Palmerston Super Clinic Stage 1 goes out to Tender

The Northern Territory Government has called for tenders to operate the first stage of the 24-hour Super Clinic at Palmerston.

The Health Minister Chris Burns said the tender provides for an urgent-care general practice service from 6pm to 8am seven days a week.

“Palmerston is one of our fastest growing communities with a large population of young families. Coupled with the coming of Inpex, it is even more important to ensure the first stage of the Super Clinic is delivered,” Dr Burns said.

“From the end of this year, families in Palmerston and the rural area will have peace of mind in knowing that if urgent care is required, a doctor will be available at all hours of the evening and night.”

Dr Burns said the successful operator will be required to provide a registered GP and support staff from 6pm to 8am at the Palmerston Health Precinct. The service will be free to those needing urgent care.

As part of this year’s Federal Budget, Kevin Rudd and the Member for Solomon Damian Hale announced funding of $10 million for a Super Clinic in Palmerston.

In July this year, the Federal Health Minister Nicola Roxon attended a community meeting about the new clinic where she told residents the first stage in establishing a 24-hour clinic would be the provision of after-hours access to GP services.

The Australian Government has agreed to provide upfront funding, which will complement the NT Government’s contribution and enable the service to be up and running by the end of 2008.

“The Federal Minister said the rollout of the second stage of the Super Clinic will result in community access to 24-hour GP services as well as a range of other services. These may include chronic disease and complex care management services, a greater range of allied health services such as physiotherapy, speech pathology, dietetics, podiatry, and dental services,” Dr Burns said.

“The Super Clinic is an important community service and one the Territory Government is proud to work collaboratively on with the Australian Government.”

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