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For immediate release

Radiology services boosted with arrival of new CT scanner at Waitematā DHB

A new high-tech CT scanner at North Shore Hospital will help Waitematā DHB meet the increased demands of its rapidly growing population.

The installation of the additional new machine was marked today with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and takes the total number of CT scanners at the hospital to three.

Its arrival will be complemented by the recruitment of nine new staff and is specifically designed to meet phenomenal population growth.

“Waitematā is one of the fastest growing DHBs in the country,” Waitematā DHB CEO Dr Dale Bramley says. “Last year, we received around 37,000 requests or referrals for radiology CT services at North Shore Hospital and this year we expect that number to be closer to 40,000.

“This additional CT scanner will ultimately help us meet current and future demand.”

The opening is another significant milestone in the evolution of radiology services at Waitematā DHB.

Waitakere Hospital’s radiology department was extensively upgraded last year to accommodate two new CT scanners and improve waiting areas for patients.

The upgrade has doubled the service's capacity in West Auckland and eased pressure on North Shore Hospital where patients were sometimes referred to reduce waiting times.

"All of these developments clearly demonstrate the significant investment we've made to enhance our overall radiology service and deliver better health outcomes for our community," Dr Bramley says. "We are committed to providing improved access to locally-based care wherever possible and today we have taken yet another major step forward towards achieving that goal."

Caption: Pictured with the newly opened CT Scanner at North Shore Hospital is General Manager and Head of Division - Diagnostic Services and Clinical Support Services, Dr Jonathan Wallace, Radiology Clinical Director Dr Hament Pandya, CEO Dr Dale Bramley, Director of Hospital Services Cath Cronin, Waitematā DHB Chair Professor Judy McGregor, Chief Medical Officer Dr Andrew Brant.

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About Waitematā DHB

Waitematā DHB serves the largest population of any district health board in New Zealand, currently standing at more than 630,000 people. We have a workforce of more than 7,500 staff spread across more than 80 sites, including North Shore Hospital and Waitakere Hospital. We are also the Northern Region provider of forensic psychiatry and child disability services, plus the metro Auckland provider of child community dental services and community alcohol and drug services.