



Jillian Skinner
Minister for Health

MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW LEADS THE WAY IN SURGICAL EXCELLENCE

Australia's first centre dedicated to world-leading research into surgical techniques was officially opened by Health Minister Jillian Skinner at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital today.

The Institute of Academic Surgery features a simulated operating theatre, surgical skills laboratory, microsurgery laboratory, tissue biobank and space for clinical research and education.

"NSW is again leading the nation in ensuring patients receive the very best care through clinical excellence and state-of-the-art technology," Mrs Skinner said.

"The Institute of Academic Surgery will allow surgical trainees and medical students to research and practise innovative surgical techniques and advance their skills in a simulated environment.

"Importantly, it will also enable them to build confidence before progressing to real operating theatres and real patients," she said.

RPA Hospital, Device Technologies and the University of Sydney are also developing the Southern Hemisphere's only training centre for robotic surgery, bringing research, training and clinical care together on a site with a stellar history in surgical care.

The robot allows surgeons to work with greater precision using less invasive incisions, reducing the trauma of surgery so patients have shorter hospital stays and can return to normal life sooner.

Every patient treated by the robot will be part of a research study designed to improve the care of patients in the years and decades to come.