



the women's
the royal women's hospital

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Media Release

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State-of-the-art MRI technology to revolutionise care for women and newborn babies

The Royal Women's Hospital today announced a million dollar donation by Pauline Gandel, co-founder of the Gandel Charitable Trust, will result in Australia's first-ever Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machine dedicated solely to women's healthcare.

The support of the Gandel Charitable Trust will also enable the Women's to co-locate all of its medical imaging equipment and services, including ultrasound and x-ray, together in a dedicated, purpose-built centre in the new Royal Women's Hospital at Parkville.

The centre will be known as the Pauline Gandel Women's Imaging Centre when the new \$250 million hospital dedicated to the care of Victorian women and newborn babies opens in mid-2008. The state-of-the-art hospital is being delivered under the Victorian Government's Partnerships Victoria model.

Royal Women's Hospital Chair, Dr Rhonda Galbally AO, said: "The landmark Pauline Gandel Women's Imaging Centre will provide Victorian women with improved access to the most advanced MRI, ultrasound and imaging technology.

"Pauline Gandel's amazing gift to Victorian women builds on the State Government's \$1million dollar upgrade of our ultrasound technology last year that enabled the replacement of 10 ultrasound machines with advanced 3D and 4D models.

"The Pauline Gandel Women's Imaging Centre will make a huge difference to the 28,000 patients that will use the centre each year. The very latest in MRI and imaging technology will provide for improved accuracy and earlier detection of abnormalities, diagnosis without surgery and enhanced patient safety.

Mrs Gandel said: "I am very proud to be able to make such a significant contribution to the amazing care provided by Australia's finest hospital for women and newborn babies."

Royal Women's Hospital Chief Executive, Dale Fisher, said: "MRI technology provides for an unparalleled view inside the human body and our own on-site machine will be a significant step forward in improving the care we can provide for Victorian women and babies born prematurely.



“For example, access to state-of-the-art MRI technology will enable the Women’s to introduce international best practice imaging for women with breast cancer. The Women’s will also utilise the MRI for women suffering from painful gynaecological conditions such as endometriosis.

“Additionally, a major patient safety benefit is that the Women’s will no longer need to transfer more than 50 unwell and premature babies each year to other Melbourne hospitals for MRI brain scans,” Ms Fisher said.

Further information:

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