



# **Jillian Skinner MP**

## **Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research**

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Friday, 15 November 2013

#### **NSW WOMEN TO ACCESS BREASTSCREEN SERVICES IN ACT**

NSW Health Minister Jillian Skinner and the ACT Chief Minister and Minister for Health, Katy Gallagher today announced the signing of a memorandum of understanding which will see NSW women who work in the ACT once again able to access breast screening services in the ACT.

“This decision is based on significant feedback that we received from NSW women who found it difficult to attend a NSW screening clinic during business hours,” the Chief Minister said.

“Women who are residents in the border region between NSW and ACT and who undertake paid or unpaid work in the ACT will once again have access to breast screening services in the ACT,” Mrs Skinner said.

“It is important all women have ease of access to breast screening services and I’m pleased to see working women will be able to visit a BreastScreen clinic nearby,” Mrs Skinner said.

“A woman diagnosed with breast cancer in NSW today has among the highest chances of survival in the world – but we know early detection is the key to survival,” Mrs Skinner said.

“We are both delighted that the ACT Government and NSW Government have been able to work together to deliver this service for these women. These valuable screening services are provided at no cost to the women,” the Chief Minister said.

“Women aged between 50-74 years are strongly encouraged to attend every two years for a screening mammogram. Regular screening has shown to be of significant benefit in terms of reducing deaths from breast cancer in this age group” the Chief Minister concluded.

1000 appointment places have been allocated to NSW women who work in the ACT, which equates to 20 screening appointments per week.

ACT women and NSW women working in the ACT, who are due to be screened, are encouraged to call 13 20 50 for an appointment.