



## **Media release**

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### **Olivia Newton-John opens first stage of Cancer & Wellness Centre at Austin Hospital today**

Olivia Newton-John will open her Cancer & Wellness Centre at Melbourne's Austin Hospital today.

The \$189 million Centre brings together three elements: Austin Hospital's cancer services, the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research and an important focus on wellness.

Patients will benefit from world-class clinical care, the results of research and scientific discovery and evidence-based complementary therapies, such as meditation and massage, which will help ease the stress, anxiety and side effects of cancer treatment.

The opening marks the realisation of a dream for Ms Newton-John who has been working on the project since 2003.

"I am so excited to finally share with you the realisation of a dream that began 20 years ago with my own cancer journey. It is humbling to know that so many of you have cared so much and shared my vision," said Ms Newton-John.

Three of the seven levels in the Centre will officially open to patients on Monday 2 July including radiation oncology, day oncology, specialist cancer clinics, the Cancer Information and Resource Centre, the Ludwig Research laboratories, a staff collaboration space and the distinct Wellness Centre.

The remaining research facilities, inpatient wards and palliative care unit will open in mid-2013.

The Olivia Newton-John Centre & Wellness Centre has been made possible through state and federal funding and ongoing philanthropic support from the community.

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