

25 July 2016

Keeping your hair during Chemo treatment

When most people think of cancer and chemotherapy, they also think of hair loss. But patients at Macarthur Cancer Therapy Centre (MCTC) will now have access to a cold-cap treatment that cools their scalp as a way of preserving their hair and self-confidence during chemotherapy.

Thanks to a donation from 24 Hour Fight Against Cancer of two double Paxman Hair Loss Prevention Systems, Kिरrily Wright will be the first patient in the MCTC to have the hair saving treatment.

Director of Macarthur Cancer Therapy Centre, Professor Stephen Della-Fiorentina said Campbelltown Hospital will be the first public hospital in Sydney to accommodate the specialised machines valued at \$78,000.

“The treatment involves a frozen cap that’s worn tightly on the patient’s head before, during and for a couple hours after a chemotherapy session,” Prof Della-Fiorentina said.

“The treatment is administered via a small machine with tubes that are filled with a coolant to chill the cap and limit the chemotherapy getting to the hair follicles without increasing the chances of cancer returning.

“Campbelltown Hospital has trained two specialised nurses who will administer the treatment to cancer patients and the MCTC has made space for the machine which keeps the caps ready at the right temperature,” he said.

Professor Della-Fiorentina said one of the benefits of patients keeping their hair was maintaining a level of privacy and dignity.

“Hair loss can affect how a person feels about themselves. One of the advantages of this treatment is that it can reinstall confidence and give them control over whom they tell and who knows they have cancer,” he said.

“We are very grateful to the 24 Hour Fight Against Cancer for the fantastic donation which will make a real difference to our patients and the wonderful staff that treat them,” he said.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

WHAT: Kिरrily Wright will be the first patient in the Macarthur Cancer Therapy Centre to use the specialised cold-cap treatment.

WHEN: 26th July, 2pm

For more information, visit: <http://paxmanscalpcooling.com/scalp-cooling>