

# What this project will do...



“To give patients the best chance of winning their fight against cancer, we need to tailor our treatments to each individual patient, taking into account not only their medical needs but also their emotional and social needs.”

## Dr Andrew See, Radiation Oncology

The “Enhancing Care for Cancer Patients” project is a comprehensive refurbishment of the cancer areas at Epworth Freemasons that focuses on both the care and comfort of our patients. It will include:

1. State-of-the-art equipment
2. A more comforting palliative care environment
3. Enhanced patient surrounds and facilities

The total cost of this project is \$391,560, and Epworth Medical Foundation needs to raise the full amount. We will start work as soon as the money has been raised.

## Epworth Medical Foundation

Epworth Medical Foundation was established in 1982 to generate much-needed philanthropic support for the activities and equipment needs of Epworth HealthCare.

Our goal is and always has been to ensure patients at Epworth receive the best possible care and outcomes. Therefore, funds we raise are used to contribute to and improve the excellence in medical care provided by Epworth HealthCare.

Epworth is an outstanding healthcare organisation but, if we are to achieve our mission of becoming one of the world's truly great academic and teaching hospitals, we rely on philanthropic support.

### 7 reasons to donate to Epworth

- 1. We are a charity**  
Epworth is a charitable, not-for-profit hospital. We are here to benefit our patients and their families, not shareholders.
- 2. Donations buy new equipment**  
We rely on philanthropic funds to purchase more than a third of all new medical equipment at Epworth.
- 3. Donations are used to upgrade facilities**  
We consistently invest in expanding, upgrading and improving our facilities to ensure they continue to provide our patients with the best possible care.
- 4. Donations help families in need**  
Epworth maintains several programs that help patients who are struggling financially to travel to their appointments, recover from traumatic medical events, and cope with the emotional side of serious illnesses like cancer.
- 5. Donations fund medical research**  
Donations pay for 80 percent of all medical research at Epworth. Researchers are working on more than 150 projects in critical areas of health such as cancer, cardiac services, rehabilitation, orthopaedics, gynaecology and obstetrics.
- 6. Donations educate the next generation**  
Epworth is committed to educating the next generation of medical professionals, and helps train more than 1200 students at any one time.
- 7. Donations help you when you need us**  
If you or someone you love requires hospital care, you can trust in Epworth to provide you with the best possible care, treatment and technology. Every time.

### Contact us

If you have any questions, concerns or comments about Epworth Medical Foundation, please feel free to be in touch. We are happy to help.

### Epworth Medical Foundation

89 Bridge Road  
Richmond VIC 3121 Australia

Phone 03 9426 6132

Fax 03 9427 9253

Email [emfinfo@epworth.org.au](mailto:emfinfo@epworth.org.au)

[www.emf.org.au](http://www.emf.org.au)

ABN 77 906 718 129

Epworth  
Medical  
Foundation



Epworth  
Medical  
Foundation



Epworth  
HealthCare

## Enhancing Care for Cancer Patients

A major refurbishment of the cancer services areas at Epworth Freemasons



“We want to create a warm and caring environment, while continuing to provide the best possible care.”

Colleen O'Hara, Nurse Unit Manager

Epworth already provides one of the most advanced cancer-care environments in the State.

But cancer is an extraordinarily difficult journey for both patients and their loved ones, and truly giving patients the best care means prioritising their emotional and social needs as well as their medical needs.

The “Enhancing Care for Cancer Patients” project will give much-needed compassion, comfort and added care to patients at Epworth Freemasons, giving them the best possible chance to return to health.

# Enhancing Care for Cancer Patients

In their battle against cancer, it is vital that all patients receive the best possible care, with access to the best possible equipment, given in the best and most compassionate environment possible to promote their return to health.

That is what **“Enhancing Care for Cancer Patients”** is all about.



## Updating equipment (\$196,450)

Epworth will update the Oncology Ward with state-of-the-art medical equipment to ensure our patients continue to receive the best possible care. This includes:

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
 Steady Sarah devices x 3	Allow the patient to be safely guided and supported from a sitting position to standing, while protecting patients and staff
 Chemotherapy trolleys x 4	Trolleys fitted with intravenous equipment and disposable items, such as gowns and goggles, used to administer chemotherapy agents
 Measuring devices x 2	Enable staff to measure the weight and height of oncology patients, information required for prescribing each individual chemotherapy regime
 Digital thermometers x 2	Used for symptom management of oncology patients
 Vital signs machines x 4	Measure and monitor patients' vital signs, such as blood pressure and oxygen levels
 Chemotherapy chairs x 2	Specially designed, safe and comfortable armchairs that may be adjusted to the horizontal position in the event of an adverse reaction to the treatment
 Ceiling-mounted lifting hoists x 3	Help staff care for patients who are not independently mobile, eliminating the need for large, mobile equipment that takes up space in patient rooms
 Ice machines x 2	One side effect of chemotherapy treatment can be the development of mouth ulcers, and ice is used to help alleviate the discomfort of this condition
 High-low beds x 8	Electric inpatient beds that enable height and configurations to be adjusted to several different settings, depending on individual clinical needs
 Pressure mattresses x 10	Specially-designed “pressure redistribution” mattresses, designed to reduce pressure on bed-bound patients, and improve their overall comfort
 Bladder scanner	Measures patients' bladder contents without the need for catheterisation which is much more comfortable for the patient

## Equipping palliative care (\$15,000)

For patients who ultimately will not recover from their disease, ensuring the final stages of their lives are as comfortable and nurtured as possible – for both the patients and their families – is paramount.

Epworth Freemasons maintains a number of rooms that are larger than usual, with pleasant aspects over the Fitzroy Gardens. These are primarily used for palliative care.

The “Enhancing Care for Cancer Patients” project will involve updating these rooms and purchasing new furnishings, to ensure that they are best equipped to care for the needs of both patients and visiting loved-ones during this time.

## Improving patient facilities (\$130,610)

The “Enhancing Care for Cancer Patients” project includes a number of upgrades to different areas of both the Ward and Day Oncology areas. These include:

### ■ Outdoor patient areas:

Epworth Freemasons is a beautiful, art-deco building with a series of internal balconies connected to the inpatient rooms. Epworth will engage a landscape architect to redesign the colour, layout and use of these balconies to create a series of attractive and comfortable outdoor-spaces for patients and their visitors to enjoy.

### ■ Waiting room:

In the Day Oncology area, renovations will be made to the waiting room to increase both size and comfort. The Day Oncology area at Epworth Freemasons has grown significantly to meet community need, but the waiting area has not kept pace, forcing patients and their families to wait elsewhere (such as the café downstairs) before undergoing their treatments.

## Improving patient care (\$49,500)

An important part of best-practice patient care is ensuring that the layout and facilities in both the Ward and day-treatment areas focus on safety and efficiency. Improvements to these areas will include:

### ■ Medical record workstations

Patients' medical records will be stored in drop-down workstations adjacent to every room, rather than in a central area some distance away from many of the rooms. This will ensure that doctors, nurses and allied health professionals can all access a patient's details the instant they are needed.

### ■ In-service education

To ensure patients receive cutting-edge care at Epworth, our nursing staff regularly undertake in-service education on the Ward. The education areas will be enhanced to include a number of training features, including audio-visual equipment and appropriate furnishings to facilitate learning.

