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MEDIA RELEASE

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CONSTRUCTION GETS UNDERWAY ON A BRAND NEW RENAL DIALYSIS CENTRE IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

Improved renal dialysis services for people in the Blue Mountains is one step closer with construction starting on a new \$4.7 million satellite renal dialysis centre.

NSW Parliamentary Secretary for Regional and Rural Health Leslie Williams today turned the first sod on the new service which will house six dialysis treatment spaces in a purpose-built building on the Blue Mountains Hospital campus.

It will mean that Blue Mountains renal patients who currently travel to Nepean Hospital up to three times a week for treatment can now have treatment closer to home.

When complete, the new service will operate as a satellite service for the Nepean Community Dialysis Centre and will be able to treat up to 24 patients per week.

Ms Williams said the new unit would significantly improve the quality of life for Blue Mountains residents, who will be able to receive life-saving treatment and care closer to their home.

“Living with kidney disease is hard enough without having to travel long distances for treatment several times a week,” Ms Williams said.

“We are providing more services closer to where people live so they can have their treatment closer to home and closer to their friends and family.”

The Blue Mountains Satellite Renal Dialysis Centre will also create additional capacity at the Nepean Community Dialysis Centre, which services a large geographical area and growing population. It means that Blue Mountains patients can be treated locally when their condition is stabilised.

The final designs for the hospital’s renal dialysis centre were completed earlier this year, following an extensive planning and consultation period with hospital staff, renal specialists and renal patients who live in the Blue Mountains area.

“Consulting with renal patients was an essential element to the planning and design phase of this project, to ensure we build a first-rate facility that is contemporary, comfortable and welcoming for everyone,” Ms Williams said.

Construction is being carefully planned to minimise any disruption to hospital services and is expected to be completed in 2019.

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