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**Media Release**

**A NEW PARTNERSHIP TO BENEFIT CANCER PATIENTS**

St Vincent’s Hospital Melbourne (St Vincent’s) and GenesisCare, Australia’s largest provider of radiotherapy services, are pleased to announce a long term partnership for the provision of high quality comprehensive cancer care in Melbourne.

GenesisCare will build and operate a state of the art private radiation oncology facility within St Vincent’s Fitzroy campus providing immediate access to essential radiotherapy treatment.

“The focus of our partnership with St Vincent’s will be the seamless clinical integration of services across both the Public and Private hospitals on the St Vincent’s campus,” said GenesisCare Managing Director, Dan Collins. “We believe the combination of specialised care together with highly advanced technology and treatment techniques provides patients and their families with the best possible outcomes on their cancer journey,” he said.

The Divisional CEO for St Vincent’s Public Hospitals, Patricia O’Rourke, welcomed the partnership with GenesisCare. “We are delighted to develop a facility that will provide the very best in healthcare to our patients. The Radiation Oncology facility will offer a premium service to our patients, with additional treatment options and first class medical care for their continuing healthcare needs.”

In an Australian first, the service will be constructed using a modular bunker technique, ensuring the best in radiation protection and minimal disruption to existing services at the hospital during construction. The centre is designed to enhance the patient experience with maximum possible natural light in patient areas, and soothing colours and furnishings.

St Vincent’s has a well-established medical oncology haematology and surgical oncology program as well as clinical trials, education research, palliative care, nursing and comprehensive allied health services. The addition of radiotherapy to the campus allows patients with multi-disciplinary treatment plans to be treated in a single location for all cancer types under the St Vincent’s Hospital Melbourne compassionate care ethos and vision.

GenesisCare Radiation Oncologist, Dr Michael Guiney, and the Clinical Director of Cancer Services at St Vincent’s, Dr Sue-Anne McLachlan agree that the partnership is a fantastic opportunity to work together to develop a world class service. Both organisations are united in the single purpose of delivering the best possible clinical outcomes for patients, and being leaders of ground-breaking cancer care through ongoing research, clinical trials and education programs.

Construction of the centre is expected to commence in June 2015 with services anticipated to begin early to mid-2016.

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About GenesisCare

GenesisCare is Australia’s largest provider of radiation oncology, cardiology and sleep treatments.

With more than 1400 employees, GenesisCare provides essential health care services across more than 125 sites and clinics ranging from the major capital cities to regional and rural centres. GenesisCare exists to fill the treatment gap for the biggest disease burdens in Australia — cancer and cardiovascular disease — in an environment of substantial unmet need from an ageing population.

GenesisCare is currently involved in or leading more than 75 clinical trials. The group uses its national network to coordinate and share clinical information and know-how, helping inform future approaches to treatment and care.

Genesis CancerCare (part of the GenesisCare group) is the largest provider of radiotherapy in Australia. Each year the group performs around 320,000 treatments through its network of 25 sites.

Genesis CancerCare treats all patients referred to its service irrespective of their financial situation. Flexible fee arrangements are provided on an individual patient basis to allow everyone rapid access to high quality care.

About St Vincent’s

St Vincent’s Hospital Melbourne is one of Australia’s most respected providers of public healthcare, with a reputation for care and innovation that is second to none. Our clinical education program is high achieving and award-winning, and our research program has a strong international reputation in translational research and biomedical engineering.

St. Vincent’s has 829 beds, operating revenue of more than $640 million and employs over 5,000 staff. St. Vincent’s provides a diverse range of adult clinical services including acute medical and surgical services, sub-acute care, medical diagnostics, rehabilitation, allied health, mental health, palliative care, correctional health and community residential care.

We are part of the St Vincent’s Health Australia group, a Catholic not-for-profit healthcare provider which is Australia’s 12th largest privately held company. A $2 billion organisation, the group’s 16,000 employees offer more than one million occasions of care a year from 27 public and private hospitals and aged care facilities that stretch along the eastern seaboard.

Radiotherapy

Radiotherapy is an essential treatment in the management of patients diagnosed with cancer. According to international studies, radiotherapy should be utilised as a primary treatment in the management of one in two newly diagnosed cancers, providing patients with a highly targeted form of treatment that results in excellent cancer control and cure rates with minimal side effects. Australian data demonstrates that radiotherapy is a highly effective weapon in the fight against cancer, delivering more than 40% of all cures.