



**NATIONAL HONOURS:** Former Rockhampton nurse Glen Riverstone won the New Inventor's People Choice Award on the ABC's last night.

Picture supplied.

# Idea is a cut above

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A CLEVER invention born in Rockhampton last night won Glen Riverstone the New Inventor's People Choice Award on the ABC's *The New Inventors*.

Mr Riverstone, 22, was awarded the prestigious title for creating the 'Snapit' ampoule opener, a product which has already been snapped up on the overseas medical market.

His revolutionary invention has been praised by top medical and cosmetic professionals.

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# Clever Glen is people's choice

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The product prevents people from cutting their hands on ampoules (small glass-sealed vials used to contain or preserve fluid).

Mr Riverstone, an emergency nurse who recently moved to Brisbane, said he found the motivation to create the product in his own workplace.

"I cut myself a few times opening ampoules, and after a bit of research, discovered that a lot of people were having the same problem," he said during a phone call from Brisbane yesterday.

"I thought if that many people were having trouble, maybe I could be silly enough to invent something to help.

"The idea just evolved through trial and error, and in the end I

achieved exactly what I wanted to achieve.

He said he was humbled to receive an award that was voted for by the public.

"It's great that they recognised the product," he said.

The invention took Mr Riverstone nine months to complete from concept to commercialisation, helped enormously by an \$80,000 grant from the state government.

The product is marketed through Brisbane-based company Click-Smart, and he claims royalties.

He said the company had achieved in one year what he had hoped to achieve in five.

As part of his prize, the young inventor won a trip to Hong Kong next month to visit the Innovation Design and Technology Expo.



**BRIGHT IDEA: Glen Riverstone shows off the trophy he won on the program last night.**

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