

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

From: Kasey McCulloch, Media Manager

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Key appointments to Werribee Mercy Hospital's new ICU

Werribee Mercy Hospital has announced two key appointments to its new Intensive Care Unit (ICU), which will open in stages to the public from August 2018.

Mercy Health Chief Executive – Health Services Adjunct Professor Linda Mellors said the hospital was excited with the appointments of Dr Mainak Majumdar as Medical Director and Ms Joanne Pickford as Nurse Unit Manager.

"We are thrilled to have Dr Majumdar and Ms Pickford on board, who bring a wealth of experience in intensive care to Werribee Mercy Hospital," Adj Prof Mellors said.

Dr Majumdar is a Foundation Fellow of the College of Intensive Care Medicine of Australia and New Zealand. He has an extensive background in emergency medicine, retrieval medicine and intensive care medicine across multiple jurisdictions in Australasia and overseas in diverse settings including rural, regional, metropolitan and tertiary teaching hospitals. He also has an active interest in postgraduate medical education and research.

Dr Majumdar joined Werribee Mercy Hospital in April 2018 and was eager to be involved in the hospital's critical care expansion.

"The ICU provides essential critical care services to the local community," Dr Majumdar said. "This is an exciting opportunity to set up an intensive care service in Melbourne's fastest growing area that is currently underserved in terms of access to acute health care. To be able to develop a service from scratch and be able to customise it to the region's health needs in a supportive healthcare service is an absolute privilege."

A Wyndham local, Ms Pickford has more than 24 years of nursing experience in Australia and overseas. She holds several postgraduate qualifications including intensive care, haematology and transfusion practices.

Ms Pickford said it is an honour to be given the opportunity to lead a team of medical, nursing and allied health specialists in the new ICU.

"Being part of a new unit allows the recruitment of like-minded staff," Ms Pickford said. "I'm hoping to build a team that is motivated, dedicated and passionate in providing the best standards of care for the local community, especially critically-ill patients, their families, carers and support networks."

The \$93 million Werribee Mercy Hospital expansion is nearing completion and there are many new career opportunities available in the new ICU. People are encouraged to visit <u>www.careers.com.au</u> or email <u>WMHcareers@mercy.com.au</u> for information about vacancies.

For interviews and photo opportunities, please contact:

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