse Asuman has spent the past seven years working as the ICU Clinical Educator at the Ashford Hospital, whilst also

maintaining the position of Clinical Title Holder/ Adjunct Lecturer at University of Adelaide and the University of South Australia where she teaches and provides clinical support for the post graduate students of all ACHA hospitals.

# Australian-first surgery has patient back in action

**A**fter almost 10 years of debilitating neck and back pain as a result of a farming accident, Jason Ogden is pain-free thanks to a multi-level disc replacement - the first of its kind in Australia.

Mr Ogden, a 48-year-old IT manager at the University of the Sunshine Coast, was just weeks away from having his neck fused - the traditional treatment for collapsed or bulging cervical discs that can leave a patient with permanent pain and loss of mobility.

Mr Ogden said it wasn't an option he was comfortable with but it was a fate he was willing to accept.

"I was no longer coping with my injury. I had been in a lot of pain and on a huge amount of medication for so long and it just wasn't working anymore," he said.

"I was reluctant to have my discs fused but I felt like I had no other option. I just couldn't take the pain any longer."

Luckily for Mr Ogden, Brisbane Private Hospital Neurosurgeon Dr David Johnson gave him an alternative.

"It was like serendipity," said Mr Ogden.

"Just when I had come to terms with having to have the fusion, Dr Johnson gave me another option that had just become available - one that would give me a better prognosis and take less recovery time. I jumped on it and now I couldn't be happier."

In an Australian-first, Dr Johnson performed a multi-level cervical disc replacement using new artificial discs that have a unique mobile core.

These new prostheses preserve the natural motion of the neck and their compact design means multiple implants can be inserted without over distracting the neck.

Dr Johnson said this new technology is showing great promise for better outcomes in people with multi-level neck disease when compared to fusion.

"Older style surgery fused the neck, leaving the patient with ongoing pain and stiffness, making even the simplest of tasks like reverse parking painful and difficult," he said.

"These new implants have a mobile core which mimics a healthy spine and results in faster recovery times and there is no loss of cervical movement, particularly if multiple segments of the spine need to be addressed surgically."

*“ Just when I had come to terms with having to have the fusion, Dr Johnson gave me another option - one that would give me a better prognosis and take less recovery time ”*

Dr Johnson said while other prosthetic discs had been around for some time, most were very bulky and were still constrained in the movement they provided.

“These new devices are low profile which is especially good for older patients who have collapsed discs, as there is not a lot of space to insert them,” he said.

“The compactness also allows for multi-level disc replacements which is what we performed with Jason.

“Thanks to this new technology, Jason will regain the mobility of a healthy spine and be able to live a life free of pain from his injury.”

Now three weeks since the surgery, Mr Ogden said he is physically able to go back to work but has taken an extended holiday to ‘enjoy his new back’ and retrain old posture habits.

“It’s been a long time since I’ve been able to move around freely and live my life without pain,” he said.

“I could feel the results immediately after the surgery and now, three weeks later, I am almost 100 per cent.

“The pain from the original injury is gone and I am only left with a bit of post-surgical soreness.

“With these new discs, I’m confident I will regain 100 per cent flexibility and I’m very much looking forward to living my life like I did before my accident.”

# The Mount Hospital celebrates EQuIPNational accreditation

**T**he Mount Hospital in Perth is celebrating its outstanding result in the recent Organisation Wide Survey against EQuIPNational.

It is the requirement of the Western Australian Department of Health for all health care facilities to be accredited against the NSQHS Standards, however with a belief in the quality of both their healthcare service and team, the executive from the Mount Hospital elected to go beyond the required accreditation and be accredited against EQuIPNational standards.

Jade Phelan, General Manager of the Mount Hospital explained “We made the decision to be accredited against the EQuIPNational standards as they offer a comprehensive framework for achieving excellence in all aspects of our hospital’s performance.”



L-R: Sue Bellew, Quality Manager; Marc Foley, Deputy General Manager; Dr Lena Leow, ACHS Acting CEO; Annie Pathak, Manager Patient Administration Services; Jade Phelan, General Manager; Stephen Walker ACHS Board Member; Mareza Meyer Acting Director of Nursing.



*“We made the decision to be accredited against the EQulPNational standards as they offer a comprehensive framework for achieving excellence in all aspects of our hospital’s performance ”*

EQulPNational is a four-year accreditation program for health services that will ensure a continuing focus on quality across the whole organisation for facilities required to be accredited to the NSQHS Standards.

The key features of EQulPNational are:

- the ten NSQHS Standards against which hospitals and day procedure centres are required to be accredited,
- the five EQulPNational Standards, which have derived from key elements of the EQulP program and cover the performance of service delivery processes, provision of care and non-clinical systems,
- a rating system in line with that introduced by the ACSQHC for the NSQHS Standards,
- comprehensive guidelines to facilitate safety and quality improvement.

Post accreditation the Mount Hospital team was extremely happy to have achieved 90 ‘Met with Merits’, the highest accolade that can be given to a hospital.

“It was quite a shock to be told that we have achieved 90 ‘Met with Merits’, when we had only applied for 10. This is a true testament to our quality healthcare offering and the skill of our team,” said Jade.

On the 21 November Dr Lena Leow, Acting CEO of ACHS and Mr Stephen Walker, ACHS Board Member presented the team with their accreditation certificate at a ceremony at the Mount Hospital.

The Mount Hospital is the first Healthscope hospital and first private hospital in Western Australia to undertake an Organisation Wide Survey against EQulPNational.

Jade explained that “The additional effort in preparing for accreditation against the 15 standards was more than worthwhile in ensuring high standards were achieved not only in the delivery of clinical care but also in the services which support care delivery.”

“The incredible outcome could not have been achieved without the commitment of all of our staff members. Everyone played a part in achieving this fantastic result. A special thanks goes to Sue Bellew, Quality and Risk Manager, who put in an amazing effort (and very long days) to ensure that all standards were met,” Jade concluded.



The new entrance and ambulance bay at The Victorian Rehabilitation Centre

# The Victorian Rehabilitation Centre opens new ward and entrance

**M**ember for Forrest Hill, Mr Neil Angus MP officially opened The Victorian Rehabilitation Centre's new Gardenia Ward, front entrance and ambulance bay on Friday 1 November.

Mr Neil Angus MP said in his address to the large audience, "It is a pleasure to be here today to celebrate the opening of not only 29 new single ensuited rooms that make up the Gardenia Ward, but also the newly refurbished hospital entrance and ambulance bay."

As one the largest private rehabilitation facilities in Australia, The Victorian Rehabilitation Centre has been a national leader in patient centred care from the routine to the most complex conditions.

Neil Angus explained "The Victorian Rehabilitation Centre has long experienced high demand for its services, the case for continued expansion remains clear given Victoria's growing and ageing population, this expansion could not be occurring at a better time."

"The newly developed facilities will provide the staff at The Victorian Rehabilitation Centre the space to use their expertise to help more patients. With specialists focussing on joint repair, orthopaedics, rehabilitation from stroke and neurology and occupational rehabilitation, the centre will be in high demand in the years ahead and I hope will act like a shining example for all other to other health services," said Mr Neil Angus MP.

The Victorian Rehabilitation Centre, General Manager, Harry Koutsoufritis said that the recent development has provided the opportunity to further support the rehabilitation needs of Victorians.

"Since 2009 The Victorian Rehabilitation Centre has nearly doubled in size from 84-patient beds to where we are today at 143-patient beds. This growth is born out of pure demand for our in-patient and out-patient services ranging from trauma to neurological rehabilitation.

"For over 40 years The Victorian Rehabilitation Centre has provided rehabilitation services to tens of thousands of patients. The official opening of the Gardenia Ward, hospital entrance and ambulance bay is a significant milestone in our aim to remain as one of the leading private rehabilitation facilities in Australia.

"Not wanting to rest on our laurels, we now begin planning for stage two of development which will include an addition of 28 new patient beds," said Mr Koutsoufritis.

# Double blessings delivered at Prince of Wales Private

The obstetrics team at Prince of Wales Private Hospital had double cause for celebration in October with the delivery of eagerly awaited twin boys.

Aditya and Arya Thimmappa were delivered via caesarean section at 8.40am and 8.41am on 21 October. The safe delivery of the twins marks a new chapter for the boys' parents who have suffered a number of unexplained losses in their seven year marriage.

Prakash Thimmappa, from Bangalore India, the twins' father explains that "My wife Lalitha and I wanted to start our family. My wife first conceived our first child in our second year of marriage but we sadly lost our baby in the sixth month of pregnancy. We never found out why."

"Continuing on with our wish for a child, we were recommended medicines for conceiving, and my wife, joyously became pregnant with our second child, however my wife was diagnosed with gestational diabetes, and sadly, again we lost our second baby two days before the scheduled date for a caesarean. A number of tests were undertaken, in the best laboratories in our town, however nothing came of this result," said Prakash.

Prakash and Lalitha, in order to get a better understanding of what was happening, undertook every kind of medical test including chromosomal testing to find out if there were any issues that would stop Lalitha carrying and delivering a healthy baby to term.

All tests ruled out the possibility of abnormalities.

In February 2012 Prakash was seconded by his employer, a multinational software company to Sydney and it was in Sydney where Lalitha found out she was pregnant.

With a referral from their GP, Prakash and Lalitha meet with their obstetrician at Prince of Wales Private Hospital.

Prakash explains that "We meet with our obstetrician and explained my wife's entire medical history and our obstetrician concluded that my wife had gestational diabetes. It was quickly noted that Lalitha's blood sugar levels needed to be brought into control quickly, with regular blood sugar tests."

It was at the first ultrasound that it was revealed that Lalitha was carrying twins.



*“It was at the first ultrasound that it was revealed that Lalitha was carrying twins”*

“As part of Lalitha’s ongoing antenatal care, our obstetrician recommended Lalitha attend both a dietician and a fitness trainer to ensure she was fit and healthy throughout her pregnancy.

Lalitha’s pregnancy progressed with a number of ultrasounds and blood tests. Initially it was found that Twin B was more active than Twin A, however as the months rolled in Twin A became more active. Two weeks before the delivery date Lalitha was worried about Twin B’s movement, an ultrasound was done and results came back that everything was fine.

Erring on the side of caution Lalitha was admitted two days earlier than her scheduled delivery date and on Monday 21 October twin boys Aditya



The Thimmappa family

and Arya were welcomed into the world to much joy and love in both Sydney and India.

Prakesh explained that there were two important elements that worked to ensure safe delivery of the twins. “Firstly the close and continuous monitoring by our obstetrician and nursing team throughout the course of the pregnancy and secondly the

proximity of the health services including the hospital, pathology and the ultrasound lab.”

Prakesh and Lalitha would like to thank and express their sincere gratitude to the wonderful and relentless services provided by the obstetrics team and all supporting staff at the Prince of Wales Private Hospital. “You will never be forgotten in our lifetime.”

# Brisbane Private opens dedicated neurosurgical ward

One of Queensland's first private hospital wards devoted entirely to neurosurgical patients is now open at Brisbane Private Hospital.

With a team of nurses that boast more than 35 years' experience in neurosurgical nursing, nurse unit manager Tony Williams said the 22 bed ward greatly benefited people undergoing spinal and cranial procedures.

"Our whole focus as a team is to provide excellence in neurosurgical nursing, giving patients specialist treatment and the best possible care," he said.

"When staffing the new ward, all current nurses undertook comprehensive training and we recruited two senior staff members who are clinical experts in neurosurgical nursing.

"The result is a ward with a high level of specialist expertise and a skill-set specifically

designed for the treatment of neurosurgical patients."

Brisbane Private Hospital General Manager Mairi McNeill said increased demand had prompted the opening of a dedicated ward.

"Since the introduction of neurosurgery at Brisbane Private Hospital four years ago, we have seen a steady increase in patient numbers," she said.

"Like most other hospitals, the service was initially developed by nursing these patients in a mixed orthopaedic/neurosurgery ward. Whilst the service had been delivering good clinical outcomes, we were fortunate enough to have the opportunity to create a specialist team on an allocated ward.

"The feedback from doctors, nurses and patients has been extremely positive."

## Brisbane Private Hospital Neuro-Surgeons

- Dr Peter Lucas
- Dr David Johnson
- Dr Ross Gurgo
- Dr Jefferson Webster
- Dr Richard Laherty
- Dr Craig Winter

# Anatomical Pathology work shop

**H**ealthscope Pathology was again a major sponsor and contributor of the Anatomical Pathology and Laboratory Skills Workshop held at the Ballarat Lodge and Convention Centre from 17 to 20 October with junior registrars from all over Australia and New Zealand in attendance.



Junior Registrars in attendance



Healthscope Pathology was well and truly represented with a number of key speakers and presenters including Dr Simon Nazaretian, an Anatomical Pathologist who lectured on endometrial curettings and examination preparation.

The two day event was deemed a great success and the registrars are looking forward to next year's workshop.



Scientists Sarah Morabito and Karen Bradshaw also presented a lecture on histology and cytology with Associate Professor Michael Gonzales presenting a lecture on brain tumours.

# On the way to recovery with Norwest and The Hills Private Hospitals

Norwest Private Hospital and The Hills Private Hospital are committed to on-going patient care and providing a quality service to the people of North Western Sydney. A significant percentage of patients undergoing joint replacement surgery at Norwest require rehabilitation to enable them to achieve a level of independence and safety in carrying out daily tasks.

It was recognised that a private Patient Transport Service between Norwest and The Hills would facilitate a more seamless transition after surgery at Norwest to rehabilitation at The Hills.

The new Patient Transport Vehicle was launched in September 2013 and initially will provide a service between Norwest and The Hills. Over time, the service will be extended to facilitate the transport of patients from other hospitals to The Hills Private.



The Patient Transport Service vehicle

The introduction of the private Patient Transport Vehicle will not only offer convenience and reduced waiting times for patients but will also help to relieve the burden on the NSW Patient Transport service. With high

demand for the public service, patients can sometimes wait for several hours before being transported to rehabilitation but now with the new service, patients can be transferred between facilities with ease.



*The new Patient Transport Vehicle was launched in September 2013 and initially will provide a service between Norwest and The Hills.*

## Norwest Private Orthopaedic Unit

Norwest Private Hospital provides a full range of orthopaedic services including General Orthopaedic Surgery as well as sub-speciality Orthopaedics such as hand, shoulders, knees, ankle, foot, hip and spine. Over 550 joint replacements are performed at Norwest Private each year.

The 37 bed Orthopaedic Unit is serviced by a highly experienced orthopaedic nursing team, 24 hour onsite medical support and physiotherapists that see patients up to twice a day, seven days a week. Another benefit of Joint Replacement Surgery at Norwest is the affiliation with The Hills Private which offers Norwest patients access to a specialist rehabilitation facility.

## The Hills Private - Specialised Rehabilitation Services

The Hills Private Hospital offers rehabilitation treatment programs designed to cater for various stages of patient care through inpatient and day program services. These specialised private rehabilitation services are tailored to meet the individual needs of the patient with an emphasis on excellent care and good patient

outcomes. The multi-disciplinary team includes Rehabilitation Physicians, Geriatricians, Nurses, Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Speech Pathologists, Dietitians, Exercise Physiologist, Psychologists and Discharge Planners who all have major input into the treatment and ongoing management of patients.

# Disability Sports and Recreation



HIS clients enjoying the *What's Out There?* activities



The benefits of sport and recreation activities in the rehabilitation process have long been recognised for not only their physical advantages but also their psychological.

Debbie Beeton, General Manager of Healthscope Independence Services (HIS) recognises the importance of maintaining an active lifestyle for her clients.

“We encourage many of our residents to undertake recreational and sporting activities for not only the physical impact that assists in their rehabilitation but for the overall positive impact on their health and wellbeing.”

Debbie and her team, including Exercise Physiologist Andrew Seeley, are supporters of Disability Sports and Recreations *What's Out There?* program that provides recreation opportunities for people with disabilities.

Andrew explains “Often people with disabilities lead very sedentary lifestyle which causes deterioration in both their physical and mental health. It is the aim of the HIS team to promote the benefits of healthy lifestyle habits for all of our residents and attendant care clients through programs such as *What's Out There?*”

Recently the team completed the inaugural *What's Out There?* day at Stepping Stones and Waverley Palms Community Houses in Glen Waverley. Many of the residents, their family and friends as well as therapists and staff were able to try pieces of adaptive sporting equipment as well as speak to representatives and members of various disability sporting associations and clubs.

“Our residents really enjoyed getting out and seeing what types of activities were open to them including sailing, shooting, wheelchair basketball, wheelchair rugby, lawn bowls, boccia, electric wheelchair sports, archery, hand-cycling, cycling, darts, snow skiing and golf.” said Andrew.

“Some of our clients believed, that due to their disability they cannot participate in sports and recreational activities, the *What's Out There?* program quickly debunked that myth and showed our clients that there is an extensive range of sports available no matter what your disability is.

Since the *What's Out There?* event a number of HIS clients are now undertaking sports and recreation activities, one client is already participating in a shooting program as well as showing interest in sailing and canoeing classes.

With the success of the event, the Healthscope Independence Services team are hoping to run at least two or three *What's Out There?* days each year.

*“ We encourage many of our residents to undertake recreational and sporting activities for not only the physical impact that assists in their rehabilitation but for the overall positive impact on their health and wellbeing ”*





# Star Spot

## Frances Sanders

*John Fawkner Private Hospital*



Frances Sanders

### *What is your current role at Healthscope?*

I am an enrolled nurse and I work on the second floor (Surgical Unit) on night duty.

### *How long have you worked in the job?*

I have been working at the hospital for 38 years – my start date was 13 January 1975, so I commenced when the hospital was Sacred Heart Hospital and have seen many changes. Next year we celebrate the hospital's 75th anniversary of service to the community.

### *What do you like most about it?*

I enjoy my job and the people I work with. It's a friendly environment and I love to help and look after my patients.

### *What kind of services does your workplace provide?*

John Fawkner Private Hospital is an acute medical/surgical hospital with 147 beds. We have four operating theatres, a 24-hour Emergency Department, Intensive Care /Coronary Care Unit, Day Procedure and Short Stay Units.

Our main specialties include orthopaedic surgery, neurosurgery, general surgery, urology, plastic surgery and ENT. We have also just commenced craniotomy surgery.

### *How many people work there and what do they do?*

We have over 650 staff employed at the hospital ranging from cleaning, food services and maintenance staff, to nursing/medical and administration.

### *What's the one question you get asked the most at work?*

When I arrive at work everyone is glad to see me and they always say "Thank God you're here!"

### *What's your coffee and where do you get it?*

My coffee is a cappuccino from Hudsons Coffee at work.

### *What are your facility's opening hours?*

As we have an Emergency Department, John Fawkner Private Hospital is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

# A Fond Farewell to Cotham Private nurse Claire O'Callaghan

Having dedicated over 55 years to the care of others, 34 years of which were at Cotham Private Hospital, we bid a fond farewell to one of our treasured nursing staff Claire O'Callaghan.

Claire, the daughter of a long serving country GP, trained at St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne and commenced at Cotham Private Hospital on the 29 May 1979 with a love of surgical nursing. Throughout her time at Cotham Claire has been heavily involved in many activities and projects of the hospital, including the introduction of the Day Procedure Centre.

Anecdotes from many colleagues upon hearing of Claire's retirement can best be summed up by one or two who stated, "Claire is a born nurse; they don't make them like her any more"! Others went further, "Claire O'Callaghan represents Cotham Private Hospital perfectly - her attitude, grace, amiability and kindness are immediately obvious and very much part of

what I feel Cotham Private is all about. She will be so missed by all the people who worked with her and by the patients she cared for."

Claire's dedication to the nursing profession and commitment to Cotham Private are very well known in the community. Outside of the hospital and nursing, Claire is mother of five and has been active in many volunteer organisations. Claire has twice been President of the Genazzano College Alumnae, President of the Genazzano Mothers Association and the Chairperson of the 1989 Centenary Committee. Other notable works include; Chair of the fundraising committee of the Noah's Ark Toy Library for Handicapped Children and she still is the Chairperson of the Women's Support Group for St. Vincent's Institute of Medical Research, a group that has raised some hundreds of thousands of dollars over 20+ years.

Claire's innate caring and empathetic nature have enabled her to provide a very high quality of care to her patients. Her tireless energy and



Claire O'Callaghan and Cheryl West, Deputy General Manager and Director of Nursing, Cotham

enthusiasm have ensured a strong work ethic and her cheerful and charming nature has endeared her to patients and staff alike.

Claire has been a highly valued member of the staff at Cotham Private Hospital - she will be missed.

We wish Claire, and her husband Barry all the very best as they venture into this next stage of their lives.



# Healthscope Snapshots...

**Y**ou could have mistaken the reception at the corporate office as Santa's grotto in the lead up to Christmas, with many of the corporate team donating presents for the Smith Family's Christmas Toy and Book Appeal.

Five boxes of toys and books were donated and organisers Jacinda Malloy and Charlotte Shaw were taken by surprise by just how quickly the corporate team provided support.

Jacinda explains "We let everyone know about the appeal in the morning and by the afternoon there were already presents under the tree. It is fantastic to have such great support."

"The corporate team really got behind the Toy and Book appeal, the range of presents given was amazing. There was certainly many happy children at Christmas," said Charlotte.

**J**udy Mathieson (nee Matthews) of the Health Information Team successfully graduated with a BSc. Health Information Management from Curtin University on the 8 September 2013.

A long-time Healthscope employee, Judy started her career as a Clinical Coder at the John Fawcner Hospital in 2005. With relocation to Western Australia in 2009 to undertake the role of Deputy Health Information Service Manager at The Mount Private Hospital Judy wished to further her career and applied for a Healthscope scholarship for the HIM Program.

In 2011 Judy progressed into the role of Health Information Services Manager at The Mount a job she held until her move back to Melbourne in 2012 to undertake her role as a fully qualified Health Information Manager at The Victorian Rehabilitation Centre.



Jacinda Malloy



Judy Mathieson

**P**aul Ding an Endorsed Enrolled Nurse from Sunnybank Private received the Novice of the Year excellence award at the Perioperative Nurses of Queensland Conference in October 2013.

A dedicated nurse, Paul received the high accolade due to his commitment to learning, ensuring clinical and professional standards are followed and his enthusiasm and passion for perioperative practice.



Paul Ding

**N**ewcastle Private Hospital celebrates the Graduation of Laura Healy R.N and Preethy Mathai R.N in obtaining a Post Graduate Diploma in Oncology Nursing through the University of Tasmania.

Laura Healey started her Nursing education in Glasgow and qualified to work in both Scotland and England, in Acute Medical Receiving, Cardiology and Medical Assessment Units before coming to Australia. After obtaining a sponsored work visa through Healthscope, Laura joined Newcastle's Oncology team in mid-2010.

"Undertaking study has not only improved my knowledge but aids me in my daily work at Newcastle Private Hospital and I hope benefits my patients, colleagues and myself to provide optimum evidence based care" Laura said.

Preethy trained at The Christian Medical College and Hospital in Tamil Nadu India and specialised in Oncology nursing.

Obtaining sponsorship to work in Australia, Preethy left her husband and son for a short time in India and moved to Australia to commence working at Newcastle Private Hospital in 2010.

Preethy undertook the Post Graduate Diploma in Oncology, graduating in 2013. Preethy's husband and son moved to Australia whilst she was studying and helped celebrate her graduation.



L-R: Laura Healey, Preethy Mathai



# Como Wound Clinic

With an excellent reputation in wound solutions, Como Private Hospital's Wound Clinic has been the sought-out medical provider for all manner of wounds sustained by the local Parkdale residents and surrounding community for the past 12 years.

Operated by wound management specialist nurses including Clinical Manager Bronwyn Parker and overseen by Plastic Surgeon Mr Frank Bruscano-Raiola, the clinic manages a wide variety of acute and chronic wounds from post-operative complications to long-term lower limb ulcers.

The long-term success of the Wound Clinic centres around educating patients around the necessity for proper

wound care and developing a personalised treatment strategy for each patient.

Clinical Manager Bronwyn Parkers said that "We work very closely with our patients and have seen the success of developing treatment strategies that fit with the patient's lifestyle."

"Our aim is to educate our patients on the importance of treating and managing their wound to ensure a healthy outcome. By developing personalised treatment strategies, ensures that on the most part wound care becomes a normal and necessary part of their every day. Our approach has certainly delivered results." said Bronwyn.

Bronwyn explains that "Recently an elderly patient was discharged from hospital into the care of the Wound Clinic. His wound was dehisced, an open surgical abdominal wound following a laparotomy for a bowel obstruction. The wound had opened following removal of his sutures, several days after surgery.

With a number of co-morbidities which were impacting on his general well-being, the wounds were proving difficult to heal. This is a common problem that we see."

Utilising a new dressing product that cleaned the wound and supported the healing process, within seven weeks, the patient's wound had healed.

This case, providing and excellent learning opportunity was written up as a case study by Bronwyn and recently accepted for publication in the Australian Wound Management Association of Victoria's journal.

The Wound Clinic supports three outpatient clinics that are run every week to high demand. Given the serious nature of some of the wounds that are presented during an outpatient session, the surgical and medical wards at Como Private provide assistance with the cases requiring surgical wound management services.

With a comprehensive support network of healthcare professionals the patients requiring additional treatment may be referred to specialists in key areas such as high risk foot clinics for wounds associated with diabetes or a Plastic and Vascular surgeon for assessment, opinion and management.

Education is a critical factor in wound management and

the Wound Clinic's Clinical Manager, Bronwyn delivers wound management education sessions and short courses to nursing staff at Como Private as well as the broader community including GPs, Practice Nurses and staff at aged care facilities.

A key success in the Wound Clinic's education strategy is to have graduate nurses from Como Private undertake rotation

through the clinic to gain valuable wound care skills and learnings that they take back to their own wards.

As Como Private's Wound Clinic enters into its thirteenth year, education on wound management remains a significant focus for the team.

## Sunnybank Private Hospital the new fashion capital

To celebrate Infection Prevention Week from the 20-26 October, the team at Sunnybank Private Hospital organised a Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) fashion parade.

Competition was fierce with representatives from all teams within the hospital.

Like out of scene of Project Runway there was much secrecy around the 'designer' outfits.

Designers in a bid to secure the winning prize unsuccessfully offered bribes to the judging panel that resolutely stood firm and remained impartial.

The variety of products utilised to make the outstanding designs had to be seen to be believed.

The Rehabilitation and Allied Health staff took out the top prize with the Peri-operative team coming a close second.

The event was rounded off by a delicious morning tea and it was a great way to educate on the need to use PPE in our day-to-day work.



2013 winners, left to right: Kathy Kirby representing Understanding Dementia, Sara Lohmeyer and Annabel Pike.

# Know someone in nursing who deserves an award?

Recognise their outstanding leadership and innovation by nominating them in one of three categories:

- ★ Nurse of the Year
- ★ Team Innovation
- ★ Outstanding Graduate

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