

Tuesday August 20, 2013

Rudd promises \$122 million for Westmead Hospital

By *Sally Willoughby*

Aug. 19, 2013, 8 a.m.



Kevin Rudd. Picture: Andrew Meares

Westmead Hospital will get the largest slice of Federal Labor's investment into medical treatment facilities announced on Sunday.

If elected Prime Minister Kevin Rudd promised a \$122million investment into Westmead Hospital.

Mr Rudd announced \$100million for the first stage of a comprehensive redevelopment — it is the largest investment since 1978.

He has asked the state government to match the funding dollar for dollar.

The party will also invest \$12million for the construction of a medical research and education facility for the Westmead Millennium Institute and \$10million for the Children's Medical Research Institute Westmead redevelopment.

Mr Rudd said he hoped the investments would raise the number of researchers at Westmead from 1000 to 1500.

“It is through the concentration of this sort of expertise, under one roof, in an adjoining premises and most importantly with a common cafeteria...that frankly the Nobel Prizes of the future are discovered,” Mr Rudd said at Westmead Hospital on Sunday.

The Children’s Medical Research Institute is working on a project to identify molecular components of an enzyme that 85 per cent of cancers depend on for their growth.