



*****Media release*****

Austin Health attracts interstate research funding

Austin Health has attracted \$1.5 million in interstate funding from the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) to build a state-of-the-art laboratory for cancer research.

The funding agreement between Austin Health, the Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research and ANSTO will see Austin Health become a hub for world-class research into detecting and treating cancer.

“The agreement with ANSTO provides significant new funds to upgrade the radiochemistry research facilities in the PET Centre, which will enable our researchers to produce a range of exciting new diagnostic compounds to test in diagnostics and therapeutics,” said CEO Dr Murphy.

“It ensures that our PET Centre retains its leading international role as a research and development centre for this rapidly expanding diagnosis modality,” he said. Austin Health’s Centre for Positron Emission Technology (PET) houses the most powerful cyclotron in Australia and has an international reputation as a leader in research into cancer and neurological disorders.

PET is an imaging technique that uses small amounts of radioactive tracers (isotopes produced by cyclotron technology and injected into the patient’s body before they have PET scans) to locate cancers and diagnose other medical conditions.

Health Minister Daniel Andrews said the investment will boost Victoria’s reputation as a national centre of medical research excellence.