

ANMF welcomes \$50 million in funding for stroke care

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Australian Nursing & Midwifery Federation

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF), has welcomed the Federal Government's \$50 million funding boost for a new national stroke care program.

Prime Minister Kevin Rudd announced the investment for 70 stroke care coordinators operating out of 61 Medicare Locals across the country.

Around 1000 cases of stroke every week making it the second most common cause of deaths in Australia

"Stroke continues to be the second most common cause of all deaths in Australia, with around 1000 cases of stroke every week," ANMF Federal Secretary, Lee Thomas, said today.

"As Australia's largest health union, the ANMF welcomes the Federal Government's extra investment in supporting victims of stroke.

"Stroke coordinators carry out a vital service in developing and implementing individual care plans for stroke victims as they transition from hospital back to home, assisting in their overall recovery in the long term."

ANMF commends Federal Government for \$346 million in funding for hospitals and medical facilities

The ANMF has also commended the Federal Government for \$346 million in funding for hospitals and medical facilities across the country, including \$100 million for the redevelopment of Westmead Hospital; \$10 million for the Children's Medical Research Institute at Westmead; a Medicare license for a MRI machine at Mt Druitt Hospital; \$15 million for a cancer clinic at Flinders Medical centre in South Australia and \$10 million for critical cancer treatment at several hospitals in Brisbane.

"We have been calling on all sides of politics to make health and aged care key priorities for the election," Ms Thomas said.

"As Australia faces the challenges of a rapidly ageing population, there has to be greater investment in health infrastructure, services and importantly, the workforce, to meet the growing demands for health and aged care services now and into the future."

The ANMF, with over 230,000 members, is the professional and industrial voice for nurses, midwives and assistants in nursing in Australia.

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