

Media Release

The Hon Jenny Mikakos MLC
Minister for Health
Minister for Ambulance Services



**DELIVERING
FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

Monday, 27 May 2019

A WORLD-CLASS, ONE-STOP SHOP REHABILITATION CENTRE FOR BENDIGO

Bendigo patients recovering from illness or injury will get the world-class care they need to get back on their feet and live independently at home thanks to a cutting-edge new rehabilitation centre at Bendigo Hospital.

The *Victorian Budget 2019/20* includes nearly \$60 million for the Bendigo Hospital Day Rehabilitation Centre – a key election commitment by the Andrews Labor Government.

The rehabilitation centre will bring together the various rehabilitation services spread across the Bendigo hospital site under the one roof.

The project will see the long-awaited demolition of the old East and North Wing tower buildings, which will become green open space that patients and their families can enjoy. The existing dental treatment and training areas housed in the towers will be moved to new accommodation.

The flagship Bendigo Hospital Day Rehabilitation Centre will include services such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy, social work, speech therapy, prosthetics and orthotics, clinical psychology and neuropsychology. A new hydrotherapy pool will also be built.

It was a Labor Government who designed, funded and delivered the flagship Bendigo Hospital – and now we're making it even better.

Construction will begin by 2021 and will be complete by 2023. The project is set to create 180 construction jobs.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Health Jenny Mikakos

"We promised Bendigo patients and clinicians a new rehabilitation centre so they can recover and get on with their lives faster – and we're delivering exactly what we said we would."

"Patients have enough to worry about without needing to find where to go to access the services they need. Bringing them together under the one roof will make recovery that little bit easier."

Quote attributable to Member for Bendigo East Jacinta Allan

"When it comes to recovering from injury or illness, a proper rehabilitation plan is so important. We're helping our hard-working rehabilitation clinicians give patients world-class treatment so they can return to their lives."

Quote attributable to Member for Bendigo West Maree Edwards

"This Centre will mean patients will benefit from seamless care as they recover from accidents, injuries and medical conditions, such as stroke or heart attack."