



Jillian Skinner
Minister for Health

MEDIA RELEASE

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LONG JETTY DIALYSIS UNIT OFFICIALLY OPENED

Health Minister Jillian Skinner today visited the Central Coast to officially open Long Jetty's new dialysis unit at the Long Jetty Healthcare Centre.

She was joined by Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter and Central Coast Scot MacDonald and Member for Terrigal Adam Crouch as she toured the new \$3.5 million unit, which will help meet increased demand for renal services in the region.

Mrs Skinner said the new dialysis unit provides an additional 10 treatment chairs for people requiring dialysis, with the capacity to open a further 10 treatment chairs as demand increases.

"Dialysis is a lifeline for people with renal disease and this new facility brings the total number of treatment chairs to 43 across four renal units on the Central Coast," Mrs Skinner said.

"This new unit will operate one shift per day, six days a week to cater for the demand for renal services, which has grown by 8.5 per cent over the past two years."

Mr MacDonald said the unit maximises natural light and patients will benefit from the views onto a relaxing garden while receiving treatment.

"Patients spend between four and six hours, three times a week dialysing and providing a comfortable environment is an important part of caring for their wellbeing," Mr MacDonald said.

Mr Crouch said the Central Coast community is benefiting from the NSW Government's commitment to provide health care closer to home.

"More than 120 people receive dialysis across the Central Coast Local Health District's renal units and this new service will be a welcome addition," he said.

The Long Jetty dialysis unit includes consulting rooms and education facilities for renal staff. The home haemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis training service have also relocated from Gosford Hospital to the new unit, where a purpose-designed area will afford patients greater privacy and comfort as they learn how to dialyse.