



The Hon Barry O'Farrell
Premier of NSW
Minister for Western Sydney

The Hon Jillian Skinner
Minister for Health
Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

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WESTERN SYDNEY PATIENTS WIN: \$300M FOR BLACKTOWN MT DRUITT HOSPITALS

NSW Premier and Minister for Western Sydney Barry O'Farrell and Minister for Health Jillian Skinner today announced the NSW Government would more than double the funding committed to the expansion of Blacktown and Mt Drutt hospitals to \$300 million.

The \$300 million upgrade will include a new inpatient building, additional intensive care beds, expanded emergency services, a new comprehensive cancer centre and an in-centre renal dialysis unit. This exceeds the NSW Liberals & Nationals election commitment, as well as Labor's, and demonstrates we're getting on with the job.

"This is great news for patients and healthcare professionals in Western Sydney," Mr O'Farrell said.

"This government has more than doubled the funding for the Blacktown Mount Drutt hospital expansion and will deliver an extra 170 hospital beds, taking the total to 650 beds across the two campuses.

"This additional capacity addresses the rapid growth in demand and the health services needs of the community, and will also provide an improved capability to recruit and retain a first class workforce.

"Residents in the Blacktown and Mt Drutt areas will have access to these improved facilities and enable families in Western Sydney to continue to benefit from the NSW Government's Better Hospitals and Healthcare Plan."

Mrs Skinner said that the expansion project would involve the construction of a new comprehensive cancer centre as part of a major new inpatient building adjacent to the existing Blacktown Hospital. It will also include a significant expansion to the car parking facilities at the site, including a multi-level car park with 600 spaces at Blacktown.

"This is very exciting news for patients, nurses, doctors, allied health staff and the broader Western Sydney community," Mrs Skinner said.

"The increased capacity of 170 more beds, more parking spaces, greater capacity in emergency and intensive care, expanded in-centre dialysis and dental care, will result in a health service that can better serve patients," she said.

"The new building at Blacktown will also offer opportunities for enhanced education, teaching and research and be linked with the existing hospital via a fully enclosed pedestrian hospital street.

“The Mt Druitt campus will be reconfigured to provide expanded dental services, a new main entrance, and major investment in Central Sterilising Services Department to support the role of the hospital as an Elective Surgical Centre.”

The expansion project will deliver the following service enhancements:

- Additional emergency department places and co-located psychiatric emergency care centre unit;
- Additional intensive care / high dependency beds;
- Additional inpatient beds;
- Additional outpatient clinics and treatment spaces;
- In-centre renal dialysis unit;
- New comprehensive cancer centre;
- Additional dental chairs;
- Additional cardiac catheterisation capability;
- Establishment of a nuclear medicine service at Blacktown campus; and
- Expansion of medical imaging, pharmacy, pathology, and Central Sterilising Services Department.
- A new entry and additional capacity to enable the Elective Surgical Centre (ESC) at Mt Druitt.

Mr O’Farrell and Mrs Skinner today inspected the concept plans for the Blacktown Mt Druitt Hospital expansion.

Early construction works will commence at the Blacktown campus in August and at Mt Druitt in November this year. The multi-storey car park will be completed in 2014.

Construction, including the new building, Comprehensive Cancer Centre and additional inpatient beds at Blacktown Hospital will be completed in 2015 with the remaining service enhancements to be completed progressively during 2016.