



Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health

Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 10 July 2013

\$3 MILLION EQUIPMENT BOOST FOR WESTERN NSW HOSPITALS

Patients at hospitals including Orange, Dubbo, Mudgee, Parkes, Forbes, Bathurst, Cowra, Coonabarabran and Bourke will benefit from a \$3 million equipment upgrade, Health Minister Jillian Skinner said today.

Mrs Skinner said the NSW Government is investing \$3 million for the new endoscopes, which allow the visual examination of hollow organs or cavities of the body, including the intestines, kidney or throat.

“The NSW Government is committed to ensuring hospitals in rural and regional areas have access to modern equipment to deliver best quality care for patients,” Mrs Skinner said.

“I’m told these endoscopes will greatly enhance Western NSW Local Health District’s inventory and will ensure patients receive the highest level of medical examination.

“We want our hospital staff to be able to use the very latest in technology and I know local clinicians are excited to use this equipment.”

Mrs Skinner said the additional equipment will allow Western NSW patients even better access to care close to their homes.

“It’s heartening to know this investment in equipment will lead to better care and in some cases, better patient outcomes.”

Bathurst Surgical Theatres Nurse Unit Manager, Brigitte Hodges, said clinicians are looking forward to using the new equipment.

“This is the latest in endoscopic technology and it’s always exciting to be able to use top of the line equipment,” Ms Hodges said.

Clinicians at Mudgee Health Service have already used the new endoscopic equipment, and the feedback from staff has been very positive. The remaining eight facilities will be rolling out their new flexible endoscopic equipment in coming weeks.