



Investing in our health

The Government will continue to invest in health professionals, and health infrastructure, services and research to support and meet the growing needs of the community.



Health Services

Queensland Health's operating budget will grow to \$9.037 billion in 2009-10, an 8.2% increase on the previous year. In this Budget, the Government will invest:

Cutting waiting lists

- \$110 million over three years for the Surgery Connect Program to provide treatment for waitlisted public patients through utilising spare private capacity.

Faster emergency care

- \$125.7 million capital funding for the expansion of the adult and/or paediatric emergency departments at Logan, QEII, Bundaberg and Redland Hospitals. In future years, emergency departments at Ipswich, Caboolture and Toowoomba Hospitals will also be upgraded, and a dedicated paediatric emergency department will be built at The Prince Charles Hospital.

Transition care

- \$69.9 million over four years to improve rehabilitation and transition care at Eventide, Sandgate, Rockhampton and Townsville

More nurse practitioners

- \$7.9 million over three years to train and recruit 30 nurse practitioners to work in the busiest emergency departments to reduce waiting times

Enhanced cancer treatment

- \$37 million over three years to improve cancer services by increasing access to oncology specialists at Rockhampton and opening new chemotherapy chairs at Cairns

Better maternity services

- \$16.7 million to improve services for mothers and babies by introducing new/enhanced maternity and neo-natal services across Queensland.

Capital

In 2009-10, the Government will invest \$1.296 billion in capital funding for new and existing health infrastructure.

Hospitals

- \$155 million for the construction of the \$1.762 billion 750 bed Gold Coast University Hospital to provide complex care, research and teaching opportunities by late 2012
- \$105.1 million for the \$1.283 billion Queensland Children's Hospital to provide enhanced paediatric services by 2014
- \$21.8 million for the \$446.3 million redevelopment of the Cairns Base Hospital with enhanced rehabilitation facilities and radiation oncology services
- \$61 million for the new \$405.6 million Mackay Base Hospital to provide new, acute service facilities
- \$25.4 million to continue the \$65.2 million redevelopment of the Mount Isa Hospital
- \$72.4 million for the \$240 million Robina Hospital expansion
- \$39.4 million for additional beds at the Townsville Hospital as part of a \$332.8 million expansion
- \$74.2 million for the \$149.1 million expansion of the Rockhampton Hospital to provide additional beds in partnership with funding from the Australian Government's Health and Hospitals Fund
- \$4.2 million for the \$122 million Ipswich Hospital expansion for additional beds
- \$8.3 million to commence work on the \$1.494 billion Sunshine Coast University Hospital precinct.

Research

The Government will invest \$80 million for an Academic and Research Centre to complement the new Queensland Children's Hospital.