

# 5<sup>th</sup> Floor News

The 5th Floor is changing...



theAlfred

Edition 5  
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## Dear patients, families, carers and staff

Since our last edition, the design for the new Respiratory Medicine service has progressed, with the footprint now extending into the outpatient area on the 2nd Floor. This addition will increase clinical area for the service.

This is a significant change. While keeping the service in one location and on one floor, it will provide two separate entrances (East Block and Philip Block) to help with infection prevention measures.

The design process is taking longer than initially planned as it is a more complex project than anticipated, affecting other services such as the Infectious Diseases Clinic as well as administrative areas.

### As promised our staff and patient community are involved in the design process.

Initial designs have been reviewed by clinicians as well as patient representatives.

As you can see from the table (page 2) the feedback from our Patient Reference Group is thorough and detailed.

This feedback is informing and refining the next updated design, which will be shared with the broader patient community for respiratory medicine (online and in-situ) in coming weeks.

### While this is a challenging project our goals remain the same: maintain the quality of our clinical functions and where possible, enhance or expand the Respiratory Medicine service.

We appreciate the contribution from our staff, patients, and key membership bodies, who are all investing their time and energy to help us get this relocation process as right as we possibly can. Your contribution is valued and appreciated.

Thank you.

#### Prof Robyn O'Hehir

Director  
Allergy, Immunology and  
Respiratory Medicine

#### Prof Trevor Williams

Director  
General Respiratory and  
Lung Transplant

#### Main themes from patient feedback

- sufficient clinical space
- infection control measures (informed by the new CF guidelines)
- reception areas
- general amenities

## Design developments

**The footprint for the Respiratory Service has been extended into the outpatient area on the 2nd Floor providing:**

- a consolidated location across the Philip Block and East Block with two separate entrances;
- increased clinical space;
- an opportunity to improve infection prevention aligning where possible to Cystic Fibrosis guidelines.

## Infection control

**Design concepts will improve capacity for isolation:**

- two access points;
- sub waiting areas;
- materials that are easily cleaned;
- co-location of the multidisciplinary team; and
- separate isolation room for sick patients (5th Floor).

## Feedback from the Patient Reference Committee

Aspect	Questions	Suggestions
<b>Waiting areas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are there sufficient waiting areas?</li> <li>Will there be sufficient space to park wheelchairs/scooters?</li> <li>Will oxygen be available in consulting rooms and waiting areas?</li> <li>Will there be access to Wi-Fi?</li> <li>Where will CF patients wait?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Place chairs in separate pairs</li> <li>Increase separation/zoning of areas</li> <li>Use SMS notification: consider message to advise patients on next steps if they are acutely unwell</li> </ul>
<b>Timely care</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are there enough rooms for growth in the volume of CF patients?</li> <li>Is there sufficient room capacity and consideration for growth across Respiratory Medicine?</li> <li>Where will eHealth/telehealth occur?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Involve patient in discussions about how to best operationalise clinical areas</li> <li>Educate and communicate to patients about how the clinics will work in practice</li> </ul>
<b>Comfortable and accessible</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will the clinic areas have sufficient sound proofing to protect confidentiality?</li> <li>Will there be a private space for sick patients?</li> <li>Will there be access to tea and coffee, water?</li> <li>Are there sufficient toilets for staff and patients?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accessibility/circulation spaces – sliding doors</li> <li>Consider using technology to provide patients with information about resources in hospital and community</li> <li>Ensure/confirm wheelchair access to lifts in EAST block</li> <li>Include water fountain in design</li> </ul>
<b>Cleanliness and infection prevention</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will we be able to adhere to the CF infection prevention guidelines?</li> <li>Is there a risk of cross infection given shared reception areas?</li> <li>How will we minimise cross infection?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hospital wide strategy for infection prevention</li> <li>Streamline assessment process for when acutely unwell</li> <li>Patient education on infection prevention including defining what is 'unwell'</li> <li>Add pot plants (in absence of natural light)</li> <li>Design clinic rooms to maintain patient privacy even if door is open.</li> </ul>
<b>Patient flow and proximity to services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where do we access Hospital In the Home?</li> <li>How does the design work from the perspective of patients with varying needs?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain the operational plan for the area and how it will work for patients.</li> </ul>
<b>Highly skilled interdisciplinary staff</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will we have access to an interdisciplinary team?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase breakout spaces/pods/team spaces</li> <li>Locate consultant offices in close proximity to patient areas</li> </ul>

## Keeping up to date

Keep up to date with the latest news as we progress with the 5th Floor Relocation Project.



Visit our website: [alfredhealth.org.au/consult5floor](http://alfredhealth.org.au/consult5floor)



Read the regular editions of 5th Floor news (online and at reception and waiting areas on 5th Floor)



Email your questions and comments to [patientfeedback5floor@alfred.org.au](mailto:patientfeedback5floor@alfred.org.au)