



# **Amanda Rishworth MP**

## **Member for Kingston**

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

13 May 2008

#### **RUDD GOVERNMENT'S \$10 MILLION FOR FLINDERS MEDICAL CENTRE**

Medical students, junior doctors and patients, particularly in Adelaide's southern suburbs, will all benefit from the Rudd Government's 2008-09 Budget commitment to invest \$10 million to upgrade facilities at Adelaide's Flinders University Medical Centre and its various sites.

The Budget measure provides funding for critical training infrastructure, including modern lecture theatres and tutorial rooms at the Flinders Medical Centre. Existing teaching facilities within the School of Medicine will be upgraded. New educational facilities will be built at the Daw Park Repatriation General Hospital and the Noarlunga Health Services site.

This initiative is about helping the Flinders Medical Centre best prepare Australia's next generation of medical and allied health professionals to care for South Australian families. It is also about making sure that Flinders University Medical School is best positioned to be a world leader in providing health and medical education.

Flinders Medical Centre was neglected by the previous Liberal Government. While it has been a major teaching and training facility, it has not had a significant upgrade in 30 years.

This \$10 million upgrade will help to attract and retain the medical workforce in Adelaide and South Australia, which are experiencing health workforce shortages.

We know that the more medical staff we train locally, the more doctors will go on to work locally. This means more GPs in Adelaide's southern suburbs – an area which experiences acute GP shortages.

Flinders University will benefit from a major expansion of its capacity to deliver medical training. More broadly, the project will benefit medical students, junior doctors and patients of the various Flinders Medical Centre training sites."

Funding for the upgrade starts in 2007-08, with the construction of the new facilities expected to be completed by June 2010.

