

## A SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FIRST FOR ORTHOPAEDICS



**In a South Australian first, Orthopaedic Surgeon, Dr Tom Savvoulidis, has performed two procedures at Burnside Hospital to insert an innovative thigh prosthesis, designed for above-knee amputees.**

The endo-exo ESKA prosthesis is a new type of prosthetic care for above-knee-amputee patients, allowing a conventional prosthesis shaft to become redundant.

Directly implanted into the femur, the endo-exo prosthesis transfers the load directly back on to the thigh bone and hip joint when walking, as opposed to the conventional method of putting pressure on the stump.

The patented metal surface of the endo-prosthesis guarantees a permanently secure connection between the bone and prosthesis.

Some of the many benefits of the exo-prosthesis include easy attachment and removal and no skin irritation that would have previously been caused by chafing, sweat and/or heat and long-term wear.

“I heard about the procedure four or five years ago when it was first developed in Germany, but it was actually a patient of mine whom I have known for many years who came to me to request the endo-exo prosthesis,” said Dr Savvoulidis.

“It was a big learning curve, but the benefits for the patient are incredible,” he said.

Other benefits of the endo-exo prosthesis include full range of movement of the stump at all levels, less energy expenditure or effort needed in walking, and full motion for the patient after six to 12 months. Rehabilitation can begin after just six weeks.

Until its recent TGA approval, the procedure was classed as experimental, with only eight procedures performed in Australia (Sydney) to date.

“The science behind it is sound and it’s as good as it’s going to be. It doesn’t need any improvement,” said Dr Savvoulidis.

Dr Savvoulidis is currently exploring obtaining a patient rebate for this innovative procedure, in the hope that many more above-knee amputees may benefit from it.

Since 2001, Dr Savvoulidis has specialised in upper and lower limb sports injuries, trauma and arthritis surgery from his private practice at Burnside Hospital.

“Orthopaedics appeals to my technical side, as well as my need to help people,” said Dr Savvoulidis.

“It’s a great feeling knowing that I can help people return to a comfortable lifestyle,” he said.

**For more information about the endo-exo ESKA prosthesis, contact Dr Tom Savvoulidis**  
**Phone: (08) 8331 9177**  
**Fax: (08) 8332 8099**  
[www.drsvvoulidis.com](http://www.drsvvoulidis.com)



## INTENSIVIST SERVICE ON-CALL 24/7



Dr Mark Finnis

**Burnside Hospital offers a 24-hour on-call Intensivist Service to support the operation of its High Dependency Unit, underpinning its surgical, medical and obstetric services.**

This enables the hospital to manage a range of high acuity patients including those who have undergone advanced surgical procedures or have complex medical conditions. The responsiveness of the Intensivist team and their clinical expertise are hallmarks of the service they provide to Visiting Medical Officers (VMOs), patients and nursing staff.

Coordinated by Dr Mark Finnis, a group of seven Intensivists provide 24/7 on-call cover, including on public holidays. They are:

- Dr Stuart Baker
- Dr Tim Brownridge
- Dr Nick Edwards
- Dr David Evans
- Dr Mark Finnis
- Dr Richard Newman
- Dr Peter Sharley

Burnside's HDU comprises of a four-bed bay and the capacity to manage and monitor up to eight patients. The unit's state-of-the-art equipment includes:

- cardiac/invasive monitoring
- respiratory support including mask CPAP (Continuous Positive Airway Pressure) and nasal high flow oxygen therapy
- the ordering and oversight of patients requiring total parenteral nutrition.

Intensivist cover is provided for the HDU subject to the following criteria:

- patients will not be ventilated beyond the immediate resuscitation period
- patients with greater than single organ failure, or with severe single organ failure at risk of multiple organ failure, will be transferred to an appropriate level ICU at the discretion of the duty Intensivist in consultation with the patient's primary responsible clinician.

Dr Finnis explained that the service is underpinned by a strong commitment to a 'shared care' model.

"We work on the understanding that the primary clinician remains responsible for their patient's care and make any significant management decisions collaboratively," said Dr Finnis.

"The hospital's visiting medical officers are also welcome to liaise with an Intensivist preoperatively to discuss any aspect of their patient's ongoing care."

The preferred consultation process is for the treating VMO to contact the rostered Intensivist directly.

For patients being managed in the HDU, nursing staff may contact the group directly, with the VMO's consent. For other inpatients, nursing staff will first contact the patient's primary surgeon or physician, who should then liaise with the duty Intensivist as clinically indicated. In the case of an acute emergency, nursing staff will liaise directly with the group if other medical assistance is unavailable. The group can also assist if a patient requires transfer to a higher level unit.

**For more information about the Intensivist Service contact Heather Messenger: (08) 8202 7208 or Dr Mark Finnis: 0412 324 268**

## BURNSIDE'S PATIENTS REPORT A POSITIVE HOSPITAL EXPERIENCE

**Patients surveyed as part of Medibank Private's national member satisfaction survey rated their care at Burnside Hospital very highly.**

In the year to September 2009, Medibank Private's Hospital Experience Survey reported on 144 private hospitals, based on overnight stays. Hospitals received the results in July 2010.

Over the 12-month survey period, 428 of our patients received questionnaires, of which 147 (or 34 per cent) responded. The survey measures patient satisfaction on 52 indicators and compares the results with other hospitals in the same category (35 hospitals).

Burnside Hospital achieved results significantly higher than the category average in the following areas:

Question/Indicator	Burnside	Category Average
Clinical skills and knowledge of the doctors and specialists	100%	96%
Explanation of the nature of treatment	99%	94%
Caring and compassionate attitude of doctors	99%	95%
Cleanliness of the room	99%	94%
Ease of understanding of what doctors and nurses are saying	99%	93%
Explanation of nature of treatment	99%	94%
Information on how to prepare for admission	99%	95%
Adequacy of pain relief	99%	93%
Clinical skills and knowledge of the nursing staff	98%	92%
Would recommend hospital to family/friends	96%	89%
Quality of meals	94%	83%

Members were also asked to offer comments/suggestions for improvements. Among the comments from our patients were:

*"Burnside Hospital was brilliant, I had an overnight stay for a sleep study and just flew in from Canberra without opportunity to have an evening meal and the staff organised this - my local public hospital in regional SA would never have done this!"*

*"I can't really suggest any improvements - have worked in both public and private hospitals. I was really impressed with the standard of care and facilities."*

*"My wife spent six days in the same hospital and we have total confidence in recommending the Burnside Hospital to everyone."*

Patient satisfaction is the best barometer of the way we work together, the way we involve patients in their care and the way we deliver our services every day - all of which define the Burnside Hospital difference.

## PEOPLE IN FOCUS



Dr Chris Sexton (left) and Dr Darren Roberts (right).

### DR CHRIS SEXTON AND DR DARREN ROBERTS

Drs Chris Sexton and Darren Roberts (Obstetricians and Gynaecologists) are now consulting from new premises at 64 Kensington Road, Rose Park.

According to Dr Sexton, the move to their own practice has enabled them to offer more consulting sessions and reduced waiting times for patients.

“Our new rooms, which are just a short distance from Burnside Hospital, offer a modern atmosphere, an ample waiting area and we remain close to the city,” he says.

“We previously shared rooms with Dr Brian Wheatley and acknowledge Brian and Heather for their valued support during our early years in practice.”

Drs Sexton and Roberts provide comprehensive obstetric and gynaecological care with a focus on all aspects of obstetric care, menstrual disorders, prolapse, abnormal Pap smears and laparoscopic surgery.

While delivering at several of Adelaide’s maternity units, both doctors said that they enjoyed working at Burnside due to the hospital’s “excellent staff, great facilities and high levels of patient satisfaction.”

**For all appointments and referrals, contact Drs Sexton and Roberts:**

**Phone: (08) 8331 8411**

**Fax: (08) 8331 8499**

#### **Burnside Hospital Maternity Unit - Fast Facts:**

- **four delivery suites featuring restful décor, discreetly equipped with the latest medical technology**
- **centrally located and well equipped nursery**
- **experienced midwives who provide personalised attention and care**
- **voluntary Maternity Outreach Program available in conjunction with the InterContinental Adelaide**
- **an early discharge option.**



### DR BRIAN CONWAY

Dr Brian Conway is a General Paediatrician. He covers all aspects of Paediatrics and enjoys working at Burnside Hospital. Dr Conway began his private practice in March 2010, seeing babies in the postnatal wards and consulting from his rooms.

After graduating from Monash University with a Bachelor of Medical Science and a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery, Dr Conway spent his initial intern and resident years in Victoria. Dr Conway then spent eight years of his paediatric registrar training in Adelaide at the Women’s and Children’s Hospital, Flinders Medical Centre, Lyell McEwin Health Service and Modbury Hospital. He completed the Diploma of Child Health (DCH SA 1997) and gained his Fellowship with the Royal Australian College of Physicians (FRACP) in 2004.

For the last five years, Dr Conway worked in Melbourne’s south east at Dandenong and the newly opened Casey Hospital, where he was head of the Paediatric Unit. Dr Conway was also a visiting Paediatrician for two private maternity hospitals and a private practice located in Endeavour Hills. During this time he had a close liaison with allied health services including speech pathology, psychology and occupational therapy.

Dr Conway returned to Adelaide for family reasons and is currently a part-time permanent Staff Specialist Paediatrician in the Department of General Medicine at the Women’s and Children’s Hospital, as well as working in private practice from rooms situated within Burnside Hospital, adjacent to the Lung Function Unit and Sleep Centre. Dr Conway sees patients from birth until the age of 17 years.

Dr Conway enjoys spending time with his family including two teenage children, and has interests in bioethics and IT within medical practice, striving to implement the “less paper office” (believing the truly “paperless” to be unattainable).

**For all appointments or referrals, Dr Conway can be contacted at his rooms at Burnside Hospital or via Argus, Healthlink, Medical Objects, Promedicus or Alltalk.**

**Phone: (08) 8332 3778**

**Fax: (08) 8331 7152**

## PROFILES



### DR BEN BEAMOND

Adelaide trained Orthopaedic Surgeon, Dr Ben Beamond, has been operating at Burnside Hospital since 2008. He specialises in adult lower limb disorders, with a focus on routine and complex foot and ankle conditions, including arthritis, soft tissue/sporting injuries, and forefoot problems.

Dr Beamond is also an Orthopaedic Consultant at the Royal Adelaide and Modbury Hospitals, and a lecturer in orthopaedics and trauma (University of Adelaide Medical School). He has research interests in tendon degeneration about the foot and ankle, and enhancing patient education through the use of multimedia technology.

Having grown up in Toorak Gardens, he remembers visiting and playing games in the wonderful Attunga Heritage Gardens on the western side of Burnside Hospital.

**For appointments and advice, Dr Beamond can be contacted at:  
The Foot and Ankle Centre,  
22 Walter St, North Adelaide  
Phone: (08) 8334 5900  
reception@footandanklecentre.com.au**



### DR PETER SYLAIDIS

Dr Peter Sylaidis is pleased to announce that he has commenced operating at Burnside Hospital.

Dr Sylaidis is a fully qualified plastic, reconstructive and cosmetic surgeon who has trained in Australia, the United Kingdom and France. His numerous fellowships/diplomas and his full CV may be viewed at [www.sylaidis.com](http://www.sylaidis.com)

He is a certified assessor for WorkCover SA and is qualified to sit on Medical Panels SA (a government appointed body).

Dr Sylaidis has been a volunteer surgeon with the Interplast plastic surgical team and is a supporter of Doctors Without Borders.

Today, Dr Sylaidis works with a team of seven plastic surgeons at Adelaide Plastic Surgery Associates - see [www.apsa.com.au](http://www.apsa.com.au) for more information. The practice offers a 24/7 emergency service with same-day treatment for all urgent cases. Health fund-only payment is accepted for most non-elective cases e.g. skin cancers, trauma etc. Written quotes are given after each initial consultation. The service covers the full spectrum of plastic surgery procedures.

**For appointments and advice, contact Dr Sylaidis at his practice:  
Level 4, 18 North Tce, Adelaide  
Phone: (08) 8213 1800  
Fax: (08) 8213 1811  
Email: [petersylaidis@apsa.com.au](mailto:petersylaidis@apsa.com.au)**



### DR NICK CHABREL

Orthopaedic Surgeon, Dr Nick Chabrel, has commenced operating at Burnside Hospital. He has completed his orthopaedic surgical training in Adelaide and is now running his private practice from the Wakefield Orthopaedic Clinic.

Dr Chabrel's areas of interest include surgery for disorders of the shoulder and elbow, and treatment of fractures of the upper and lower extremity.

He is also continuing in public practice at Modbury Hospital in upper limb orthopaedic surgery.

**To arrange an appointment, please contact:  
Wakefield Orthopaedic Clinic,  
Level 2, 270 Wakefield Street, Adelaide  
Phone: (08) 8236 4134**



### DR CHIEN-LI LIEW

Dr Chien-Li Liew graduated from the University of Adelaide in 2000 and was awarded the Dean's Medal for academic excellence and service to students and faculty. She is a Staff Specialist in Respiratory, Sleep and Lung Transplantation Medicine, and a Senior Lecturer at the University of Adelaide. She is the secretary/treasurer of the Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand, SA Branch.

Dr Liew completed a Sleep Fellowship at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and subsequent international fellowships with the Multi-organ Transplantation Unit in Toronto, Canada, and the Heart-Lung Transplant Unit at St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney, developing further skills in advanced lung disease, respiratory failure, pulmonary rehabilitation and transplantation.

Dr Liew was awarded a Master of Clinical Science degree for her thesis which advanced the field in the management of pulmonary complications of haematological diseases, an area in which she has particular interest. Dr Liew has experience in all pulmonary and sleep conditions, and performs all thoracic medical procedures.

**Dr Liew consults at Attunga Medical Centre, 97 Hewitt Ave, Toorak Gardens  
Phone: (08) 8332 2555  
Fax: (08) 8332 7072**



**DR IAN WONG**

Dr Ian Wong, Ear Nose and Throat (ENT) Surgeon, has returned to Burnside Hospital after his fellowship in the United Kingdom (UK).

Born in Hong Kong, Dr Wong has lived in the Burnside area since his family migrated to Adelaide in 1986. Dr Wong graduated with Merit from the Adelaide University in 1999 and undertook his training in Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery in South Australia. He was admitted as a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 2007 and was awarded a Masters of Surgery from Adelaide University with research in the subspecialty field of rhinology.

Dr Wong commenced private practice in 2008 and enjoyed a brief association with Burnside Hospital prior to his departure for UK. Although he has a special interest in diseases of the ear, Ian's practice encompasses all aspects of general ENT.

He currently holds visiting sessions at the Women's and Children's Hospital, Modbury Public Hospital, Royal Adelaide Hospital, as well as the Lyell McEwin Hospital.

**Dr Wong has commenced consulting from Attunga Medical Centre**  
**Phone: (08) 8332 9666**  
**Email: wong.ian@bigpond.com**



Mimma Ceravolo RN with the new blood fridge that was generously donated to Burnside.

**PAEDIATRIC SURGERY**

In recent months, active consideration has been given to the issue of surgery on paediatric patients at the hospital. This follows a considerable decline in the number of paediatric surgical cases being performed at Burnside since 2007.

The matter was the subject of detailed discussion at a recent meeting of the hospital's Clinical Review Committee, which recommended to the Medical Executive Committee that the hospital cease to accept admissions for surgery on children under the age of 10 years. The Medical Executive Committee, after consideration of all the issues, concurred with the recommendation, which in turn was accepted by the hospital's Board of Directors.

The decision will take effect from 1 January 2011.

**NATIONAL INPATIENT MEDICATION CHART**

The hospital recognises the difficulties its doctors and nursing staff face as a result of the new National Inpatient Medication Chart (NIMC). The limitations of the initial version highlighted by users have been assessed by the Drug and Therapeutics Committee. As a result, some changes have been incorporated into a second version of the Chart, which was introduced in September 2010. A further assessment will be undertaken in due course.

**MEDICAL EQUIPMENT**

The storage and management of blood in the hospital has been significantly improved. A new blood fridge, costing \$12,000, has been purchased thanks to a generous donation from the grateful family of a patient we treated earlier in the year. The blood fridge has been placed in a secure, purpose built room adjacent to the southern entrance of the Theatre Suite.

**Dr Clive Hoffmann**  
 Chairman  
 Medical Executive Committee

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S MESSAGE



**The hospital's Board of Directors adopted a new strategic plan at its August meeting which includes redeveloping our Short Stay Procedure Unit.**

Of particular interest within the new strategic plan is a commitment to redevelop aspects of the Operating Suite and in particular, the Short Stay Procedure Unit. There will be a focus on providing a Day of Surgery Admissions Area and addressing the known deficiencies of the unit, which has operated in its present layout for 20 years. The Board has placed a high priority on the work with a targeted completion date of February 2012. Our team looks forward to working with all stakeholders in bringing this exciting and long overdue project to fruition.

The hospital is pleased to announce it made a small profit last year, equal to approximately 0.5 per cent of revenue. This result is a continuing reflection of the lower revenues afforded South Australian private hospitals by health funds compared to those in all other States and Territories. The budget for the current 2011 financial year will again face challenges including renegotiating key Enterprise Agreements for staff.

A survey conducted by the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS) in early September saw the surveyors recognise the high quality of service and care provided by everyone associated with Burnside. Ongoing accreditation will be recommended to the ACHS Review Board with 21 criteria being rated as 'Extensive Achievement'. We can all be proud of this fantastic outcome.

Among the surveyors' highly positive comments were:

- the hospital has a very welcoming, clean environment
- very friendly staff
- appears well resourced to manage care
- overall clinical environment is excellent
- well organised Central Sterile Supply Department
- impressive Maternity Outreach Program
- catering and cleaning well supported by the Infection Control System
- excellent Clinical Education Program, particularly with the new e-learning initiatives.

We look forward to building on these achievements as we head towards the Periodic Review in September 2012.

As 2010 draws to a close, I would like to extend good wishes to you all for the festive season and look forward to a rewarding relationship in the New Year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick Warden". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**Nick Warden**  
Chief Executive