



**St Vincent's**

*Continuing the Mission of  
the Sisters of Charity*

*Welcome to the Department of Oncology*

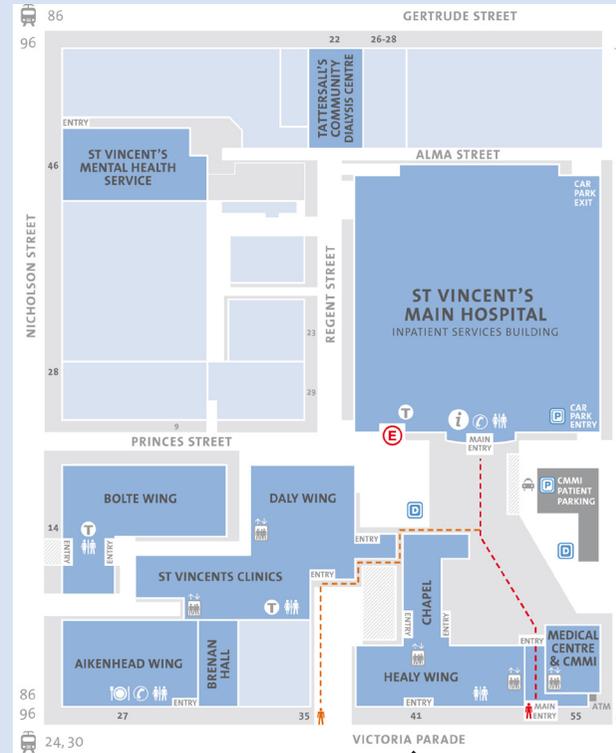
# StV

### *Points to remember*

- Bring a friend or family member to your consultations for company and support
- Bring a recording device if you want a record of your consultation
- Visit the resource centre and 'The Retreat'
- Remember that you may have to wait for some time if we need to organise extra tests. This will minimise the number of visits you need to make
- A social worker is available to discuss practical and coping issues
- A nurse will make a separate time to talk with you about your chemotherapy treatment
- Don't hesitate to talk to a staff member if you have any concerns about your visit

### *We are located at:*

St Vincent's  
Level 2, Healy Wing  
41 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy  
Tel: (03) 9288 3155



Enter via Healy Wing, 41 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy  
and take the elevator to Level 2

## *Welcome to the Department of Oncology*

Information for patients

Nov 2009

### Mission

Our health service is based on and driven by our quest for:  
Compassion – Justice – Human Dignity – Excellence – Unity

### *Welcome*

This pamphlet is a brief introduction for people who are new to the Department of Oncology at St Vincent's. In this department, the patient and their family are the focus of care. You will find doctors, nurses, a social worker and a pharmacy all located in one area. A pastoral care worker and dietitian are also available.

This ease of access ensures the most efficient delivery of services to you. There are also data managers employed in this department who are involved in the most up-to-date cancer treatment and clinical studies.

At your first visit you will receive information regarding your illness. It is often helpful to bring a friend or family member to this visit so that they don't misunderstand or miss out on any important information. You can also bring a recording device so that you can record your consultation.

It may not be possible for you to see the same doctor at each consultation, however the doctors all work as a team.

It may be necessary for us to organise extra tests during your visit. This will minimise the number of visits to hospital but may mean your visit can take some hours. It is best not to make any urgent appointments close to your hospital appointment.

During your visit you are welcome to use the resource centre (opposite the waiting room) which provides literature and information about services in the community that may help you to manage at this time.

If you are to have chemotherapy treatment, you will be introduced to one of the oncology nurses. The nurse will ensure you have written information about the particular chemotherapy you are to be given.

You are welcome to make a separate appointment to discuss in more detail the administration and side-effects of treatment. Making a separate appointment will give you time to read the literature you have been given, to think of questions you may have and to allow you to absorb the information. If you prefer, you can combine this session with your chemotherapy appointment.

Finally, it is important to remember that all the staff in the department are aware of the anxiety you may be feeling, and will do what we can to make your time here easier. Please do not hesitate to talk to us about any concerns you may have.

If you have any questions prior to your appointment, you can call us on (03) 9288 3155. If possible, save your telephone calls to the afternoon when we have more time to address your needs.

### *Other services available in and around St Vincent's*

#### *Interpreters*

An interpreter service is available at St Vincent's. Ask your doctor if you would like to have an interpreter present during a consultation.

#### *Shops and places to eat*

St Vincent's is a short distance to the city and to Brunswick Street, a local favourite for cafés and restaurants. Within the hospital grounds there is a café just behind 55 Victoria Parade and a bistro in the Aikenhead building. There is also a newsagent, Commonwealth Bank, chemist and florist on the ground floor of the Healy Wing.

#### *Parking*

Parking at any city hospital can be frustrating. Most of the parking spaces in the area are metered for two hours. There are two car parks on the hospital grounds that charge an hourly fee. The Oncology Department has two spaces on site for frail patients who need to be dropped off as close to the hospital as possible. These spaces are given on a priority basis, so please discuss your needs with a member of the nursing staff.

*The new Cancer Centre is under construction in the Daly Wing. We expect to move in mid 2010. For information visit [www.stvcancercentre.org.au](http://www.stvcancercentre.org.au)*