



Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health

Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

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NEW CANCER AND ADVANCED TREATMENT CENTRE FOR PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL

The Minister for Health and Minister for Medical Research, Jillian Skinner, and the Member for Coogee, Bruce Notley-Smith, today broke ground for the construction of a new \$76 million facility that will deliver modern facilities and provide treatment and post-care to cancer patients.

Construction will now commence on the Nelune Comprehensive Cancer Centre and the Australian Advanced Treatment Centre at Prince of Wales Hospital.

Named in honour of Nelune Rajapakse, the Nelune Comprehensive Cancer Centre will provide a patient-focused approach to the treatment of patients with cancer and blood disorders in one centralised location.

The Australian Advanced Treatment Centre will be the first purpose-built early phase clinical trial facility in NSW, which will provide the opportunity for stand out medical treatment and cures-of-tomorrow to be tested.

“The NSW Government has contributed \$47 million towards the development of this project and this significant investment is a reflection of our commitment to improving the lives of those affected by cancer and in progressing medical research in NSW.

“The Centre will provide an integrated patient-centred approach to the treatment of patients with cancer and haematological disorders,” she said.

The new Centre will bring ambulatory, outpatient and radiotherapy services currently spread across eight sites on the Randwick Hospitals Campus into one centralised main building.

“The Centre provides services to over 1500 new patients per year and up to 5000 inpatient cancer treatments, and is responsible for delivery of radiation oncology treatment to patients across the hospital campus and provides regional services to cancer patients from Tamworth, Bathurst and Canberra,” Mrs Skinner said.

“Additionally, the Centre offers a major teaching role in the training of oncologists, radiation therapists, physicists and nurses throughout NSW, and is the site of clinical trials research.”

Minister Skinner said the Advanced Treatment Centre will promote NSW as a premier location for clinical trials and provide an opportunity for stand-out medical treatments

to be adequately tested, meaning more patients will be able to access state-of-the-art medications for all diseases, including cancer.

Mr Notley-Smith said this new specialised facility was another major improvement for cancer patients and a huge coup for medical research throughout South Eastern Sydney.

“This significant investment is a reflection of our commitment to improving the lives of those affected by cancer and in progressing medical research in NSW,” he said.

“The project will be carried out in two stages and involves the construction of four new radiotherapy bunkers, transfer of linear accelerators from the existing facility and demolition of the current Radiation Oncology building at Prince of Wales Hospital.”

The Prince of Wales Hospital Foundation has contributed \$10.7 million for the Centre, of which the Nelune Foundation has contributed \$5 million. This has been complemented by funding from the Commonwealth Government and UNSW.

The contract for the early works construction on the building has been awarded to Australian construction company, Richard Crookes Constructions.

Completion of the new radiotherapy bunkers expected to be completed in March 2014. The second stage of the project is expected to be completed in 2015.