



BACKGROUND

The Royal Hospital for Women has been one of Australia's foremost specialist hospitals for women and babies, since its early beginnings as New South Wales first 'lying-in' hospital for women in 1866. As a principal teaching hospital of the University of NSW in the fields of obstetrics, gynaecology and neonatology the Royal has a history of innovation in women's health care services, teaching and research.

In 1992 the Benevolent Society of NSW withdrew from the management of the Royal Hospital for Women. A Deed of Agreement between the Society, the Minister for Health (on behalf of the Crown) and the Eastern Sydney Area Health Service formed the basis for the transfer of the Royal to become an incorporated hospital of the Eastern Sydney Area Health Service. Amongst other conditions, the Deed enabled the Royal Hospital for Women to remain on the Paddington site for 5 years from June 30, 1992 with a one year extension at a commercial lease rate.

The then Minister for Health The Hon Mr Ron Phillips, following a community consultative process, announced the relocation of the Royal Hospital for Women to a new \$40 million purpose built hospital at Randwick.

VISION OF RHW

To provide women, their babies and their families with excellent care in a responsive collaborative environment that promotes best practice, teaching, research and staff.

AIMS OF RHW

As the only women's hospital in NSW we aim to :

- i. provide leadership in the provision of care for women and babies;
- ii. improve further our national and international recognition for contributions to women's and babies' health;
- iii. provide excellent undergraduate and postgraduate education for nurses, midwives, medical students and trainee specialists in Obstetrics & Gynaecology and Neonatology;
- iv. conduct high quality peer-reviewed research in women's and babies' health.

RHW SERVICES

The services we offer are specific to the unique health care needs of women. The way we provide services reflects our values of partnership, respect, choice and compassion.

RHW Services Provision

- RHW is a tertiary level teaching hospital affiliated with UNSW and Sydney University providing maternity, neonatal and gynaecological services with a Statewide Services role delineation of Level 6 (top level for dealing with acute and complex issues in patient care).
- Provision of Statewide Services in
 - Maternal 'high-risk' pregnancies
 - 'at risk newborn babies
 - Complex gynaecological disorders
 - Gynaecological cancer
 - Telephone and face-to-face clinical and teratogen information and counselling service ("Mothersafe")
 - Breast disorders
- Provision of maternal and newborn services for 'low-risk' mothers and babies residing within the local South Eastern Sydney area and for women with gynaecological disorders. Gynaecological services include reproductive medicine and endocrinology; endogynaecology; menopause therapy; family planning and paediatric and adolescent gynaecology.
- Provision of education for undergraduate and postgraduate students of medicine and nursing/midwifery, and specialist training in Obstetrics & Gynaecology.
- Conduct of research related to women's health and its disorders and in maternal and newborn health.

In 2013 The Royal developed a Strategic Plan 2014 – 2020 to enhance the services provided into the future.

Link to [Threads of Time](#) – RHW history line