

Media Release

Hon Jacinta Allan MP
Premier



Tuesday, 5 March 2024

DOZENS OF NEW HEALTH PROJECTS FOR MORE WORLD-CLASS CARE

The Allan Labor Government is ensuring Victorians continue to receive world-class healthcare closer to home, with funding for more upgrades, services and new equipment.

Premier Jacinta Allan and Minister for Health Infrastructure Mary-Anne Thomas today visited the Royal Women's Hospital to announce 27 health services will share in \$40 million as part of the latest round of the Metropolitan Health Infrastructure Fund (MHIF).

A total of 29 vital infrastructure projects at metro hospitals, community health services and Aboriginal health organisations will be supported – from construction and refurbishment to modern equipment and technology.

The investments will deliver works that make facilities better and safer for patients, and help our hardworking doctors and nurses undertake more treatments.

The Royal Women's Hospital is receiving almost \$4 million to upgrade its surgical equipment, including laparoscopic technology used in the treatment of illnesses such as severe endometriosis.

As Victoria's main tertiary referral hospital for gynaecology and gynaecology services, this upgrade will ensure more women can receive critical care for this chronic illness that currently affects 1 in 10.

It will also help the hospital contribute to the Labor Government's plan to double the number of endometriosis surgeries – delivering around 10,800 extra laparoscopies over the next four years.

Other hospitals receiving critical infrastructure funding include:

- **Alfred Hospital** – \$4 million to upgrade vital operating room equipment – including anaesthetic machines, operating tables and cardiac monitoring equipment – giving dedicated doctors and nurses the resources they need to deliver lifesaving and lifechanging surgery without delay
- **Royal Melbourne Hospital** – \$3.5 million for 22 new anaesthetic machine systems, enabling surgeons to perform a range of procedures using the latest technology, increasing safety and equipment reliability
- **St Vincent's Hospital** – \$2.5 million to replace a bi-plane angiography unit that will improve the quality and safety of care for patients and staff by making it easier to determine the best treatment path
- **Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute** – \$2.8 million for new endoscopes and equipment that will help deliver more effective endoscopies.

Established by the Labor Government in 2020, MHIF is now valued at \$265 million, with 110 projects funded across Melbourne to date. The Regional Health Infrastructure Fund provides similar grants across Regional Victoria.

Quote attributable to Premier Jacinta Allan

"So many Victorian women live with endometriosis, this investment is about ensuring more women can access the treatment they need."

Quote attributable to Minister for Health Infrastructure Mary-Anne Thomas

"MHIF is part of our ongoing investment to making sure our health services have the best space, facilities and equipment to deliver world-class care for every Victorian, when and where they need it."

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