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Media Release

New Centre to expand Wesley Research Institute

- **World-class research precinct at The Wesley Hospital**

A new state-of-the-art Health and Medical Research Centre will create a world-class research precinct at The Wesley Hospital.

Research will concentrate on urgent and emerging challenges in the areas of preventative health care, child and youth health and aged care.

This Centre, part of The Wesley Research Institute's rapidly growing research facilities, will be situated on the top floor of a new development on The Wesley Hospital campus announced on Monday.

Professor Julie Campbell AO, Director of The Wesley Research Institute, said that creating a research precinct at the heart of one of the largest not-for-profit private hospitals in Australia makes sense.

"Clinical research simply cannot operate in silos so this new facility will provide an important link between science and clinical practice," she said.

"This facility will allow healthcare practitioners to apply research findings to create better outcomes for patients."

Due to be completed in 2009, the Centre will facilitate collaboration between the public and private sectors, research institutions and universities.

"Collaboration will mean we aren't doubling up and wasting time and money. Instead we'll create a research project that does what it's meant to do – get better results for patients faster," Professor Campbell said.

"With 46 per cent of all patient admissions in Queensland occurring in private hospitals, a Centre such as this will make a significant contribution to health care in this state."

The Queensland State Government committed \$10 million in August 2006 to the establishment of the Health and Medical Research Centre through its Smart State Innovation Building Fund.

The Centre will include a Virtual Surgery, Diagnostic Imaging Laboratory, Metabolic Kitchen and Laboratory, a Women's Health Laboratory, a Centre for Nursing Research, a Cardiac Telemetry Laboratory, e-Health Laboratory and Conference Centre, and will greatly expand The Wesley Research Institute's ability to fulfil its mission of research that leads to earlier diagnoses of disease, better treatments, fewer side effects and higher quality of life for patients.

The Wesley Research Institute, based on The Wesley Hospital's Auchenflower campus, conducts research throughout the UnitingCare Health Group of Hospitals.

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