



The Hon Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

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WORK TO START ON NEW REHAB FACILITY AT KURRI KURRI

Construction will start today on a new rehabilitation unit at the Kurri Kurri Hospital site, the Minister for Health, Jillian Skinner, said today.

Tuncurry-based company Ware Building has been awarded the tender to construct the 14-bed facility.

Minister Skinner said the beds would help take the pressure off existing acute hospital services in the Lower Hunter and will be used by patients who are no longer acutely unwell.

“This new unit will provide much needed additional beds for the region,” Minister Skinner said.

“It will focus on rehabilitation, particularly for elderly patients, and will include patients who have undergone orthopaedic surgery,” she said.

“The NSW Government is rolling out additional sub-acute beds across the state to help meet the need for rehabilitation services and help take the pressure off our existing acute hospital services.”

The Hunter will get 30 of the new sub-acute beds.

The new units are scheduled to open at Kurri Kurri and Belmont hospitals in February next year following refurbishment and construction work at both hospitals.

Construction of the Hunter’s two new sub-acute units is expected to cost \$11 million.

“Rehabilitation is an important part of care for patients to help them on their road to recovery from illness or surgery.

“We have already opened eight of the beds in another part of Kurri Kurri Hospital and 14 beds at Belmont as an interim measure until the new units are complete.”

The Kurri Kurri unit is being built on the site of the old nurses’ home, which was demolished last year to make way for the new facility.

Daryl Jackson Robin Dyke Pty Ltd was appointed last year as the project design consultant for the Kurri project.