

Medical matters

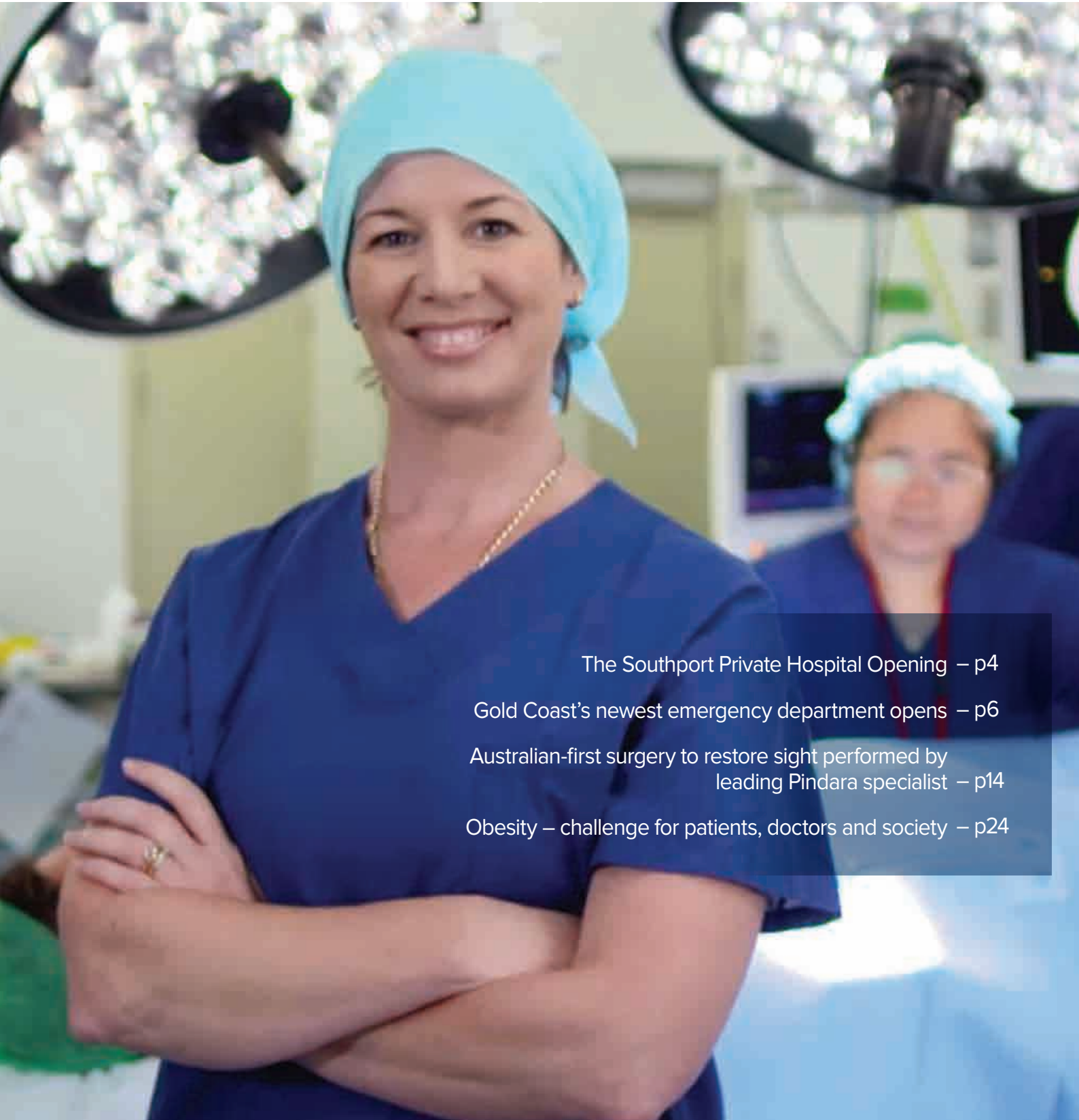
Pindara Group of Hospitals Newsletter



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Gold Coast's newest emergency department opens – p6

Australian-first surgery to restore sight performed by
leading Pindara specialist – p14

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Pindara Private Hospital

Part of Ramsay Health Care

Australian-First prostate biopsy technology launches at Pindara

There are approximately 20,000 new diagnoses of prostate cancer every year in Australia and approximately 3000 deaths from the disease.

A PSA blood test has been the main screening tool for prostate cancer detection for almost 30 years and studies have demonstrated that having a PSA test can save lives.

More recently, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) has been used to further improve detection and diagnosis. MRI scans allow urologists to be more accurate with localising lesions within the prostate gland and facilitate a targeted approach when it comes to obtaining a tissue sample to confirm a diagnosis.

In 2016 Pindara Private Hospital trialed a new device to help with improving prostate cancer diagnoses. The device, the Artemis/profuse platform, allows fusion or overlay of previously obtained MRI images with real time ultrasound of the prostate. Prostate lesions are then mapped out in a 3 dimensional fashion whilst a mechanical robotic arm is used to stabilise and hold the ultrasound probe which facilitates accurate, recordable and reproducible biopsy targeting.

Many prostate cancers do not require definitive treatment and can simply be “watched” over time. Having the ability to record the exact placement of a particular positive sample, allows the treating urologist to go back to this exact same spot in the future to perform additional biopsies to confirm that there has been no change in a particular man’s cancer characteristics.

The Artemis allows biopsies to be performed both transrectally and also transperineally. A transperineal biopsy has the potential benefit of providing better access to the anterior surface, or the front of the prostate. This is an area which can be difficult to target with a traditional transrectal approach. Avoiding needle placement through the bowel wall reduces infection risk, which, with increasing foreign travel and increasing rates of resistant bacteria poses a significant problem.

The Artemis system will be permanently available at Pindara Private Hospital. Should you or a family member have any queries regarding this service please make enquiries with a Pindara Urologist (Dr Charles Chabert, Dr Martin Elmes, Dr Scott McClintock, Dr John Pisko, Dr Neil Smith, Dr Chris Tracey) to discuss further.



Dr Chabert using the Artemis