



Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health

Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

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GREAT DAY FOR GROUND-BREAKING RESEARCH INTO THE MIND AND NERVOUS SYSTEM

The opening of a world-class research facility at Randwick with capacity for 120 scientists will ensure Sydney remains at the forefront of neuroscience research, Minister for Health and Minister for Medical Research Jillian Skinner said today.

Mrs Skinner was joined by Federal Health Minister Tanya Plibersek as she opened the \$54 million building on behalf of Neuroscience Research Australia (NeuRA), a not-for-profit research institute.

The NSW Government provided \$6 million in capital funds to the fit-out of the new building, which consists of seven floors of laboratory and clinical space. NeuRA will also receive infrastructure funding of \$2.2 million per annum for two years through the NSW Government's Medical Research Support Program.

The Commonwealth Government committed \$30 million to construct the Margarete Ainsworth Building, as it will be known in honour of the philanthropist who pledged \$10 million to it.

"NeuRA's vital research is dedicated to preventing, treating and curing brain and nervous system diseases, disorders and injuries," Mrs Skinner said.

"I congratulate NeuRA on its continued leadership in a field which is so valuable to society.

"The NSW Government is committed to providing world-class facilities to support our talented researchers and to ensuring their work translates into practical health outcomes for the people of NSW and those who look to us for care," Mrs Skinner said.

The Margarete Ainsworth Building will be part of the Neuroscience Research Precinct in the Randwick Research Hub, where 700 research staff will work in the future.

The Neuroscience Research Precinct will link together the research of NeuRA, the University of NSW, the Black Dog Institute, the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre and the Prince of Wales campus hospitals.

The NSW Government's annual investment in health and medical research now exceeds \$200 million.