

Media Release

The Hon Mary-Anne Thomas MP

Minister for Health

Minister for Ambulance Services



Friday, 22 July 2022

DELIVERING A BETTER STATE OF HEALTH IN ALEXANDRA

The Andrews Labor Government is delivering better access to world-class healthcare for families in the Hume region, with upgraded equipment now being used at Alexandra District Health.

Minister for Health Mary-Anne Thomas today announced \$372,000 worth of new world-class endoscopy equipment is helping doctors and nurses at Alexandra District Health get more locals into treatment quicker and closer to home.

The new equipment, which is funded through the fifth round of the Labor Government's *Regional Health Infrastructure Fund*, includes two gastroscopes, three colonoscopes, one paediatric colonoscope and an endoscopy tower.

The new endoscopy equipment will help diagnose and treat a range of medical conditions ranging from ulcers, bleeding, celiac disease, blockages, inflammation and tumors. It means that patients will not have to travel long distances from their loved ones to access the care they need.

Alexandra District Health delivers a broad range of health care and services for individuals and families in its local community and the broader Murrindindi Shire, including inpatient care for both medical and surgical patients.

After a \$300 million boost in the *Victorian Budget 2022/23*, the \$790 million *Regional Health Infrastructure Fund* helps health services and agencies across regional Victoria deliver safe and efficient care for local communities – and has funded more than 480 projects since 2016.

Quote attributable to Minister for Health Mary-Anne Thomas

"Everyone deserves access to quality health care facilities and services close to home and we're ensuring people in Alexandra and surrounding communities have exactly that."

Quote attributable to Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes

"The doctors and nurses at Alexandra District Health do an outstanding job and this new and upgraded endoscopy equipment will allow them to treat more locals and help save lives."