

Dr. Chris McLaran
M.B.,B.S.(QLD)(Hons), FRACP, FCSANZ
Provider no.: 441944T
ABN: 65812468743

Suite 9, Peninsula Specialist Centre,
Cnr. George & Florence Streets
Kippa-Ring QLD 4021
(all correspondence)
Phone: 07 3283 4046
Fax: 07 3889 3333

Cardiologist
Disorders of the Heart & Circulation

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To Whom It May Concern

It is with great pleasure that I write a testimonial for the HS-A Caboolture and District Branch. I have been Patron of this organization for many years. In this capacity I have been invited to, and attended, the organization's Annual General Meeting to update the members on current medical progress in the area of cardiovascular disease, and to provide support for projects which have benefited or will benefit the local community. Throughout the year the Branch invites other health professionals to their monthly meetings to provide updates in a wide range of cardiovascular-related topics. A monthly newsletter keeps all members informed of the organization's activities.

As each member of HS-A Caboolture and District Branch either has cardiovascular disease, or has a close relative with this disease, it gives members a unique insight of what it is to be a patient with cardiovascular disease, including the full therapeutic spectrum used in the management of cardiovascular patients (medications, invasive procedures and cardiac surgery). The members have harnessed this "experience" in order to assist current patients through the often complex and daunting diagnostic and therapeutic processes, as well as providing support for fellow patients following an acute episode of care such as cardiac surgery. This assistance is provided appropriately and in conjunction with the usual medical care.

As well as providing this "personalized" support for individual patients with cardiovascular disease members of HS-A Caboolture Branch have been actively involved in community-wide projects to assist patients and save lives. Notably HS-A Caboolture Branch has been instrumental in having seven (7) Automatic External Defibrillators installed in high use public spaces in the Caboolture region, six funded by a government grant and one device funded by using its own funds. Members are also in discussions with the Caboolture Public Hospital to try to have a Pacemaker Clinic established at the hospital. This would reduce the burden of travel for many elderly and frail patients as well as provide a needed local expertise in trouble-shooting implanted pacing and defibrillation devices. This work is ongoing and needs to be supported given the benefits this organization provides to the Caboolture regional community.

Yours faithfully,



C.J. McLaran
Cardiologist