

EMBARGOED FRIDAY 27 APRIL 2018

Mona Vale Hospital's Urgent Care Centre to offer walk-in service 24 hours a day

Mona Vale Hospital's Director of Emergency Medicine Dr Andy Ratchford today announced construction works would commence in the coming months on the Mona Vale Hospital Urgent Care Centre.

Located within the footprint of the current Emergency Department, the Urgent Care Centre will begin operating when acute services move to the new Northern Beaches Hospital in October, 2018.

Dr Ratchford said the new Urgent Care Centre will provide treatment for minor injuries and illnesses 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

"Medical and nursing staff at Mona Vale Hospital's Urgent Care Centre will offer a convenient walk-in service, treating minor fractures, cuts and burns, and medical conditions such as mild asthma and chest infections.

X-ray facilities will be available to assist with the management of minor fractures and dislocations.

"The Mona Vale Hospital Urgent Care Centre will cover the gap in services between general practice and emergency departments, by providing treatment not always offered by GPs and especially after hours, including fracture management, plastering and suturing.

"Patients with more serious or life-threatening conditions should call triple zero (000) or present to the new 50 space Emergency Department at Northern Beaches Hospital when it opens. It will treat patients with conditions requiring more complex treatment and emergency care.

As part of the planning for the Mona Vale Hospital Urgent Care Centre, clinicians examined similar facilities across the State, including the Wauchope District Memorial Hospital's Urgent Care Centre.

"It was good to be part of a recent visit to the mid-north coast to look at the operation of the Wauchope facility and learn from the experience of staff up there.

"It was really helpful to speak with the doctors and nurses about the model of care and day-to-day operation of the Wauchope centre, as we prepare to provide a similar service later this year."

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The Mona Vale Hospital Urgent Care Centre will form part of a network of healthcare facilities across the Northern Beaches, including the new hospital at Frenchs Forest and three new community health facilities at Mona Vale, Seaforth and Brookvale.

“The comprehensive network follows years of consultation to provide broader community access to quality healthcare and specialised services.

The \$600 million Northern Beaches health service redevelopment is the biggest investment in healthcare in the region in decades.

“The program will also see further investment on the Mona Vale Hospital campus with the construction of a purpose-built facility to house the dedicated Palliative Care Unit and the Geriatric Evaluation and Management Unit.”

THE MONA VALE HOSPITAL URGENT CARE CENTRE WILL TREAT MINOR INJURIES AND ILLNESSES

Attend the Mona Vale Hospital Urgent Care Centre

- Minor fractures or injuries
- Minor illnesses including infections and rashes
- Mild asthma or chest infection
- Minor burns or scalds
- Minor cuts needing stitches or glue
- Minor sports injuries, including sprains or strains
- Wound review
- Minor head injury
- Bites or stings
- Mild stomach pain
- Migraine
- Skin infections



Go to the Emergency Department at Northern Beaches Hospital

- Heart attack or chest pain
- Serious head or neck injury
- Unable to breathe
- Stroke
- Experiencing a seizure
- Motor vehicle accidents
- Heavy bleeding
- Severe burns
- Severe stomach pain
- Serious mental health issues
- Pregnancy complications
- Serious allergic reactions

