



# Jillian Skinner MP

## Minister for Health

## Minister for Medical Research

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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Wednesday, 5 September 2012

### **NEW DENILINU ONCOLOGY OUTREACH UNIT OPEN**

Many cancer patients at Deniliquin will now be able to receive their treatment locally rather than travelling to Albury Wodonga, the Minister for Health, Jillian Skinner and the Member for Murray Darling, John Williams announced today.

The Deniliquin Oncology Outreach Unit will be ready for patients from this Friday, 7 September.

Mrs Skinner said the clinic has been established to benefit patients who are receiving treatment by Border Medical Oncology at Wodonga.

The new service, located at the Day Surgery Unit at Deniliquin Health Service, has been made possible through a \$300,000 Innovation Grant from the Cancer Institute NSW.

“The opening of this outreach clinic is wonderful news for a number of patients who can now receive local treatment close to home,” Mrs Skinner said.

“At what is a daunting time in their lives, many local patients will be able to receive their chemotherapy in a familiar, comfortable location.”

Patients will be assessed for their suitability to receive treatment at the unit by their medical oncologist from Border Medical Oncology.

They will have their care jointly managed by their treating medical oncologist and local GP.

Mr Williams welcomed the announcement saying it would bring comfort to a number of local cancer patients and their families.

“I understand that two nurses at Deniliquin Health Service have completed six weeks training in chemotherapy administration and a third nurse will undertake training in the next few months.

“The unit will initially operate every Friday and medical oncologist bimonthly visits to Deniliquin will continue as normal.

“This new outreach clinic greatly improves access for many Deniliquin cancer patients to receive treatment in their own home town,” Mr Williams said.

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