

We are dedicated to your health

St Vincent’s hospitals have provided premier health services for the past 125 years. We not only have a long history of consistently achieving medical brilliance, but also for maintaining a holistic approach to patient care.

Our ethos is firmly planted in the belief that every life is precious. This positively impacts the care we provide to every patient, no matter what their station in life. We lead the way in the provision of Aboriginal health care services. We go above and beyond – we not only save lives, but we also improve them. Our focus is on treating the health, mind, body and soul of every patient.

We are extremely proud to report that Melbourne’s St Vincent’s Public Hospital was recently voted in the top 100 hospitals worldwide (Newsweek 2019) and is ranked number four in the top hospitals of Australia. This kind of medical and cultural mastery is hard-won and is the result of decades of dedication to health, learning and medical research.



“The staff provided the most wonderful care for me far beyond what I expected. If you’re a patient at St Vincent’s you are in very capable and caring hands.”
– St Vincent’s patient

St Vincent’s Mission and Vision

Our history comprises extraordinary individuals working together to provide the best possible patient care to people from all walks of life.

In 1889, five Sisters of Charity arrived in Melbourne with the dream of establishing a hospital. Four years later, after working tirelessly to raise funds, the Sisters opened a small cottage hospital with 30 beds and treated almost 2,500 patients in the first year alone.

Community support and generosity have been central to the story of St Vincent’s. In the beginning, we relied entirely on charitable donations to survive and thrive. We still need this vital assistance to continue caring for the wider community.

Our values



Compassion

Accepting people as they are, bringing to each the love and tenderness of Christ.

Integrity

Acting with honesty and truth while ensuring that we enable others to flourish.

Justice

Treating all people with fairness and equality so as to transform society.

Excellence

Excelling in all aspects of our healing ministry.

Support St Vincent’s Foundation today

Our hospitals were founded by the Sisters of Charity on a deep and abiding belief that our care for the sick is an expression of God’s love. Nothing is too hard, no case too difficult, and each and every patient deserves to be cared for.

We believe that for every illness there is a treatment or a cure, and that through striving for knowledge and excellence, we will find the solution.

We need your support so we can keep achieving remarkable discoveries and continue to provide the best medical care.

If you would like to donate to St Vincent’s Foundation, please go to:

www.stvfoundation.org.au/donate

For further information, please contact:

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“We hope you will join us and support St Vincent’s Foundation. We are committed to providing excellence in care to all patients. If you would like to contribute or become involved, please contact me.”

– Lyn Amy, CEO St Vincent’s Foundation



St Vincent's – breaking new ground

St Vincent's has long been a leader in medical treatment in Australia.

In the 1960s we established Australia's first Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and Australia's inaugural clinic for the care of alcoholics and the study of alcoholism.

We also have a great history of innovation and achievement in reconstructive microsurgery techniques, limb replantation, specialised hand surgery and renal transplants. This expertise resulted in St Vincent's surgeons performing the first hand transplant procedure in Australia in 2011.

In 2014, we employed 3D printing technology to build a new bone to replace a cancerous section, and in 2016 we established our BioFab Centre – the first robotics and biomedical engineering centre in Australia to be a part of a hospital.

The key focus of our expertise has been in the treatment of chronic diseases; often treating cases too complex and difficult for other hospitals to handle. This commitment and determination has meant we have developed an exceptionally high level of skill and research excellence, which we share with colleagues around Australia and the world.

Cardiac Care – heart disease, Australia's number one killer

St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne leads Australia in complex cardiac care. We save thousands of lives each year in our Cardiac Centre. Our proven ability to treat complex cardiac cases means that in many circumstances, patients are sent from other hospitals across the city and country Victoria for treatment.

“St Vincent's Hospital has given me a renewed lease on life. I cannot speak highly enough of the genuine care given during my stay. All the staff are wonderful. It was an amazing experience for me.”
– Cardiac patient

We have the only National Centre for Sports Cardiology in the country where we treat Australian Institute of Sport, Olympic and AFL athletes. This centre also allows ongoing research to help us improve all of our patients' lives through exercise, diet and targeted care for heart conditions.

Professor and Neurosurgeon, Mark Cook with Natalie, a patient whose epilepsy is now under control.



Neurology – tackling the big issues

Epilepsy is the most common serious neurological disease in the world. According to the World Health Organization, about 50 million people globally have epilepsy.

Our team are transforming the way we treat epilepsy with the creation of a world-first implant, essentially a “Fitbit for the brain”, which can predict epileptic seizures.

The MINDER™ is a minimally-invasive device for long-term monitoring of brain seizures. The device is fitted under the skin of the scalp and records brainwaves. This data is stored on a mobile phone app and used to alert epilepsy sufferers to the likelihood of a seizure.

Osteoarthritis – a chronic condition affecting hundreds of thousands of Australians

St Vincent's is not only the leader in surgery for bone and joint conditions, but we are also changing the way we treat these conditions with extraordinary research breakthroughs. The BioPen uses 3D technology for printing live stem cells to repair damaged cartilage and save joints. This advancement will one day abolish the need for joint replacement surgery. The ultimate goal is to ensure people are able to live longer and be pain free because of healthier bones and joints.

ACMD

At St Vincent's we understand that some of the most practical and translational research is undertaken at the bedside. Our revolutionary research is helping us to discover new ways to optimise treatments and save lives.

We are developing a breakthrough approach to chronic disease by creating Australia's first biomedical engineering research and training hub to be based at a hospital.

Our aim is to share our research both nationally and globally, to ensure the largest number of people can benefit from our breakthroughs as quickly as possible.

At the forefront of digestive system disorder care

St Vincent's is proud of its long history of leading the way in the treatment and research of gastroenterological conditions. In the 1950s, Dr John Horan was one of the first physicians in Australia to perform gastroscopy, using a semi-rigid endoscope. Along with colleague Dr Luke Murphy, they later provided a diagnostic service for gastric pathology using the gastro-camera.

In the early 1970s, St Vincent's became one of the first hospitals in Australia to use a fibre-optic endoscope following Dr Murphy's training in Japan.

St Vincent's gastroenterologist Professor Michael Kamm was recently awarded the Distinguished Research Award from the Gastroenterological Society of Australia. His research and patient-centred approach has affected real change in the way we understand and treat inflammatory bowel disease – particularly Crohn's disease – both here and overseas.

“I am delighted that through Caritas Christi Hospice, we are able to provide the very best services and support to patients and their families at a very important and vulnerable time.”

– Sir James Gobbo AC, CVO, QC, former Governor of Victoria

A focus on palliative care

Palliative care has always been central to the service provided by St Vincent's because we believe you should have the greatest chance to live the best life you can right up until the very end.

We have the largest palliative care unit in Victoria, providing physical and emotional care and support to patients both in the hospital and in their homes.

As the population ages and people live longer with serious diseases, the demand for palliative care services is increasing exponentially. We have a national program of research and advocacy to promote the need for better access to palliative care for everyone.

Addiction medicine and mental health

After establishing Australia's first clinic for the care of alcoholics and the study of alcoholism, we have become one of the country's premier centres for the medical treatment of drug and alcohol addiction.

We recognise that people addicted to alcohol, prescription or illegal drugs are also suffering from a range of serious health conditions. Through our research and broad range of programs, we have been able to prove that with the correct treatment it is possible for these patients to overcome their addictions and live happy, drug-free, fulfilling lives.

Robotics program

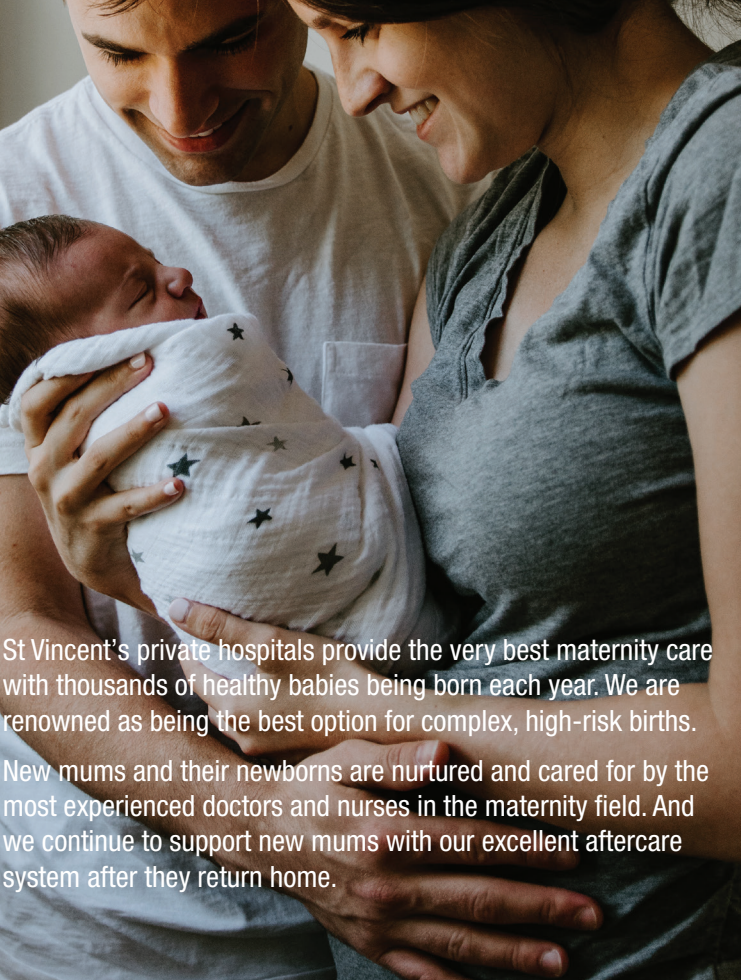
“All the staff show such care and devotion, so patients can reap the rewards.”
– St Vincent's patient



Cutting-edge technology can improve lives – that's why we invest in it.

St Vincent's Melbourne is the only facility in the state with a shared public and private robotic surgery program. This not only ensures that our patients are provided with the benefits of the very latest technology, but it also offers our trainee doctors and nurses in both the public and the private hospitals the opportunity to receive training in these innovative surgical techniques.

Maternity – bringing new life into the world



St Vincent's private hospitals provide the very best maternity care with thousands of healthy babies being born each year. We are renowned as being the best option for complex, high-risk births.

New mums and their newborns are nurtured and cared for by the most experienced doctors and nurses in the maternity field. And we continue to support new mums with our excellent aftercare system after they return home.

St Vincent's Firsts

- St Vincent's surgeons performed **Australia's first hand transplant** in an extraordinary nine-hour procedure in 2011.
- **Australia's first ICU** was established in the 1960s.
- Established **Australia's first clinic** for the care of alcoholics and the study of alcoholism.
- We are **world pioneers in ultrasound diagnosis of heart conditions**. This work has helped cardiac practitioners globally to gain a better understanding of heart conditions.
- St Vincent's Director of Orthopaedics Professor Peter Choong employed 3D printing technology in 2014 to build the first ever **titanium heel implant** to replace bone taken over by cancer.
- **Liver in a dish** is a world-first advancement by St Vincent's Hospital and St Vincent's Institute, where scientists are using a combination of human cells in an ambitious bid to grow liver tissue for transplants. Development of the organoid technology would form the cornerstone of generating 'new' liver tissue for transplants for treating a wide variety of end-stage liver disease.

St Vincent's Current Breakthroughs

- **ACMD** – An ambitious initiative to create the first hospital-based, world-class healthtech innovation hub in Australia.
- **The BioFab Centre** – Australia's first robotics and biomedical engineering centre to be embedded within a hospital.
- **BioPen** – Our researchers are preventing the onset of osteoarthritis in patients by using 3D technology to print live adult stem cells. The BioPen will repair damaged cartilage and save joints.
- **Epilepsy** – We've developed a world-first implant, MINDER™, dubbed “Fitbit for the brain”, which can predict epileptic seizures.
- **Advanced limb reconstruction** – This project combines advanced manufacturing (3D printing) and robotic surgery to create tailored implants for patients undergoing surgery for bone cancer or severe trauma.
- **National Centre for Sports Cardiology** – We are providing sports cardiology services to elite and professional sports men and women as well as recreational athletes.