



Northern Health



FEBRUARY 2018

Community Connect

Outstanding health care for
our community

Welcome to the February
edition

Monthly Newsletter
www.nh.org.au



Welcome to the February edition of Northern Health Community Connect, Northern Health's monthly community newsletter.

The latest Victorian Health Services Performance figures illustrate Northern Health is performing well across a number of indicators demonstrating improvements to elective surgery waiting lists, Emergency Department and management of ambulance arrivals.

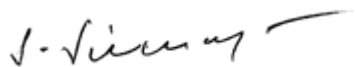
The Northern Hospital Epping Emergency Department saw 95,151 patients in 2017, which is over 260 people seeking emergency medical care arriving each day, with one in five patients a child.

In the October to December quarter, Northern Health received 24,672 attendances, more than two thousand greater than any other Victorian hospital. Of these 24,672 attendances, 11,733 patients were admitted to our Emergency Department, a 17 per cent increase on the same time last year and the highest number of admissions in the state.

Northern Health received a state high 27,533 ambulance arrivals in 2017, leading to another area of significant improvement for the health service. Of these 27,533 attendances, 85 per cent were treated on time, 13 per cent above the state average and the best result of the state's major Emergency Departments.

Our surgical teams have been working tremendously hard and treated 95 per cent of surgery patients within time, five per cent above the state average and a 10 per cent improvement when compared to the same time 12 months ago. The number of people waiting for surgery with Northern Health dropped by over 300 between September and December 2017 to 1,408.

Our dedicated and passionate health care professionals are working around the clock to ensure Northern Health continues providing outstanding health care to our rapidly growing northern community.



Siva Sivarajah
Chief Executive
Northern Health

Our patients treated across Northern Health in February

Number of Births	265
Emergency Attendances	7,450
Outpatients Appointments	17,838
Inpatient Admissions	7,647
Ambulance Arrivals	2,138
Emergency Procedures	548

What's happening at your local health service?

Teddy Bear Hospital

A special program at the Northern Hospital Epping is making hospital visits less confronting for children. The Teddy Bear Hospital allows children to act as parents of a teddy undergoing a pretend medical consultation with one of our University of Melbourne medical students. Northern Health operates the busiest Emergency Department in the state, experiencing over 95,000 presentations annually, with one in five patients a child. The Teddy Bear Hospital is a safe, controlled and fun environment to introduce children to their local hospital.



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Early works on Stage 2 of the Northern Hospital Tower

Early works, due to commence in March 2018, will see the addition of 18 Intensive Care and High Dependency beds, and a greater capacity for mortuary, loading dock and supply services at the Northern Hospital Epping. By expanding your local hospital and reconfiguring our wards, we are increasing our services and capacity and improving access to meet the growing demands of the northern community.

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Welcome to our Junior Doctors

As the largest employer in the northern community, Northern Health employs almost 5,000 passionate, dedicated, collaborative and highly skilled clinical and administrative staff across four campuses in Melbourne's north. Northern Health is a tertiary teaching hospital, offering training programs for graduate doctors and nurses. In February, Northern Health welcomed our Junior Doctors cohort for 2018. This is an exciting time for Northern Health, and we are privileged to be involved in the education and employment of the next generation of health care professionals.

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How you can make a difference to your community

Northern Health helps provide much needed friendship and companionship by matching aged care recipients with volunteer visitors across Melbourne's northern and western region. Volunteering as a Community Visitor is a rewarding experience, and by befriending an older person, you have a chance to make a positive impact on the lives of recipients - as well as your own! Are you ready to make a difference as a Volunteer? Contact the Northern Health Engagement Team at volunteer@nh.org.au or on 8405 8971.



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