

Your help means less pain and less waiting.

For people like Bev, Joe and Zofia, The Surgery Centre (TSC) at Austin Health's Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital has given them a new lease on life. More than 10,000 people a year undergo elective procedures at TSC – some life-changing, like hip or knee replacements, and some life-saving, like removal of cancer cells.

Your gift will help buy new surgical equipment so people like Bev, Joe and Zofia can have access to surgery sooner; helping to reduce pain, stress and isolation.

Equipment needed at The Surgery Centre

Alaris PK Pump x 2: This device ensures pain relief is delivered in a timely fashion to patients during surgery. We currently do not have enough of these pumps for all the appropriate patients to receive this pain management. COST: \$4,190 each

Stryker Printer x 4: These printers are used to print images taken during endoscopic procedures. Many patients need to have pictures taken to show lesions and tears. COST: \$3,200 each

Continuous Flow Set x 2: Used during a prostate procedure to ensure appropriate fluid is maintained over the course of the procedure. We currently only have two sets which limits the number of procedures we can perform. COST: \$5,000 each

Rigid Biopsy Forceps x 1: Used to take biopsies of the bladder to assist in the detection of bladder cancer. We currently have two forceps, which limits the number of this type of procedure performed on any given day. COST: \$2,000

Perianal Trays x 4: Used for many of the colon, rectal and bowel procedures. We only have six sets which limit the number of procedures that can be performed. More sets will allow for more patients to have their procedures in a shorter waiting time. COST: \$2,286 each

The Surgery Centre

Based at the Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital, The Surgery Centre offers a radical departure from the traditional model of elective surgery health care. It separates short stay elective surgery from emergency surgery and complex elective work.

The centre complements the redevelopment of the Surgery and Endoscopy Centre at the Austin Hospital. At present, Austin Health treats 20,000 patients through the Surgery and Endoscopy Centre each year. The development of the Surgery Centre at Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital has increased the number of patients treated and significantly improved patient access to elective surgery.

Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital

The Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital has a proud history of caring for veterans and war widows. Originally built in 1941, the hospital became part of Austin Health in 1995.

Today the Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital continues to treat veterans, war widows and the wider community with surgery, mental health services, aged care, and a range of outpatient services.

New and innovative projects at the Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital such as The Surgery Centre, the new Mental Health Precinct and Post Trauma Victoria are helping to better support the ever growing north-east Melbourne community.



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Join the conversation:



Changing Lives The Surgery Centre





Beverley Irvine

Diagnosed with breast cancer – Dec 15
Removal of breast and 27 lymph nodes – Jan 16
Currently undergoing chemotherapy and radiation.

“I was shocked, devastated and terribly scared about my breast cancer diagnosis and surgery. The doctors and nurses made me feel safe, reassured and relaxed about what was happening to me. I had nothing but exceptional care in a state-of-the-art centre.”



Zofia Sternalnski

Total knee replacement – July 2015

“I am a carer for my husband and the terrible pain in my knee meant I couldn’t care for him properly. But after surgery to replace my knee, I can jump, I can skip, I can run with my grandson! And I can care for my husband who needs me. Without the surgery we could not have stayed together in our home.”



Joe Borg

Total knee replacement – August 2015

“I met my wife dancing – she was my instructor! Dancing has always been our favourite thing to do together. But my bad knee stopped me from dancing. I sat in a chair all day long, I was in so much pain, and my wife tells me I was angry all the time and very hard to live with. Since my knee replacement, I can live again and I am happy! I can dance the night away, nothing stops me now!”

“Shorter waiting times for elective surgery means life-changing benefits for many patients.”

Dr Rowan Gebert, Specialist Anaesthetist, Head of Clinical Operations at The Surgery Centre

