Do you want to help us design a hospital entrance?

This week the Westmead Redevelopment team will be at the main entrance of Westmead Hospital speaking to patients, staff and visitors.

As we near the end of our schematic design phase of planning for the central acute services building, we want to encourage feedback and opinion from staff to help influence the finalisation of our hospital design.

We also want to encourage staff to nominate consumer representatives to become involved in the hospital planning process. As users of healthcare services they represent a vital component in the hospital planning process.

Dalya Karezi (pictured), a student at Western Sydney University Refugee Association, recently became a consumer representative for the WSLHD consumer council which has been involved in the Westmead Redevelopment project planning.

“Western Sydney Local Health District has exponential opportunities to not only improve our healthcare system, but to create an inclusive environment where consumers and local communities are empowered and encouraged to participate in their own care”, she said.

Members of the Westmead Redevelopment project team will be available to answer questions from Wednesday, 24 August to Friday, 26 August between 10am and 2pm.

Among the many opportunities to be involved, the Westmead Redevelopment project is looking for consumers to attend an upcoming workshop offering ideas about the new hospital building, including outdoor green spaces and the main foyer.

The main entrance to the new hospital building includes access to Westmead Hospital and The Children's Hospital at Westmead.

On Monday, August 29, the redevelopment team will hold a consumer workshop at Westmead Hospital. The workshop will cover:

- the entry to the new hospital building - both inside and outside
- how to improve getting in and out of the main entrance
- patient, carer and visitor spaces and facilities
- the way people get around in the hospital

The event will run from 5:30pm – 7:30pm and will include light refreshments. Please encourage interested patients, carers or families to attend.

To RSVP or for more information, including venue information for the workshop please email us or contact the project on 1800 990 296.
On the 9th August the Westmead Redevelopment invited the GP Leaders Network, consumer representatives and other partners to discuss the proposed service models for the new Emergency Department and Cardiac Comprehensive Care Centre (Cardiac CCC).

Attendees included GP Leaders Network members (WentWest/Primary Health Network), WentWest Consumer Advisory Group members, WSLHD Consumer Council members, The Sydney Children’s Hospital, Network Families and Consumer Council coordinator and staff from WSLHD Integrated Health.

Matt Vukasovic (from ED) and Rob Denniss (from Cardiology), presented their service models and received feedback and questions on the proposed model. Matt and Rob are Project User Group (PUG) Champions – one of more than 20 PUGs across the Westmead precinct who are working on plans for the new acute services building.

Matt Vukasovic said, “At the session, we outlined the planning work we’ve done which includes mapping the patient ‘flow’. That is, what it might look like for a patient as they flow through the new hospital building ED and cardiac spaces— from the point of entering the building via ambulance, to admission, treatment then discharge.”

“Then we discussed interactions with other services and spaces such as the ED satellite medical imaging helipad, security, the Acute Admissions Unit, Healthcare for Older People Earlier (HOPE) and the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). It’s a complex process and we’re achieving a lot through the PUGs and partnership discussions - in forums like this workshop with GPs.”

Rob Denniss said, “We’re very excited about the opportunities that the new Cardiac CCC offers in the new building. It is a patient-centred care approach and brings together multiple cardiac units and services into a single building. Benefits to patients are great— a potential for earlier diagnosis, a reduced length of stay, enhanced community care connections and better patient outcomes.”

A number of education, training and research opportunities were also discussed. There is potential for a Centre for Excellence offering multidisciplinary procedural training. There will be new simulation and training spaces for students plus many research opportunities for both clinical zones and other work areas.

The presentation and discussions highlighted the crucial relationships, including referral paths, between GPs and hospital.

Michael Crampton a key GP attendee said, “Today’s catch up shows that the partnership between consumers, GPs, WentWest and the two hospitals is crucial as we advance in our hospital and health service planning for adults and children.”

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These relationships, combined with the work underway through the Redevelopment, and other programs such as HealthPathways and Integrated Care, will empower GPs to manage a wider range of cardiovascular and other chronic disease conditions in the community, with potential to reduce hospital admissions. That will be great for our hospitals and wonderful for our patients.”
What’s happening on site

Going forward the Westmead Redevelopment will be ramping up. Staff can expect to see the precinct at the busiest they’ve experienced so far as multiple construction works get underway.

With our car parking construction, central acute services building site preparation and early and enabling works all currently underway you’d be forgiven for thinking the entire precinct is under construction! So far this year we’ve closed access routes, opened new car parks, established construction zones and relocated staff throughout the precinct—it’s quite clear that the Westmead Redevelopment we have all spent so much time preparing for is now in full swing!

Whilst there’s plenty going on, and much more still to come, here’s an update on the next major changes for the precinct happening soon:

Construction Vehicles

Commencing this week, there will be an increase in heavy construction traffic entering and exiting the precinct from Redbank Road to access the central acute services building site.

“In the coming months there will be a steady increase in truck numbers. However, vehicle movements will be staged to avoid peak staff transit times in the morning and afternoon so as to minimise impact on staff coming to and from work,” project director Tim Mason said.

Trucks accessing the precinct from Redbank Road will decrease with the opening of the construction vehicle staging road later this year.

Redbank/Institute Road Intersection Closures

Over the next two weekends, beginning from 6pm Friday evening until Sunday evening, there will be no access through the precinct via the Redbank Road/Institute Road intersection.

“Works will be undertaken to finalise the services trench which will run underneath the road. To ensure the safety of staff, visitors and contractors whilst the works are undertaken we’ll be closing this area off between the scheduled times. We’ve nominated these times in order to reduce disruption and mitigate any issues for those who require access through the middle of the week,” project director Tim Shoolman said.

Weekend staff are reminded to follow signage directions and exercise caution when navigating the precinct.

If you would like more information about changes occurring around the precinct or want to find out more about disruptions which might be affecting your area, please contact the project office on 1800 990 296 or email us at: WSLHD-WestmeadProject@health.nsw.gov.au
Important information on our works

- Please be patient, there will be disruption on the campus over the next five years.
- Check signs around your usual parking area for upcoming changes as the project progresses.
- Follow instructions from site staff.
- Walk only on marked paths.
- Report any concerns or questions you have to the Project Office – 1800 990 296

Works On Site

- New road construction works underway. Works due for completion by end of August.
- Access through the precinct will be blocked at the location from 6pm Friday, 26 August—Sunday, 28 August and from 6pm Friday, 2 September—Sunday, 4 September
- Area closed for construction.
- Car parking construction. Access to Oval is closed until the new car park is opened in late September 2016.
- Construction works occurring in this location from 27 August. Please follow the instructions of traffic wardens.
- Construction of the new helipad

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