

Tuesday 28 January 2020

## WARM WELCOME FOR JUNIOR DOCTORS

Seventy one junior doctors have begun their medical careers this month at St George Hospital, The Sutherland Hospital and Calvary Health Care Kogarah as part of a cohort of 111 new doctors that will start work across South Eastern Sydney Local Health District (SESLHD).

The junior doctors are part of a record 1027 interns that will start work in NSW public hospitals this year, with 45 new doctors starting at St George Hospital, 24 at Sutherland Hospital and two interns at Calvary Health Care Kogarah.

Dr Jo Karnaghan, Director, Clinical Governance and Medical Services, SESLHD, welcomed the new team of talented doctors to our district.

“Interns play a key role at the frontline of our teaching hospitals, and likewise will benefit from learning from world-class mentors, services and facilities,” Dr Karnaghan said.

“We’d like to congratulate the new doctors as they start their medical careers with SESLHD, and wish them every success as they help make a difference to our patients and the local community.”

After completing orientation workshops, which included ward etiquette, infection control, patient safety, admissions and discharges, the interns were warmly welcomed and congratulated by local MPs at two separate events held at St George and Sutherland hospitals.

Mark Coure MP, Member for Oatley, Chris Minns MP, Member for Kogarah and Stephen Kamper MP, Member for Rockdale took the opportunity to chat with the junior doctors at a morning tea held at St George Hospital’s Research and Education Centre last Thursday before observing them honing their skills in practice sessions.

Sutherland Hospital held a welcome lunch for their interns, attended by Sutherland Shire MPs, Mark Speakman MP, Member for Cronulla, Eleni Petinos MP, Member for Miranda, Melanie Gibbons MP, Member for Holsworthy and Lee Evans MP, Member for Heathcote.

During their one-year internship the graduates will complete compulsory terms in the specialties of medicine, surgery and emergency medicine and will rotate through a network of metropolitan, regional and rural hospitals, as well as General Practices.

The NSW Government is investing \$107 million in the internship program this year and NSW guarantees intern positions to all domestic medical graduates of NSW universities, and provides internships to many graduates from interstate universities.

Since 2011, intern positions in NSW have increased by 257 or 33 per cent.