

Media Release

June 2012

New Breast Service commences at Holy Spirit Northside.

Dr Melinda Cook and Dr Clement Wong will be the first Consultants to provide Breast and Endocrine Services at Holy Spirit Northside. Their goal is to provide a multidisciplinary service for patients diagnosed with breast cancer and disorders of the breast.

General Manager Daniele Doyle said, "The model of breast service we wish to establish at HSN will be a comprehensive consultative and surgical service, with a multidisciplinary approach involving medical and radiation oncologists, a breast care nurse and allied health team members. The full spectrum of breast disease will be managed at Holy Spirit Northside –from screening to diagnosis and through the many facets of treatment".

Dr Cook, a leading Breast and Endocrine Surgeon who has an established private northside practice, says she is looking forward to commencing at HSN and working more closely with the medical oncologists who already provide herself and her patients with exceptional cancer care. "I am keen to see an enhanced delivery of cancer care, enabling stronger onsite communication and service availability for both myself and my patients."

Daniele Doyle continues, "With the commissioning of 30 new medical oncology beds in October 2012 and a new 17 chair day oncology unit in 2013, HSN will be able to offer patients north of the Brisbane River a full continuum of cancer care.

"It is our Mission to support people living with cancer, to provide a service of healing and respect, to take nothing for granted and to care for the person- not just the patient."

Dr Wong followed, "Additionally and from an endocrine perspective, I am pleased to work within HSN as it is an acute tertiary facility with ICU support. Occasionally we see large retrosternal goitres, and in a hospital well known for its cardiac surgery, it is very easy to call on the skills of a cardio-thoracic surgeon to open the upper part of the breast bone to enable us easier access to the goitre."

Dr Wong is one of the few Breast and Endocrine Surgeons who obtained the Certificate of Clinician Performed Ultrasound (CCPU). He is able to perform diagnostic scans and ultrasound guided biopsies in the consultation room or intraoperatively for a more accurate and efficient assessment.

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