



Main Entry Perspectives

An artist's impression offers a glimpse of the planned Main Entry to Wairau Hospital, scheduled for completion in July 2010. The new entrance will be built approximately 20 metres north of the hospital's current main entrance, adjacent to the existing main public carpark off Hospital Road.

A new café facility with an outdoor courtyard will complete the hospital's new frontage.



Nuclear Medicine Refurbished

Refurbishment of Nuclear Medicine in the basement of the Arthur Wicks building is expected to be completed within the next week. "As the medical equipment has also been replaced, the entire service is being modernised and will provide an improved experience for both the technician and our patients," says Radiology 2IC Lindsay McCallum.

Nuclear Medicine is a specialty service of the Radiology department where radiopharmaceuticals are taken internally, before external detectors capture and form images from the radiation emitted by the radiopharmaceuticals.

The remaining Radiology specialties will move to new facilities in March 2009.

ED Reception to be Manned 24-7

Wairau Hospital's Emergency Department reception is to increase its opening hours to 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The extended reception hours will allow for increased clerical support for this busy department, as well as providing an after hours entrance to the hospital campus. Outside of normal business hours, clerical staff in ED will also monitor alarms and provide support for other hospital departments.

It is planned that the changes to the reception opening hours will be implemented in early December 2009, in preparation for the Emergency Department's move to their new facility on the refurbished ground floor of the Arthur Wicks building in February 2010. The ED will be co-located with the High Dependency Unit (HDU) and Acute Assessment Unit (AAU).

"We are looking forward to providing an around-the-clock emergency reception service on par with other hospitals across the country," said Ali Rendall, Hospital Liaison Manager.

Did you know? By 31 October 2009, construction on the Wairau Hospital Redevelopment Project will have been in progress for 375 working days. 304 working days remain until the project's target completion date of December 2010.

New Temporary Entrance

Regular visitors to the first completed stage of Wairau Hospital's redevelopment will observe a new set of double external doors in the main corridor. These doors will become the main access to and egress from Inpatients, Assessment Treatment and Rehabilitation, Pharmacy, Te Pukenga Hauora, the Chapel and Community Services departments during construction of Stage Three of the redevelopment.

Stage Three construction will commence in February 2010 with the demolition of the existing Clinical Services, Main Entrance and Emergency buildings to make way for new facilities for Outpatients, Oncology, Maternity, Child and Youth and the Day Stay Unit, as well as a new Main Entry and Café.



Radiology Images Returned

Wairau Hospital Radiology Department are offering people the opportunity to collect their old X-Rays and radiology images. With the department moving to new premises in 2010, patients who had X-Rays or other radiology imaging done before August 2006 are invited to collect their old images from the hospital.

District Manager Clinical Support, James Bowyer said, "Not all images will be available. There are instances where images will not be available, for example after 2006 images were stored electronically and other images that are more than 10 years old may not be available."

"There is a process to collecting the X-Ray images and this includes showing a valid form of picture identification and signing for the images." A parent or legal guardian would need to uplift images for anyone under 16 years of age.

People should phone 03 520 9910 to inquire whether images are available to collect. Staff would need at least 24 hours to check if an imaging packet was available to collect. Once this was confirmed a time and date would be arranged for images to be collected.

New facilities for the Radiology department are currently being constructed next to the Arthur Wicks building and are due to be completed in February 2010 as part of Stage Two of the redevelopment.

Mr Bowyer said, "As Radiology has worked in one of the oldest parts of the hospital, it is wonderful for staff to be able to see the purpose built facility taking shape. As it develops there are regular site visits for Radiology staff to familiarise themselves with the layout and discuss models of care in the new facility."

Waste Not, Want Not

The Optimising the Patient Journey (OPJ) programme is well underway in the Outpatients department.

Although the department will not move to new facilities until the second half of 2010, participation in the programme in advance of their relocation will assist with thinking and working in different ways.

OPJ Facilitator Celia MacKinnon has been working closely with Surgical Outpatients team member Julie Atkinson to complete an 'activity follow', where each action taken by Julie throughout a working day is timed and recorded. This time and motion study aims to identify waste, which is defined as "looking for, collecting, returning, waiting for and re-doing work." The waste in a day is often the things that typically frustrate workers, and is not an effective use of their time and skills. "It is our intention to use the results of the study to improve both Julie's working day and the experience of our patients," says Celia.



A shadow with a stop watch didn't faze Julie. "After the first few minutes I didn't even notice Celia was there." Julie says she is looking forward to the results of the 'activity follow' and benefiting from any improvements she can make.

Moving Timeline

January 2010

- Laboratories move to new facility
- Administration Services move to refurbished top floor of Arthur Wicks building

February 2010

- Emergency Department, High Dependency Unit and Acute Assessment Unit move to refurbished ground floor of Arthur Wicks building
- Medical Records move to new facility

March 2010

- Radiology moves to new facility

April 2010

- Third Operating Theatre in service

Countdown to Stage Two Construction Completion: Five Months