



# Media release

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **New Trauma Service for WA**

Royal Perth Hospital has created the State's first dedicated trauma service.

The 17-member multi-disciplinary team is led by trauma surgeon Dr Sudhakar Rao.

Dr Rao said the cohesion of skill to deal with trauma meant that patients would receive a level of care that met world "best practice" standards.

"Dealing with trauma is time critical, so being able to treat trauma in a timely manner means you get much better outcomes," he said.

"This team is about treating acute trauma as well as recovery – both physical and psychological – and is also about making Hospital care efficient, getting the best out of our limited health resources."

RPH is the main provider of major trauma service in Western Australia, treating about 65 per cent of the State's major trauma cases, and has the second largest case-load in Australia.

It provides state-of-the-art emergency trauma and critical care for injured patients 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

RPM admits more than 3500 trauma patients a year, with over 400 of these patients classed as "major trauma".

The RPH trauma service began its evolution in August 2004 with the creation of the Trauma Registry, which was staffed by two research nurses.

The trauma service at RPH has expanded continually, especially since the November 2004 State Government announcement that RPH would be the designated State Adult Major Trauma Centre.

The new Trauma Service will focus on improved outcomes and quality patient care.

Construction of a designated trauma ward has started on Level 3, North Block, which will be complete and open for patients in early 2008.