

New ICU “Latest of the Latest”

Australia’s sickest patients will be cared for in one of the largest and most advanced facilities in the country, when patients moved in on Tuesday 25 November.

“We already have the most dedicated, highly skilled staff and this breath-taking, state-of-the-art facility means that The Alfred will provide the very best that intensive care can offer,” ICU Director Carlos Scheinkestel said.

“Our ICU will continue to save Victorians’ lives well into the 21st century.”

Every part of the new facility is “the latest of the latest” and has been designed to deal with everything the 21st century may need to deal with, including bio-terrorism.

There are many things that make the ward special, including the “open” feel, more than half the cubicles being enclosed, the use of 100 per cent fresh air without recirculation and the view of the neighbouring Fawkner Park.

A large number of innovative infection control measures have been installed, and the unit also features switchable glass, extensive natural light, patient lifting hoists and a high tech cleaning area.

“The cubicle design has been built to handle the undeniably most complex patient mix in the country; including heart and lung transplants, artificial hearts, burns, major trauma and highly infectious patients,” Chief Executive Jennifer Williams said.

“It is certainly the most high tech facility of this type that I have seen and I congratulate all our hard working staff for their enthusiasm over the last three years to get it built. It is a great asset for the Victorian health system.

“It is a facility of which The Alfred can be enormously proud,” Ms Williams said.

