



Brad Hazzard
Minister for Health and Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

Sunday, 20 June, 2021

\$50 MILLION CHILDREN'S NEUROSCIENCES CENTRE

A new integrated \$50 million specialist centre funded under the 2021-22 NSW Budget will improve the care and treatment of children from across the State with severe and complex neurological disorders.

Treasurer Dominic Perrottet and Health Minister Brad Hazzard announced the \$50 million Neurosciences Comprehensive Care and Research Centre (NCCRC) will be located at the Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick.

"This \$50 million investment will bring together in one central location a range of clinical specialties and services, including comprehensive care for developmental and nervous system disorders involving the brain, spinal cord, muscles and nerves," Mr Perrottet said.

Minister Hazzard explained the importance of this integrated comprehensive service for the children of New South Wales.

"The Centre will offer an extraordinary environment to foster collaboration and improve access to clinical trials, referral navigation, early diagnosis and treatment options improving the outcomes for children with neurological disorders," Mr Hazzard said.

"Diagnosis and treatment of infants and children with these rare diseases is extremely difficult, often requiring various tests and imaging, so an integrated specialist centre will make a huge difference to these children and of course their families," Mr Hazzard said.

There are over 600 identified disorders and conditions that can result in severe neurological impairment and have long lasting consequences for children and their families.

Almost 1.2 million Australians, 400,000 of them children, are affected by approximately 8,000 known rare diseases. Unfortunately, 30 per cent of affected children will die before they reach the age of five.

The new \$50 million Centre will be incorporated into the previously announced \$608 million Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick redevelopment project, scheduled for completion in 2026.

The new integrated Centre will treat children with a range of illnesses, including:

- Complex Epilepsy;
- Neuromuscular disorders;
- Cerebral Palsy,
- Dementia;

- Neurodegenerative disorders;
- Traumatic Brain Injury;
- Brain tumours;
- Rare diseases
- Stroke.

More than \$1.5 billion is being invested in the Randwick Health and Innovation Precinct of which more than \$1 billion is from the NSW Government to build three major health facilities delivered by the Randwick Campus Redevelopment. Facilities include:

- A new Prince of Wales Hospital Acute Services Building which is currently under construction
- Sydney Children's Hospital Stage 1 and Australia's first Children's Comprehensive Cancer Centre which will now also incorporate the Neurosciences Comprehensive Care and Research Centre (NCCRC)
- UNSW Sydney's Health Translation Hub

The Precinct through the integration of education, training and research with acute adult and paediatric healthcare services will create a Centre of excellence, directly benefiting patients, carers and the NSW Community.

MEDIA: Natasha Wallace | Minister Hazzard | 0439 484 015

Amber Muir | Treasurer | 0447 695 520