



Media Release

To:

From: Katherine Rock, Communications Advisor
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Date: 22 December 2009

Subject: Preview of New Emergency Department

The public are invited to view Wairau Hospital's new Emergency Department and Critical Care Unit facilities on Wednesday, 10 February 2010, from 4.00pm until 7.00pm. Last entry will be at 6.45pm.

The preview marks the completion of Stage Two of the hospital's redevelopment project. Stage Two has seen the refitting of the Arthur Wicks building and new buildings constructed for Radiology, Clinical Records and the Laboratory.

The new Emergency Department will officially open on Tuesday, 16 February 2010.

"The new Emergency Department is spacious and modern," said Martin Ridgway, Wairau Hospital Site Redevelopment Project Director. "The relocation from the existing facilities will be carefully coordinated, to ensure uninterrupted emergency services are available while the physical move takes place over the course of the day."

Access to the new Emergency Department, located on the ground floor of the Arthur Wicks building, is from Gate 2, off Hospital Road. There is a drop off zone directly outside the entrance and short term parking close by.

Nelson Marlborough District Manager Lindsey Bates said, "People must remember that only the most urgent cases should go to the Emergency Department."

People requiring after hours medical services should go to the After Hours GP Clinic, on the Wairau Hospital campus, phone (03) 520 6377. During the day people should see their GP or contact Marlborough Primary Health Organisation on (03) 520 6200 for the General Practice on duty. After Friday, 5 February 2010, the clinic will also be accessed through Gate 2, off Hospital Road.

ENDS