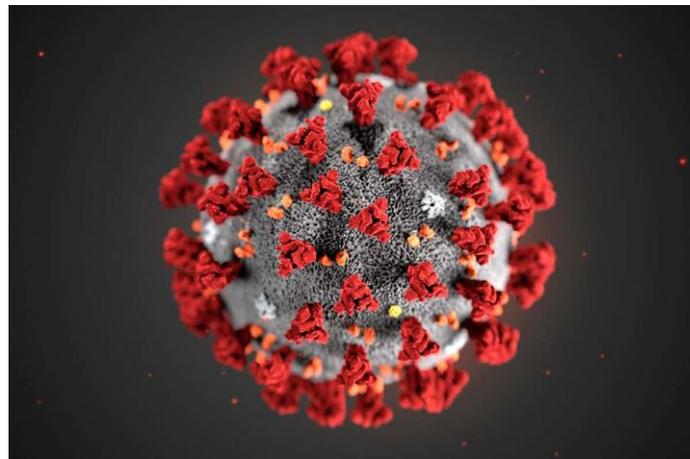




COVID -19 & Elective Surgery at CPH



The SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus that causes the disease COVID-19, is part of a large group of viruses termed coronaviruses after their distinctive appearance. After arising from animal origins in late 2019, it has now spread worldwide and is continuing to cause significant morbidity and mortality along with unprecedented social and economic disruption.

Because of the real potential of a major demand on Australian healthcare services (as evidenced by overseas experiences) in the subsequent weeks and the lack of Personal Protective Equipment available at the time, the Federal Government suspended elective surgery as of midnight on the 1st April, 2020. Only essential category 1 and urgent category 2 cases were allowed to continue. [Chatswood Private Hospital](#) has successfully maintained this emergency service during April.

Due to the successful reduction in cases that NSW and Australia as a whole have achieved, combined with the increased supply of medical equipment and Personal Protective Equipment, restrictions on elective surgery have been eased from the 27th April. From this date, 25% of elective surgery cases (in addition to the emergency cases already being undertaken) were

permitted to recommence. On 20th May 2020, NSW Health allowed [Chatswood Private Hospital](#) to increase to 50% with further increases up to 75% permitted throughout June 2020. This is being successfully implemented with the aim to prioritise people who need surgery the most, first. In introducing elective surgery again, the aim is also to ensure that a procedure can be undergone safely for both the patient and our staff.

To that end, competencies for Personal Protective Equipment and protocols for theatre management, including patient and staff risk assessment and social distancing, were introduced. [Chatswood Private Hospital](#) is also ready to respond to any rise in COVID-19 cases in the future if this unfortunately should occur. [Click here](#) to read more.

International Nurses Day



International Nurses Day was established by the International Council of Nurses in 1965 to celebrate the important role nurses play in our society. In 1974, the 12th of May was chosen as the date to celebrate the day as it is the birthday of the founder of modern nursing, Florence Nightingale. This year, it was particularly significant as it coincided with the 200th anniversary of her birth, and is in the World Health Organisation's designated International Year of the Nurse and Midwife.

Florence Nightingale became well known for caring for wounded soldiers during the Crimean War in the 1850's. Interestingly, her statistical analysis of the disease rates at the time and her graphical representation of these results, in some ways, was equally important as it enabled her to convince the government of the time to improve the unsanitary conditions in the hospitals there. Disease statistics have unfortunately become a familiar topic recently. She subsequently returned to England and established the first secular Nursing School in the world. Florence sent one of only two international teams of nurses to Sydney in the 1860's to establish the Nightingale system of Nursing in Australia. She was also heavily involved in health promotion, hospital design and social reform during her life.

The Australian Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, has issued a special greeting to all nurses on International Nurses Day to praise the leadership, skill, knowledge, compassion and commitment of the nursing profession and to acknowledge the contribution that nurses make to the community.

[Chatswood Private Hospital](#) celebrated the occasion with our nursing team and would like to thank all our Nurses for their dedication, care, commitment and for all their hard work and understanding during this difficult time of COVID-19.

[Click here](#) to read more.

Helping the Solomon Islands

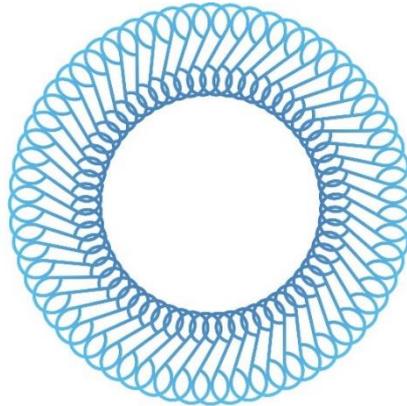


A number of [Chatswood Private Hospital's](#) community, including Kerrie Legg, Hospital Director and RN, Louise Fowler RN, [Dr Christine Younan](#), [Dr Vivek Pandya](#) and [A/Prof. Geoffrey Painter](#), have been involved in providing Ophthalmic care for the people of the Solomon Islands for many years. This association started in 1996 and over the next 16 years, 18 eye care visits were made. This assistance still continues today with equipment donations and treatment for patients in Australia, who would otherwise lose their sight due to lack of facilities in their home country.

[Chatswood Private Hospital](#) was pleased to recently be able to help a young girl, Gloria Poloso, who had blinding diabetic retinopathy. Diabetic retinopathy is one of the greatest eye care problems in the Solomon Islands and leads to irreversible blindness if not treated effectively. With support from the Solomon Island's Government and assistance from the Solomon Foundation (a charitable organisation, established to provide free medical treatment to Solomon Islanders), Gloria was brought to Australia. Once here, she initially received pre-operative laser treatment which was followed by sight saving surgery at CPH, provided pro-bono by Dr. Pandya and his anaesthetist Dr. Symons, with the assistance of [Chatswood Private Hospital](#).

The surgery was a great success and has improved and stabilised her vision. Whilst in Australia, Gloria also attended the Diabetes Centre at the Garvan Institute and has learnt lots of practical things that she can do to manage her condition better and after genetic testing, was even able to be taken off Insulin. Gloria plans to share much of this new found knowledge and education with other diabetes patients, when she returns to her home in Honiara. [Chatswood Private Hospital](#) was proud to be able to help Gloria on her road to recovery and to support the wonderful charity work of the Solomon Foundation. [Click here](#) to read more.

Optometrist Online



OPTOMETRIST ONLINE

[Optometrist Online](#) is a free website with Optometrist Association Australia (OAA) approved education Modules for Continuing Professional Development Points. Optometrist Online will be adding the following new modules as of the 1st December, 2019:

- What to Consider – Gonioscopy, Anterior Segment, Optic Disk and IOPs
- Cataract Comprehensive with Retina
- Understanding Systemic Diseases
- Surgery Case Studies
- Common Corneal and Anterior Segment Cases
- Practical Guides for Busy Optometric Practices

Earn 2-3 CPD points per module with a mixture of Therapeutic and Non-Therapeutic available.

[Click here](#) to register.

Featured Doctors



[Dr Peter Heydon](#)

Dr Peter Heydon is a fellowship trained uveitis and medical retina specialist, cataract surgeon and general ophthalmologist. He completed his undergraduate medical degree at the University of New South Wales in 2006 and then obtained a

Masters of Medicine in Ophthalmic Science at The University of Sydney. His ophthalmology training was conducted at Sydney Eye Hospital. He then undertook a 2 year fellowship in Medical Retina and Inflammatory Eye Disease/Uveitis at the renowned Moorfields Eye Hospital, London.

Peter has already been appointed as a Consultant Ophthalmologist at two respected public hospitals (Royal Prince Alfred and Liverpool). His main interests are macular degeneration, vein occlusion, diabetes and uveitis. He is also pleased to undertake cataract surgery and treat general ophthalmology. [Click here](#) to read more.



[Dr Justin Kong](#)

Specialising in Endoscopic Sinus and Nasal Airway Surgery as well as Anterior Skull Base Surgery. Other interests are Children's Ear, Nose and Throat disorders.

Justin was born in London, but was raised in Sydney from an early age. He graduated from the University of New South Wales Medical School. He then underwent Advanced General Surgical Training, during which time he completed a Master of Medicine in Clinical Epidemiology from the University of Sydney. He then began Specialist Training in Ear, Nose and Throat Surgery through the NSW training scheme and subsequently became a Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in Otolaryngology.

Justin then undertook further sub-specialty training in the field of Advanced Endoscopic Sinus Surgery and Anterior Skull Base Surgery in London at Guys and St Thomas Hospitals, Kings College University Hospital and The National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery. This Clinical Fellowship was under the mentorship of Dr David Roberts and Dr Claire Hopkins in one of the largest Endoscopic Sinus and Skull Base Surgery centres in the UK and Europe. During his time in London, Justin also lectured at the Kings College London, School of Medicine.

Justin has published in numerous surgical journals and has presented at conferences both nationally and internationally. He has been an invited Chair of Rhinological Surgery Sessions in Ear, Nose and Throat Meetings in the UK. Justin has also been actively involved in the teaching of medical students and registrars, mainly through the University of Sydney as an Honorary Associate.

In his spare time, Justin enjoys spending time with his family, playing the violin, fishing and skiing.

[Click here](#) to read more.