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19 June 2017

\$341 million investment for Concord Hospital

Concord Hospital will get Australia's first comprehensive care centre for Defence Force personnel and their families, additional inpatient capacity, enhanced ambulatory services and a new cancer centre as part of a \$341 million upgrade delivered in the 2017-18 NSW Budget.

Premier Gladys Berejiklian, Treasurer Dominic Perrottet, Minister for Health Brad Hazzard and Drummoyne MP John Sidoti made the announcement of more than double the funding committed in 2015, at Concord Hospital.

"These upgrades will deliver first-class health facilities for local people as well as the men and women of our Defence Forces and their families," Ms Berejiklian said.

"These people have served their country and put their lives on the line to protect us, and they deserve the best health care we can provide for them."

The funding is planned to deliver a new comprehensive cancer centre, additional inpatient capacity, enhanced ambulatory care services, enhancement and co-location of the ANZAC clinical research centre, new ward accommodation for aged care, psychogeriatric and rehabilitation services and associated rehabilitation facilities such as gymnasiums.

In addition, the nation's first Defence Force Centre of Excellence will provide specialist services for returned veterans and their families, including substance and alcohol misuse programs, mild traumatic brain injury services, specialist pain management services, rehabilitation services, psychological wellbeing services and family support services.

Sydney Local Health District Chief Executive Dr Teresa Anderson said the upgrades would provide facilities to deliver comprehensive services for patients and returned servicemen and women.

"Concord Hospital is a very special place with a strong reputation in patient care, research and supporting for veterans. This funding is a very welcome boost for patients in one of the fastest growing communities in the state and for our amazing staff and I can't wait to see the exceptional services offered," Dr Anderson said.

Minister Hazzard said the funding would prepare Concord Hospital for the future.



Dr John Cullen (left) and Chief Executive, Dr Teresa Anderson (right) with Health Minister, Brad Hazzard.

“To all the doctors and nurses at Concord who have spoken to me - I’m very pleased to say that the World War II ramp wards will be consigned to history and be demolished,” he said.

“The aged care and rehabilitation precinct is highly respected for its top-class patient care but is in need of a big revamp to keep up with the times – and we are making sure this happens as soon as possible.”

Early and enabling works are due to begin in the second half of the year, with work to be staged to minimise disruption to patients and staff and keep the hospital operating during construction.