



the women's
the royal women's hospital
victoria

Media Release:

The Royal Women's Hospital launches new technology to provide revolutionary surgery for women

In an Australian first, specialists at the Royal Women's Hospital are now able to provide women with revolutionary scalpel-free surgery to treat uterine fibroids using brand new Magnetic Resonance Guided Focused Ultrasound technology.

The very latest in Magnetic Resonance Guided Focused Ultrasound (MRgFUS) technology enables uterine fibroids to be treated without making a single incision. An MRI scanner pinpoints the fibroids within the body and then ultrasound waves are used to heat and destroy the fibroid without causing damage to the surrounding tissue.

Normally the recovery period for invasive surgery is six weeks but this new and advanced technology means that a woman can have a same-day procedure and resume normal activities within a few days.

Ms Dale Fisher, Chief Executive, the Royal Women's Hospital, said "This is an exciting step forward for women's health care and we are very proud to be able to provide women access to such highly specialised, innovative treatment. This sophisticated technology is world class."

"We are very grateful for the generous philanthropic support of the Pauline Gandel Charitable Trust whose \$1 million donation, in addition to funding provided by the Department of Human Services New Technologies Program, has enabled the Royal Women's Hospital to purchase this technology and become the only centre in Australia now able to treat patients with MR guided focused ultrasound," she said.

Ms Pauline Gandel said, "I am very proud that I have been able to make such a significant contribution to advance women's health care and to support the amazing care provided by Australia's finest hospital for women and newborn babies."

Approximately one in four women will suffer from uterine fibroids and thousands of women affected by this painful condition will now be treated at the newly established Pauline Gandel Women's Imaging Centre at the Royal Women's Hospital in Parkville.

The establishment of the Magnetic Resonance Guided Focused Ultrasound at the Women's has been the result of a collaborative partnership between GE Healthcare, InSightec, the Pauline Gandel Charitable Trust and the Department of Human Services New Technologies Program.

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