

## CEO INSIGHT

Dear Doctor,

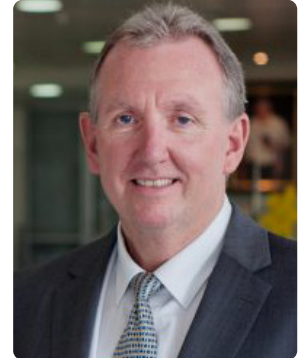
**COVID support** - With travel restriction lifted, we are conscious of the possible rise in COVID cases in our region over the coming months. Should there be a surge in regional COVID cases requiring hospitalisation, St Vincent's Hospital has pledged support for the public health system. This means we can accept patients into our hospital for care should it be needed to make way for COVID patients being admitted to Lismore Base Hospital.

**New VMO** - Dr James Dalgliesh – Ophthalmologist. I'd like to welcome Dr Dalgliesh to St Vincent's. James studied medicine at the University of Sydney and then went on to train in Ophthalmology in the Sydney Eye Hospital, a Centre of Excellence, providing world-class specialised eye services. James has undertaken a fellowship in Oculoplastics and as a keen teacher James hopes to continue to pass on his knowledge to the local medical community.

**Christmas closure** - Our operating theatres close on Christmas Eve and will re-open January 17th. The hospital continues to provide normal services during this period. The Endoscopy service is also closed over the Christmas period and will re-open on January 6th.

**Patient feedback** - To better monitor and improve our patient services, in 2022 we are introducing a new patient experience survey tool. It will make it easier for patients to provide feedback and is accessible from their mobile devices.

**Palliative Care for public and private patients** - The current edition of NorDocs magazine features an article on St Vincent's Palliative Care service featuring Dr Michael Lambrou, our Hospital Medical Officer. Our unique palliative care service provides in-patient care for public and private patients living with a life-limiting illness. Please see this article below.



**Farewell and thank-you** - We say farewell to General Surgeon, Dr David Townend and Anaesthetist, Dr Penny Hall. Both David and Penny are retiring at the end of this year. We thank them for their dedication and great services to our community.

Steve Brierley  
CEO, St Vincent's Lismore

## GPs Ask

VIDEO SERIES

### Screening for Breast, Bowel and Skin Cancers

In this short video General Surgeon Dr Sally Butchers discusses screening for breast, bowel and skin

Visit [www.svh.org.au/gp-hub/](http://www.svh.org.au/gp-hub/) to watch.



## A unique Palliative Care Service

**St Vincent's Hospital Palliative Care Unit provides a unique multidisciplinary service for those living with a life-limiting illness in our Far North Coast Community.**

The dedicated nine-bed Palliative Care Unit provides in-patient care for public and private patients and support for their families and carers. The Unit differs from the community service offered by the Lismore Base Hospital which is best suited for acute presentations.

### Multidisciplinary approach

The multidisciplinary Palliative Care Team at St Vincent's works closely with GPs to provide quality care, compassion and a range of services. The team, including specialised palliative care nurses, supports the physical, emotional, spiritual and social needs of patients living with a life-limiting or terminal illness.

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## A unique Palliative Care Service (continued from page 1)

Patient care is holistic and includes support for mobility and personal care needs and also provides access to speech therapists, dieticians and social work services. Pain control, symptom management and pastoral care are key services provided by the Unit and patients can be referred at any stage of their illness.

### GP involvement

GPs can get involved in their patient's care as much or as little as they like.

In concert with the Palliative Care Unit, local GPs can provide seamless, end-of-life continuity of care for their patients or hand over the care to the Unit. "Whilst it is accepted palliative care is a sub-speciality, it lends itself to continued GP involvement, particularly for those GPs who believe in the importance of caring for their patients right to the end," said St Vincent's Hospital Medical Officer, Michael Lambrou.

"Our Palliative Care Unit works with GPs in a way that best suits them and their patients. It's good for patients to see a friendly face and reassuring to know their GP is still on-hand," said Lambrou.

GPs struggling to manage their patient's symptoms at home can access the Unit for support with a view to helping the patient return home. And when families or patients are not coping with end-of-life care at home, the Unit is on hand to support these needs too. "Where possible we aim to fulfil families and patients' wishes and to be as flexible as we can," said Lambrou.

### GP admitting rights

So that admissions to the Palliative Care Unit are better streamlined, Lambrou encourages local GPs to apply for admitting rights to St Vincent's. "It's surprisingly simple for GPs to apply for admitting rights and it certainly makes life easier for GPs and their patients who need to come into the Palliative Care Unit. As a primary care physician, if you have admitting rights, you can admit patients with some paperwork and a quick phonecall," said Lambrou.

To apply for admitting rights GPs please email [credentialing@svh.org.au](mailto:credentialing@svh.org.au) for further information.

To access the Palliative Care service GPs should phone the St Vincent's Hospital Medical Officer on: 0419 449 183. After hours and weekend admissions are accepted.

"In the end our approach is to aim to give the best possible quality of life for those living with a life-limiting illness," said Lambrou.

"GPs can call me at any time to see if we can help make their patient's journey a little easier."

# Ballina Consulting Suites

For the convenience of your patients, St Vincent's has 11 specialists currently consulting from our Ballina rooms at 75 Tamar Street.

Please contact us on 02 6627 9600 for a full list and contact details of our specialists consulting from Ballina.

### Bariatric Surgeon

Dr Gratian Punch Ph: 02 6621 7796  
Dr Candice Silverman Ph: 07 5598 0955

### Cardiology

Dr Adam Blenkhorn Ph: 02 6622 3088  
Dr Aaron Lim PH: 07 5586 5300

### Dermatologist

Dr Claudia Curchin Ph: 02 6621 3500

### Diagnostic Radiologist

Dr Ian Cappe Ph: 1300 669 729

### Endocrinologist

Dr Chelsea McMahon Ph: 1800 363 627

### ENT

Dr Josh Jervis-Bardy Ph: 02 6621 7796  
Dr Puneet Titoria Ph: 02 6681 1822

### Gastroenterology

Dr Mark Cornwell Ph: 02 6622 0388  
Dr Howard Hope Ph: 02 6622 0388  
Dr Indira Singh-Grewal Ph: 02 6622 0388  
Dr Angus Thomson Ph: 02 6622 0388  
Dr David Whitaker Ph: 02 6622 0388

### General Medicine

Dr Jowita Kozłowska Ph: 02 6627 9600  
Dr Stephen Moore Ph: 02 6622 2326

### General Surgery

Dr Kyle Bender Ph: 02 6621 7796  
Dr Daniel Bills Ph: 02 6621 8277  
Dr Sally Butchers Ph: 02 6621 8277  
Dr Jane Cross Ph: 02 6621 7796  
Associate Professor Austin Curtin Ph: 02 6621 7796  
Dr Pramod Durgakeri Ph: 0449 153 487  
Dr Deepali Poles Ph: 02 6621 7796  
Dr Gratian Punch Ph: 02 6621 7797  
Dr David Ryan Ph: 02 6621 9040  
Dr Robert Simon Ph: 02 6621 8277  
Dr David Townend Ph: 02 6621 9040  
Dr Susan Velovksi Ph: 02 6686 0533

### Geriatrics

Dr Anthony Bragg Ph: 02 6627 9211  
Dr Rachel Jones Ph: 02 6620 6347

### Gynaecology

Dr David Addenbrooke Ph: 02 6621 2241  
Dr Priya Sokhal Ph: 02 6533 1051  
Dr Phillip Steele Ph: 02 6621 2241

### Haematology

Dr Louise Imlay-Gillespie Ph: 0421 207 339  
Dr David Jackson Ph: 02 6622 0388

### Infectious Diseases

Dr Sarah Coghill Ph: 02 6620 7301

### Medical Oncology

Dr Adam Boyce Ph: 02 6622 1865  
Dr James Bull Ph: 02 6622 1865  
Dr Joe Gormally Ph: 02 6622 1865  
Dr Amy Scott Ph: 02 6622 1865

### Nephrology

Dr Sanjeev Baweja Ph: 02 6621 5883  
Dr William James Ph: 02 6622 3600  
Dr Venkat Manickavasagam Ph: 02 6621 7711

### Neurologist

Dr Sue Baumann Ph: 02 6627 9406

### Ophthalmology

Dr Niall Aboud Ph: 02 6622 5888  
Dr Jason Cassar Ph: 02 6622 5888  
Dr Augustino Clark Ph: 02 6621 4254  
Dr Anne Malatt Ph: 02 6687 2433  
Dr Steven Rodwell Ph: 02 6624 4411  
Dr Roy van Eijden Ph: 02 6621 4254  
Dr James Dalgliesh Ph: 02 6621 4254

### Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery

Dr Arthur Bilski Ph: 02 6622 6750  
Dr Wojciech Bilski Ph: 02 6622 6750

### Orthopaedics

Dr Michael Facek Ph: 07 5611 5050  
Dr Richard Freihaut Ph: 02 6621 6397  
Dr Simon Kinny Ph: 02 6621 4177  
Dr John Mison Ph: 02 6621 2588  
Dr Mark Pearce Ph: 02 6621 3114  
Dr Shane Prodger Ph: 02 6621 6462

### Pain Medicine

Dr Paul Cochrane Ph: 0405 905 617  
Dr Liam Ring Ph: 0477 002 019  
Dr Timothy Scholz Ph: 0490 845 496

### Palliative Care Medicine

Dr Ken Marr Ph: 02 6620 7301

### Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

Dr James Ledgard Ph: 1300 836 366  
Dr Mark Rahman Ph: 1300 921 500

### Radiation Oncology

Dr Patrick Dwyer Ph: 02 6627 8277

### Rehabilitation

Dr Anthony Bragg Ph: 02 6627 9211

### Respiratory & Sleep Medicine

Dr Joe Churton Ph: 02 6621 3199  
Dr Joe Duncan Ph: 02 6620 7301  
Dr Bliegh Mupunga Ph: 02 6621 8277

### Rheumatology

Dr Douglas Gray Ph: 02 6686 6933  
Dr Ellen McGirr Ph: 0266 866 933

### Urology

Dr Paul Bergamin Ph: 02 6622 1344  
Dr Kenny Low Ph: 02 6622 2062  
Dr Lisa Osgood Ph: 02 6622 1344  
Dr Stephen Strahan Ph: 02 6621 8277

### Vascular

Dr Anthony Leslie Ph: 02 6621 9105  
Dr Dominic Simring Ph: 02 6621 9105  
Dr Deepak Williams Ph: 1300 278 379

Epic Pharmacy Ph: 02 6624 0650  
North Coast Radiology Ph: 02 6625 9300  
Sullivan & Nicolaides Ph: 02 6620 1200  
St Vincent's Private Physiotherapy Ph: 02 6622 7799  
St Vincent's Rehabilitation Ph: 02 6627 9263

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