



# NSW State Election 2011

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SATURDAY MARCH 26, 2011

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## Libs promise more beds for Ryde



Shadow Education Minister Jillian Skinner at the Royal Rehabilitation Centre with Ryde MP Victor Dominello (left), the Centre's CEO Stephen Lowndes and Chairman Clive Austin and doctors, nurses and staff. TWT on-the-spot PHOTO

**Seventy five extra beds will be available in Ryde and North Sydney under a promise made by Shadow Health Minister Jillian Skinner.**

Ms Skinner made the election promise to doctors and nurses in Ryde on Thursday and said it would include both sub-acute and rehabilitation beds.

She also said the Royal Rehabilitation Centre in Ryde had been underfunded by the NSW Government resulting

in the loss of jobs and uncertainty of its future direction.

"I assure TWT that there will be no job losses, absolutely no jobs cut. The coalition has a 10-year medical workforce plan and we will be consulting with the unions to ensure we properly staff our hospitals," she said.

"We will also put \$3 billion into delivering better health infrastructure."

Ms Skinner's election promise was welcomed by Royal Rehabilitation

Centre's CEO Stephen Lowndes who said the promised funding would "underpin" the centre's proposed investment in a \$60-million centre to replace some outdated existing facilities.

"Sub-acute care is an essential but often overlooked part of the public health system. Investment in rehabilitation also takes pressure off public hospitals because adequate rehabilitation means that patients occupy acute hospital beds no longer than absolutely necessary."