



**HOPE
HEALTHCARE**

media release

100 Years of Hope
a Century of Care

For immediate use

Opening of New Day Hospitals Enhanced palliative care service for local community National Palliative Care Week 25 to 31 May 2008

New Palliative Care Day Hospitals are being formally opened during National Palliative Care Week at Hope Healthcare's Neringah Hospital, as well as at the Northern Beaches Palliative Care Service at Mona Vale and Greenwich Hospital.

**12.15 pm Wednesday 28 May 2008
Day Hospital
Neringah Hospital
4-12 Neringah Avenue South, Wahroonga 2076**

The Director of Palliative Care for our services in Northern Sydney, Dr Andrew Broadbent said that one of the contemporary roles in palliative care is to provide care where the patient wants it and today that is predominantly in the home.

“One of the best ways to keep people at home is to provide regular respite for the carers for a day that allows the carers to have a day to themselves. It also allows for a range of therapies to be continued without needing to be admitted to an inpatient unit for long periods. These include diversional therapy, art therapy, and physiotherapy therefore maintaining the physical and mental wellbeing of people with a terminal illness for longer,” he said.

Hope Healthcare Chief Executive Officer Mark Newton added that Hope Healthcare was responding to changing community needs in the provision of health care. “Our new Palliative Care Day Hospitals assist in our delivery of a comprehensive specialised service, offering a continuum of palliative care in the home, Day Hospitals, services in nursing homes and as inpatients in our Hospitals. These new services are very much in line with the direction formulated as part of the planning processes undertaken by our organisation in conjunction with the Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Health Service. We continue to strive to develop the range and scope of our services in order to meet the growing needs and expectations of the community.”

The theme this year of National Palliative Care Week is ‘Palliative Care – A Matter of Life and Death’ and will be launched by the Hon Justine Elliot, Minister for Ageing, at Parliament House, Canberra. The week provided the opportunity to raise awareness about death and dying in the community and the importance of quality care at the end of life.

Sydney 22 May 2008

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