Tuesday 4 September, 2012

Concord Cancer Centre launched

Cancer survivors and their families are set to benefit following the official launch of Concord Cancer Centre, at Concord Repatriation General Hospital (CRGH).

Sydney Local Health District (SLHD) Director of Cancer Services, Associate Professor Philip Beale, said Concord Cancer Centre will build on CRGH’s existing cancer services.

“It offers comprehensive and cutting-edge patient-centered care, where individuals and their families are empowered to make informed choices about the best treatment options,” Dr Beale said.

“Concord Repatriation General Hospital has been providing excellent cancer care for more than 40 years and the Concord Cancer Centre will build on that tradition, while also focusing on research in to more advanced treatment options.”

Concord Cancer Centre enjoys a close relationship with the ANZAC Research Institute and the Asbestos Diseases Research Institute, ADRI, which are both on campus at CRGH.

These institutes shared $7 million in grants this year for cancer research.

“The strong research culture and existing clinical trial units at Concord will ensure patients have timely access to the very latest in treatment advances,” Dr Beale said.

Concord Cancer Centre and CRGH have also started fundraising to establish the Sydney Survivorship Centre at Concord.

There is already a survivorship gym on site, and numerous research programs are looking in to various health concerns of cancer survivors, such as memory loss, fatigue and sleep patterns.

“The concept of survivorship is the way forward for cancer treatment,” Dr Beale said.

“It is about looking at the total lifestyle needs and concerns of a cancer patient, and not just their diagnosis and treatment.”

The Sydney Survivorship Centre at Concord will offer access to allied health specialists, education and resources, with a focus on meeting the ongoing health needs of patients, their families and carers.