



REGIONWIDE

An oasis for cancer patients

Centre a step closer after grant

Danielle Buckley

SOUTHWEST Sydney's first cancer wellness centre is one step closer to being built after receiving a \$2 million grant from the Australian Cancer Research Foundation.

Liverpool Hospital's \$5.7 million Oncology Alliance for the Science of Integrated Survivorship (OASIS) centre will provide care and research, with a focus on the overall well-being of cancer patients.

The centre still needs \$1.1 million in funding, but when built will be one of only a handful of centres in Sydney that collects data on how effective different cancer treatments are.

Liverpool's cancer services director Professor Geoff Delaney said the grant was a huge step forward.

"We are extremely excited, it has taken a lot of effort from the initial idea six or seven years ago," he said.

The centre plans to offer massage, acupuncture, exercise, Chinese medicine and dietary advice to help improve treatment and quality-of-life outcomes for patients.

Acting dean of medicine Professor Anthony Kelleher from the University of NSW, which is partnering with the centre along with other universities and research institutes, said the research of these treatments would benefit all cancer patients.

"A wellness centre would not only benefit cancer patients in the care they receive, and help improve their quality of life, it would also advance our scientific understanding of new approaches to treatment," he said.

Wellness centre



» Oncology Alliance for the Science of Integrated Survivorship (OASIS)

» Provide care and research, with a focus on the overall wellbeing of cancer patients

» Will offer massage, acupuncture, exercise and dietary advice



Above and right, an artist's impressions of the OASIS Wellness Centre in Liverpool.