



The Hon Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

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PROGRESS ON THE ILLAWARRA CANCER CENTRE

The Minister for Health and Minister for Medical Research, Jillian Skinner, today announced the tender has been awarded for the \$14 million expansion of the Illawarra Cancer Care Centre at Wollongong Hospital, which will deliver a significant boost to cancer services in the region.

Mrs Skinner said the tender also includes the early works for the \$86 million redevelopment of the hospital.

“This project will extensively expand the existing cancer care centre with a combination of new construction and refurbishment works. The development will also significantly improve capacity to provide the highest quality cancer services for people in the Illawarra,” she said.

The upgraded centre will deliver:

- Construction of a third radiotherapy bunker at Wollongong Hospital;
- Installation of a third linear accelerator;
- Expansion of chemotherapy treatment places from 11 to 17;
- Outpatient clinics/consultation area;
- Day oncology, haematology and therapies;
- Waiting and reception space;
- Clinical trials areas; and
- Staff, storage and support areas.

Lee Evans MP (Heathcote) and Gareth Ward MP (Kiama) said this upgrade will respond to growing demand for local treatment options.

Mr Evans said: “The new cancer centre will result in quality, networked services with the capacity to meet the future needs of the region.”

Mr Ward said: “The capacity to treat cancer patients closer to home is great news for those suffering the disease, as well as for their family and friends, supporting them through their treatment and recovery.”

Richard Crookes Construction was awarded the tender and works are scheduled to begin within the next fortnight. The cancer centre is due for completion in the first half of 2013.