



## WWBH Staff planning to move



Above: L to R: Wagga Wagga Health Service (WWHS) Physiotherapist Manager Emily Farquhar, Wagga Wagga Base Hospital (WWBH) Nursing Unit Manager (NUM) Catherine McDonald, Clinical NUM ED Kristy Watson & WWBH Midwifery Unit Manager (MUM) Joy Dickinson.

Wagga Wagga Base Hospital (WWBH) Midwifery Unit Manager (MUM) Joy Dickinson says she first began working on planning for the new hospital in 1998. Now she's pleased to see "this baby finally being born".

Joy's colleagues agree that the long wait for a new hospital is nearly over. Wagga Wagga Health Service (WWHS) Physiotherapist Manager Emily Farquhar, Nursing Unit Manager (NUM) Catherine McDonald and Clinical NUM ED Kristy Watson say they're looking forward to the move.

For Catherine McDonald the biggest change will be adjusting models of care to match the new space. Emily Farquhar says she's looking forward to the colocation of the stroke and rehabilitation units to "improve the experience for patients and staff." Clinical NUM ED Kristy Watson says changes in models of care will help reduce patients waiting times in busy departments such as ED.

Joy Dickinson and her team recently viewed their floor in the new facility and were amazed at the great use of natural light. "It's such an important part of getting better - to be able to look outside with all that light and remember your life and your community is out there; this is going to be great for the patients and help them to recover a lot faster."

"We are very excited. The midwives are so pleased about how things are progressing. And the services for women will be improved."

Besides plenty of light, improved access to technology will also be a feature of all the services. For instance maternity services in the new facility will feature resuscitation equipment concealed in the cabinetry. "If we do need specialised equipment it will be right next to the bedside and we can drop it down out of the wall cabinetry and have it ready to go. It's really very thoughtful design."

Currently resuscitation equipment stands alone as part of a large self-contained mobile unit that is wheeled to a patient's bedside.

Planning is currently underway to ensure every member of staff undergoes an induction process for the new building. The team leaders agree it's really important everyone is prepared for the big move.

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WWBH MUM Joy Dickinson



# First look at Emergency Department



Above: First look at the fit-out of the ED staff station which is nearing completion.



Above: Final touches on the ED Triage bays.



Above: Irene Hing

**Visit our project website:**  
[www.wwhsredev.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.wwhsredev.health.nsw.gov.au)



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WWBH Executive Manager – Redevelopment Irene Hing has recently left the Redevelopment Project to return to Sydney for personal reasons.

General Manager Wagga Wagga Health Service (WWHS) Denis Thomas has thanked Ms Hing for her hard work and dedication. "I would like to pay tribute to Irene and the important role she has carried out with flair and distinction," Mr Thomas said.