



Department of Health  
Government of Western Australia



Royal Perth Hospital

## *Media Statement*

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**November 19, 2007**

### **Million dollar upgrade for RPH**

Royal Perth Hospital welcomed the addition of a new digital mammography machine in October with a second one expected in mid December.

The full field digital mammography machines worth \$500,000 each will be used on patients for the first time today and are rated as the best in Australia, improving the detection of breast cancer in high-risk and difficult-to-screen patients.

RPH Medical Imaging Technologist Lisa Towler says the new machines are state-of-the-art and very user friendly. Motorised gantry movement helps the Radiographer minimise the risk of repetitive shoulder strain.

The new machines have many new features so breast clinic Radiographers have high expectations and anticipate an improved service provided to patients.

“An image viewing monitor is now located in the mammography room which provides image display in less than 10 seconds,” says Lisa.

She says the quick image turn around means the Radiographer can determine if any positioning changes are required to obtain an optimum image.

The image quality will be significantly improved, providing better visibility across the entire breast including the skin line. This is expected to increase efficiency of examinations.

Royal Perth Hospital performed approximately 5000 mammograms last year with the number of women screened growing by about nine per cent each year.

*For more information, please contact RPH Public Relations, 9224 2209 or 9224 3943.*