

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

**NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA**

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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## **Medical Science precinct takes shape**

Construction is under way on the University of Tasmania's \$89.7 million Medical Science 2 (MS2) project in Hobart's CBD, with a tender being accepted this week from managing contractor John Holland-Fairbrother Joint Venture.

Work has now commenced on the foundations for the seven-storey MS2 tower, and will soon extend to the building's first two levels.

University of Tasmania Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Rathjen said the facility will become a centre of excellence for both medical research and education, further enhancing the University's national and global standing in these fields.

"This project will transform the site into a comprehensive medical research precinct with a world-class biomedical and clinical research facility," Professor Rathjen said.

"Scientific collaboration will be a feature of MS2. The facility will contain dedicated research space for Menzies Research Institute Tasmania and the Faculty of Health Science and includes pre-clinical teaching space for medical, nursing and paramedic students, as well as infrastructure for clinical researchers from the Royal Hobart Hospital.

"The project is an outstanding investment in Tasmania, which will contribute to the advancement of medical science for generations to come."

MS2 is the second stage of the Medical Science Precinct. To be built on the corner of Bathurst St and the Brooker Highway, MS2 will be an extension of MS1, which is a co-location of the Menzies Research Institute Tasmania, The Faculty of Health Science Executive Offices and the UTAS School of Medicine.

The new building will consist of teaching and research laboratories, a 250-seat lecture theatre, tutorial rooms, accommodation for 260 staff and postgraduate students, and support facilities for approximately 450 undergraduate students. The gross floor area of MS2 is approximately 10,000 square metres. Completion is scheduled for early 2013.

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