

Springwood's heroes

Rochedale South woman thanks Springwood Medical Centre for saving her life

WHAT started off as a visit to the doctor for a check up turned into a life or death situation in the space of a few hours for Rochedale South resident Bernadette Du Reitz.

After noticing bruises forming on her body and her energy levels decreasing, Ms Du Reitz decided to visit the doctors at the Springwood Medical Centre on Monday, August 20.

Within a few minutes, she was ordered by her practitioner, Dr Muhammed Khan to immediately go and have some blood tests.

Having thought she would need to return in a few days for the results, she went home to relax.

But when she found the police knocking her on the door at 7pm that night ordering her to go to hospital, she knew then something was very wrong.

"It wasn't until the police came I was told that my doctor and his staff had been trying to reach me all afternoon," Ms Du Reitz said.

"But my phone was in my handbag on silent so I didn't hear it.

"The police had come to my house telling me an ambulance was on its way to take me to hospital."

Ms Du Reitz was rushed to the Logan Hospital for a blood transfusion before being transferred to the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane where she then underwent more tests.

"I had two bone marrow tests and biopsies done on my neck and chest," she said.

"Last week I found out I have been diagnosed with Myelodysplastic Syndrome (MDS) which is a type of Leukaemia.

"When I found out I just thought okay, I just have to deal with this and get on with it.

"There is no point getting upset because it will only make it worse."

Having only been diagnosed a few days ago, Ms Du Reitz said doctors are still trying to work out



THANKS: Bernadette Du Reitz with practice manager Nicole Martin, who she believes helped save her life along with her doctor Muhammed Khan.

INGA WILLIAMS IR190912DOCTOR5

what kind of treatment she would need.

"The doctors are still trying to figure out the best way to cure me, because if they give me the wrong medication, it could kill me," she said.

"So what they are waiting for at the moment is to see if it flares up."

In a sign of gratitude, she once

again visited the medical centre last week to say thank you to the doctor who she believed saved her life and practice manager Nicole Martin, who also helped by contacting the police.

"I just wanted to say a very big thankyou to everyone involved, as I believe they saved my life" she said.

"So thankyou to the staff at the

Springwood Medical Centre, the police, the paramedics and the doctors at all the hospitals.

"Everyone has told me that Dr Khan is a great GP and is a real keeper, and I agree with them."

Dr Khan was overwhelmed and surprised by her gratitude.

Unfortunately, Dr Khan and Ms Martin were unable to comment.