

Bronnie Taylor Minister for Women Minister for Regional Health Minister for Mental Health

MEDIA RELEASE

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SPECT-ACULAR BOOST TO PATIENT IMAGING IN GRIFFITH

Healthcare in Griffith and surrounding communities has been enhanced with a new SPECT-CT scanner now operational at Griffith Base Hospital, delivered as part of the \$250 million redevelopment.

Minister for Regional Health Bronnie Taylor said the NSW Liberal and Nationals Government is committed to ensuring people living in regional, rural and remote areas of the State can access high quality, timely healthcare and have excellent patient experiences and outcomes.

"The \$250 million Griffith Base Hospital Redevelopment is a landmark project for the region, which will guarantee Griffith and the surrounding communities have access to state-of-the-art health facilities and enhanced health services closer to home," Mrs Taylor said.

"With the new SPECT- CT scanner now in place at the existing Griffith Hospital, patients are already benefitting from this service. Scans are already being delivered, while construction of the new purpose-built three-storey clinical services building continues."

SPECT- CT is where two different types of scans are taken and the images or pictures from each are fused or merged together. The fused scan can provide more precise information about how different parts of the body function and more clearly identify potential medical issues.

The SPECT- CT scanner will be transferred into the new clinical services building, which is due for completion in 2025.

In addition, a new CT scanner is also being delivered, as part of the redevelopment, and is expected to be installed in the coming months. It will replace the existing CT scanner and will have the latest technology and imaging capability.

Duty MLC for Murray Wes Fang said the new hospital has been designed to support contemporary models of care, with all major health services under one roof, including an improved ED, and increased specialist geriatric and rehabilitation beds. "There will also be surgical, and medical inpatient units, including four beds to support patients aged 16 years and over requiring short-stay, low acuity mental health services," Mr Fang said.

"Maternity and paediatric services will also feature in the new building, along with expanded outpatient services, including more specialist clinics, renal and oncology services."

Other major projects in Murrumbidgee Local Health District include:

- The completed \$431 million redevelopment of Wagga Wagga Base Hospital
- The completed \$50 million Tumut Hospital
- A new ambulance station at Tumut Hospital under the NSW Government's \$232 million Rural Ambulance Infrastructure Reconfiguration (RAIR) program
- \$80 million announced for Temora Hospital Redevelopment
- \$25 million announced for Finley Hospital Upgrade.

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