

MEDIA RELEASE

Everything old is new again! Oldest ward moves to new purpose-built facility

The first new purpose-built ward has been opened as part of the \$212 million redevelopment of Gosford and Wyong hospitals.

Ironically, patients receiving treatment in the Respiratory Ward at Gosford Hospital, the oldest ward in the hospital, have been the first to be moved into the new building.

Staff transferred around 25 patients to the new ward today.

Central Coast Area Health Service Administrator Dr Stephen Christley said the relocation of patients to the new Respiratory Ward was an historic occasion for Gosford Hospital.

“This is the first of several new wards that will open at Gosford Hospital, as part of the redevelopment,” Dr Christley said.

The bed capacity in the new Respiratory Ward has increased to 36, compared to 29 in the old ward.

“The seven extra beds in this new ward means our specialist staff will be able to treat more people with severe respiratory conditions in the right ward environment,” Dr Christley said.

“It also means during winter, our busiest period for treating patients with respiratory illnesses, most patients will be able to be housed in this new purpose-built ward, rather than in general wards,” he said.

Respiratory Ward nurse unit manager Joanne Leray said the 35 staff were extremely excited about moving into the new ward.

“The staff are buzzing with excitement. We’ve been doing tours of the new facility since January and we are all very pleased with the new ward,” she said.

“Not only is the new ward more spacious, the space is purpose-built for our respiratory patients. The design will improve patient care, comfort and privacy”.

The old Respiratory Ward or Ward 22 as it is also known was built in 1966.

It has been used for many purposes, including among other things, a maternity ward.

The redevelopment and refurbishment of Gosford Hospital is due for completion in 2006.

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INVITATION: MEDIA ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE RELOCATION OF PATIENTS TO THE NEW PURPOSE-BUILT RESPIRATORY WARD ON AT 11.00AM, TUESDAY 19 OCTOBER 2004. PLEASE MEET IN GOSFORD HOSPITAL’S MAIN FOYER.

19 October 2004

Contact Details

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