

Canberra Hospital Expansion Project Update

December 2023 / January 2024



BUILT FOR CBR



Setting new national health facility standards

The Canberra Hospital Expansion Project is at the forefront of Australian healthcare.

It's changing how we build healthcare facilities, thanks to the Project's Consumer Reference Group whose work and key recommendations will be added into the Australasian Healthcare Facility Guidelines.

Consumers from diverse backgrounds and abilities have been involved in this process right from the pre-construction phase, working alongside health clinicians and project managers throughout the entire process.

This close collaboration led to the inclusion of many features which will make hospital visits as comfortable as possible.

Of these features, 10 design components will be incorporated into all future health infrastructure projects in Australia.

Consumer-led design components

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Dimmable lighting in patient rooms | 6. Automatic doors on public accessible toilets |
| 2. Dedicated consumer power points in patient rooms | 7. Patient family lounge |
| 3. Additional grab rails in ensuites | 8. Sensory room |
| 4. Tri-zone inclusion: Patient, carer and staff spaces in patient rooms | 9. Reception desk in the Emergency Department waiting room |
| 5. Accessible counters | 10. Family respite lounge |

(Story continued on page 2...)

What's happening in 2024

Jan – March

- > Welcome Hall fitout
- > Major medical equipment installed
- > Completion inspections
- > Helipad testing

April – June

- > Hospital Road and turning circle complete
- > Building completion
- > Building handed over from Major Projects Canberra to Canberra Health Services
- > Canberra Health Services operational commissioning
- > Community tours of the building

July – September

- > Official opening of the Critical Services Building
- > Building operational

October – December

- > The Hospital Masterplan continues



Furniture testing at the Prototype Shed

First of type patient room



A selection of CRG participants

(Continued from page 1...)

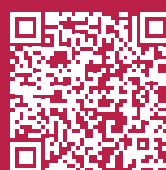
Queensland and Victoria Health authorities have recognised the value of positive consumer engagement at Canberra Hospital and aim to integrate these insights and design standards into their upcoming health projects. Implementation of these standards is planned before formal inclusion in the Australasian Health Facility Guidelines.

Over the next three years, the new design standards will gradually be integrated into healthcare projects around the country, including Canberra's new northside hospital, making the patient experience smoother and more consistent.

For future healthcare projects, this proactive co-design outcome will enable consistency of consumer experience across healthcare facilities.

On 11 October, the Canberra Hospital Expansion Project gathered for a Knowledge Exchange Workshop. The aim was to share and apply insights from involving consumers in the CHE projects to better engage them in future facility planning, such as the upcoming Northside Hospital Project. These lessons are expected to shape the consumer engagement strategy and design decisions leading to another ACT health facility focused on consumer experience.

To read the full list of consumer led design components scan the QR code or head to **act.gov.au/canberrahospitalexansion/features/consumer-groups**



Accessible counters



BUILT FOR CBR



Advances to neurosurgery with iMRI

The Canberra Hospital's new Critical Services Building is getting an important new addition, an Intraoperative Magnetic Resonance Imaging (iMRI) Operating Theatre.

This system allows doctors to see real-time images of the brain during surgery, making procedures like brain tumour removal more precise. It fits right into the operating room, providing various imaging options during surgery.

It also works with an angiographic imaging system in the nearby Operating Theatre, assisting with blood vessel assessments and surgeries.

This medical advance is a significant step forward, positioning Canberra Hospital as a leader in neurosurgery, meaning better results for patients.

50 years

of service
to the
community

Canberra Hospital celebrates a golden milestone

This year, the Canberra Hospital proudly celebrates its 50th year of service to the community.

Starting as the Woden Valley Hospital in 1973, it has grown to become the largest general hospital in the ACT and surrounding NSW region. This milestone isn't just about looking back, it's also about looking forward, especially with the near completion of the new Critical Services Building.

Originally, the hospital had only 36 beds. Today, it has over 650 beds and serves more than 650,000 people.

To celebrate this momentous 50th year milestone, an event was held at the future terrace café in the new Critical Services Building. The event brought together dedicated nurses who have worked at the hospital since the 1970s, showcasing their unwavering commitment to the hospital and patients over the decades.

These nurses were given the opportunity to tour the new building. They were particularly impressed by the amount of natural light and thoughtful room layouts, which will make nurses' work more manageable.

This anniversary serves as a reminder of the hospital's commitment to serving the people of Canberra, built on a strong foundation of both medical expertise and architectural excellence. Here's to another 50 years of health and progress.



Demolition of Building 6 and 23

Demolition work on the Canberra Hospital Campus will begin soon.

Buildings 6 and 23, which are located between Palmer Street and Hospital Road, will be demolished in 2024.

Currently used as office space, the demolition of these buildings will make room for the construction of future healthcare services.

This work will have minimal impact on patients and visitors to the hospital.



Future short term care staff station under construction and aqua blue wayfinding to patient bathrooms.



Patient Wayfinding

The use of different colours for wayfinding will transform the hospital experience for visitors to the new Critical Services Building.

Each floor has distinct colours on doorframes and doors, which indicate to patients the areas they can access. This will help patients identify consumer areas, such as toilets, ensuites and beverage bays.

The use of colours extends to the staff stations for easy identification of the unit. Each station features distinctive ceiling colour for easy identification.



View looking towards the Brindabella Ranges from one of the family lounges

Family Lounges

New Family Lounges will offer a peaceful refuge in the Canberra Hospital's new Critical Services Building. Four private lounges will offer solace for those waiting for their loved ones undergoing treatment.

The Family Lounges have a shared kitchenette for families to access tea and coffee, dining tables, lounges and televisions, in dedicated spaces away from the patient bedside.



Artist impression of family lounge

Carers beds and lounges

Patient rooms in the Canberra Hospital Expansion's new Critical Services Building will be fitted with a carer's chair or lounge, which folds out to become beds.

These additions not only boost patient comfort but also enable family members or caregivers to offer vital support without leaving their loved one's side. This design was recommended, tried and tested by the consumer reference group with the aim to promote emotional well-being of patients and their carers.



Subscribe for updates

Scan the QR code to subscribe to project updates.

**BUILT
FOR
CBR**