



**Jillian Skinner**  
Minister for Health

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **A NSW-FIRST FOR YOUNG PEOPLE RECOVERING FROM BRAIN INJURY OR ILLNESS**

Health Minister Jillian Skinner today officially opened NSW's first dedicated inpatient ward for children undergoing rehabilitation following brain injury or illness.

Mrs Skinner was joined at the Sydney Children's Hospital in Randwick by Member for Coogee Bruce Notley-Smith and Member for Vaucluse Gabrielle Upton as she toured the refurbished Neurosurgical, Neurology, Rehabilitation and Orthopaedic Ward and met young patients and staff.

The refurbished ward - known as C2South ward - consists of four inpatient beds located in private single rooms, with capacity for a parent or carer to sleep overnight.

"Young neurological rehabilitation patients who were previously cared for in various wards across the hospital are now centralized in C2South ward," Mrs Skinner said.

"The ward's unique, home-like design helps young patients and families cope with lengthy hospitalisations, which can be from one week to three months.

"It is family-centred and equipped with a food preparation area, dual dining/study room, lounge/play room, bedroom and ensuite facilities, allowing young patients to relearn daily tasks, such as making breakfast or getting dressed, and thus become more independent before they transition home," she said.

As well as the inpatient facility, C2South ward offers a day-only rehabilitation service which enables patients to leave hospital sooner but return for blocks of intensive rehabilitation and treatment.

The refurbishment of C2South Ward cost in excess of \$2.2 million and was jointly funded by the NSW Government and Sydney Children's Hospital Foundation donors, with charity Merlin's Magic Wand donating a playroom and treatment room.