

Midland Health Campus Project Update

North Metropolitan Area Health Service

December 2008

Minister gives green light to Midland Health Campus

It was celebrations all round last month when Health Minister Dr Kim Hames signalled the completed rollout of a new \$3 million Comprehensive Stroke Service based at Swan District Hospital as a major milestone for plans to deliver a new metropolitan general hospital in Midland.

The Minister publicly declared his commitment to open a new, state-of-the-art metropolitan general hospital in Midland by 2014.

“The new Midland Health Campus will be the first new public hospital in the area for over 50 years,” he said. “Clinical services provided at Swan District Hospital would eventually transfer to the new facility when it opens.”

The Minister said the new campus would ensure people living in one of the city’s fastest growing regions had access to a comprehensive range of specialist hospital services on their doorstep.

“Expanding key services now, such as care for patients who suffer stroke, is integral to our plans for the new hospital,” he said.

“Stroke is Australia’s second biggest killer and one of the greatest causes of disability – one Australian suffers a stroke every 10 minutes. As our population in Western Australia grows and ages, it is vital we have state-of-the-art services for treating this deadly condition.”

The service is the first of two to be established under the NMAHS reform program, with a second Comprehensive Stroke Service also planned at Joondalup and a Stroke Rehabilitation Unit at Osborne Park Hospital. Once all three services are operational, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital will be able to focus on only the most serious cases as one of the State’s two specialist tertiary stroke centres.



New direction for stroke care

Head of the new stroke service Dr Timothy Bates said thanks to the new service, most local patients who suffered a stroke would finally be able to receive the treatment they needed much closer to home.

“You can’t under-estimate the benefits for patients in not having to travel across town to other parts of Perth for treatment or rehabilitation,” he said. “It can make a big difference in their road to recovery and also reduces stress on both them and their families.”

Each year around 160 patients present at Swan’s Emergency Department with symptoms of stroke. In the past, most have had to be transferred to either Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital or Royal Perth Hospital for specialist care. Now however, most will receive emergency treatment right through to rehabilitation at Swan District Hospital.

Dr Bates said the service reflected exciting new clinical approaches being developed for patients across the North Metropolitan Area Health Service.

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Community spirit alive for NAIDOC



This years winning entry for the NAIDOC 2008 Poster Competition was produced by brothers Duwun (Anthony) and Laniyuk (Ian) Lee, Larrakia men born and raised in Darwin. The brothers' unique collaborative approach sees

Duwun do many of the designs using ink, pencil or paint on paper or canvas, before Laniyuk scans them and converts into digital format to modify as they progress. We think you'll agree the results of their 2008 poster are stunning.

Staff at Swan District Hospital got into the spirit of this year's NAIDOC Week to pay tribute to the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia.

Organised by Gretta Wallis, Swan Kalamunda Health Services (SKHS) Coordinator of Clinical Planning and Redevelopment, around 30 staff joined in a special morning tea to celebrate NAIDOC.

Gretta said NAIDOC, which this year carried the theme Advance Australia Fair, wasn't just an event for Indigenous people.

"With a significant proportion of Swan Kalamunda's population being Indigenous, it made sense to join in their celebrations and show our unity and respect for their traditions," she said. "Our wonderful catering staff baked delicious damper topped with traditional bush jams, and we were delighted to have a representative from our Indigenous Community Reference Group join us for the morning."

Gretta said the hospital's staff was keen to make the event annual to show its support for NAIDOC.

New radiology service opens at Kalamunda Hospital

Residents of Kalamunda and surrounding suburbs can once again access x-ray and CT scanning services with the launch of Perth Radiological Clinic at Kalamunda Hospital.

The new facility means hundreds of patients will be able to use radiology services much closer to home instead of having to travel to Swan District Hospital or further afield.

SKHS Executive Director Dr Peter Wynn Owen said the new radiology service would ensure patients in the Hills area could have scans closer to home and receive their results much faster than if they were to travel to Swan District Hospital.

Perth Radiological Clinic is the only private radiology provider with a new digital image delivery service. It was developed through a collaboration between Perth Radiological Clinic and the WA Health Department, using the Picture Archiving Communications System (PACS).

PACS is an electronic storage system which enables clinicians at any public hospital to view scans on their computer screens within minutes of them being taken.

General Manager of the Perth Radiological Clinic Lenka Psar-McCabe said the company had invested heavily in equipment and upgrading of the hospital's radiology area. The refurbishment included replacing all lead lining in the walls, new furniture and fittings and investment in a digital radiology platform.

"We're delighted to offer Hills residents and care providers easier access to radiology services. We are committed to ensuring we meet their needs and will consider increasing services offered if there is demand," said Ms Psar-McCabe.



Kalamunda MLA and Minister for Planning John Day, who officially opened the new service on November 18, said he was very pleased to see the services return to Kalamunda Hospital.

"Kalamunda Hospital provides care to a growing community of more than 50,000 people and it is important that vital services such as x-ray and CT scanning are available locally," Mr Day said.

"I know residents of the Kalamunda district hold their local hospital in high regard and want it to continue providing as many services as possible."

The substantial investment in radiology services is part of a major modernisation program at Kalamunda Hospital. Work on a \$3m upgrade of the Hospital's theatres is due to commence in 2009 with the first new theatre expected to open mid next year.

Clinical planning steps up for new hospital services

Planning for innovative new ways for patients to receive their clinical care through the Swan Kalamunda Health Service, in preparation for its transition to a major general hospital in the heart of Midland, was stepped up recently.

SKHS Coordinator of Clinical Planning and Redevelopment, Gretta Wallis, said it was really important for clinical teams and health workers to start thinking now about how they could improve their services and systems, particularly in the area of patient flow.

“Having a clear understanding about where we want to head in our clinical reform is really crucial,” Ms Wallis explains. “We can’t wait for a new hospital to start making the changes – our transition to new and better ways of treating and managing our patients is something we can all start planning and contributing to now.”

A range of working groups have been established by SKHS to help identify and map out the key priorities for its clinical planning and reform. The results of their work will also become part of the new hospital’s Clinical Framework. Ms Wallis said the key role of the Clinical Planning Groups (CPGs), which were represented by staff with a direct understanding and involvement in their service areas, was to investigate and describe how services – clinical and non-clinical – could best interact and work with each other.

“In addition to helping us develop improved clinical practices and processes, the information they give us will also help shape the new hospital’s design,” she said.

MEET THE CHAIRS

- Mark Wiklund, Physiotherapist, Chair of Ambulatory Care CPG
- Dr Graeme Clark, General Surgeon, Chair of Surgical Services CPG
- Dr Glen Brand, Physician, Chair of Medical Services CPG
- Dr John Bates, Obstetrician, Chair of Maternity Services CPG
- Karen Robertson, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Chair of Paediatric Services CPG
- Mr Michael Edwards, Orthopaedic Surgeon, Chair of Orthopaedics CPG
- Dr Mandy Boudville, Geriatrician, Chair of Aged Care CPG
- Professor Greg Sweetman/
Dr Amanda Stafford, Emergency Medicine, Co-chairs of Emergency Department CPG

Examples of what the groups are focusing on:

Maternity services

Choice of care providers (where medically appropriate), such as:

- Midwifery-led care
- Obstetrician care
- GP-shared Care



Paediatrics

- Streaming of paediatric cases in ED
- Role of paediatric nurse practitioner
- Increased use of outpatient services and paediatric HITH (Hospital In The Home)

Emergency care

- Reducing delays for patients
- Establishing appropriate locations outside ED for patients needing short stay admission
- Alternative models for people with minor injuries/illness
- Realigning staff roles to assist quicker flows



Acute Medical Services

- Faster access to ED care
- Clinical care on ambulatory basis (ie: out of hospital)
- Inter-relationships with other medical specialties and sub-specialties

General Surgical Services

- How to manage increasing volume and complexity of surgery cases
- Increased use of pre-admission services
- Increased range of day surgery



Orthopaedic Surgical Services

- Elective and emergency orthopaedic surgical services
- Shared care ortho-geriatric model

Ambulatory care

- Examining types of cases suitable for HITH admission
- Increasing range of outpatient clinics and therapy services on ambulatory basis



Aged care

Emphasis on Aged Care teamwork to reduce total time in ED, investigating feasibility of:

- ACE (Acute Care of the Elderly Inpatient) to strengthen shared care between physicians, geriatricians and multidisciplinary teams; comprehensive holistic geriatric assessment; promoting independence and function; and early discharge planning
- GRACE (Geriatric Rapid Acute Care Evaluation) outreach to support aged care residents with access to rapid treatment and appropriate care in hospital or home environment

Want to know more? Contact Gretta Wallis on
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New direction for stroke care

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“From the time a patient is admitted, we take a team approach to carefully plan their journey back to health – from presenting at emergency through to getting them home again as quickly and safely as possible to recover and rehabilitate out of the hospital environment,” he said.

“We have access to a range of allied health therapies through our outpatient clinic, and patients can receive care in the community through ambulatory care services such as Hospital in the Home (HITH) and Rehabilitation in the Home (RITH).”

The new service consists of a 12-bed inpatient ward dedicated to treating stroke patients, outpatient and rehabilitation clinics, and home-based services.

The ward and clinics located within the hospital has a staff of 28 including doctors, nurses, allied health professionals (including physiotherapists and occupational health therapists) and support staff.

Clinical Nurse Specialist Jeanine Alford said prevention and early intervention would also play a key role through the new service, with stroke prevention clinics focusing on educating patients who have had a transient ischaemic attack (TIA).

“We’ll be putting a lot more emphasis on stroke prevention for patients who have suffered a minor or ‘mini’ stroke, or are putting themselves at risk through lifestyle factors,” she said.

“Our efforts towards stroke care and stroke avoidance will focus on education and support at every level - from health care workers to stroke survivors and their families, and to the community through more strenuous public health messages.”

“Our goal is to help patients and their families understand how to avoid another stroke.”

Jeanine said the stroke team was very excited about the trend towards patient care being managed in the community.

“An important goal for us is to find ways for more patients to go home and recover in the familiar surroundings of their own home as quickly and safely as possible,” she said.

“That will see our partnerships and networks with primary care providers in the community become even stronger.”

SKHS Executive Director Peter Wynn-Owen said the new service was an example of the great strides being made by the hospital to achieve clinical reform.

“We remain on course to open our new hospital in 2014”



Dr Peter Wynn Owen
Executive Director,
Swan Kalamunda Health Service

I was delighted to be able to welcome the new Health Minister Dr Kim Hames to Swan District Hospital recently to officially open our Comprehensive Stroke Service.

Dr Hames’s visit provided us with not only an opportunity to showcase some of the excellent work being done at the Swan Kalamunda Health Service but to also explore his views on the future of health services in this part of Perth.

I was especially pleased to hear Dr Hames express his strong commitment to the construction of a new hospital at Midland and to build it within our current timeframe. We remain on course to open the new Midland Health Campus in 2014.

Constructing any new building takes time, building a new hospital is especially complex. At Midland we are not only planning to build a new hospital, we are also working to transform health service access and delivery for our local population.

The new Midland Health Campus will not only be the first new public hospital in this area for 50 years, it will also be a Metropolitan General Hospital. This means it will provide a greater range of services than are currently available at Swan District Hospital, will offer more specialised care and mean many more patients will be able to receive the treatment they need, right on their doorstep, without the need to travel to hospitals elsewhere in Perth.

The opening of the Comprehensive Stroke Service represents a major milestone in this transformation. For the first time, most of the 120 local people who suffer a stroke each year will be able to receive the treatment they need from emergency care right through to rehabilitation at Swan District Hospital.

The opening of this service therefore represents a major milestone in our program to deliver a new and significantly expanded hospital for the people of Midland and beyond. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved.

We are making excellent progress with our plans to build the new Midland Health Campus and with our program to expand our range of clinical services at Swan District Hospital as part of the transition. While we have achieved much already, I look forward to 2009 which promises to be even more fruitful.

For more information

Email mhc.redevelopment@health.wa.gov.au



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Health**
North Metropolitan Area Health Service