

Neurological research centre officially opened

QEll Medical Centre now has a second major research facility, hosting four of the state's premier neurological research organisations.

The Ralph and Patricia Sarich Neuroscience Research Institute (SNRI) was officially opened by Governor Kerry Sanderson on Wednesday.

The \$37.7 million research facility will host Curtin University's Neuroscience Research Laboratory, the Ear Science Institute of Australia, Perron Institute for Translational and Neuroscience Research and Australian Alzheimer's Research Foundation.

North Metropolitan Health Service acting chief executive Philip Aylward said "the SNRI would not exist if not for the generosity of the Sarich family, who donated \$20 million towards the project".

The State Government contributed \$5 million, while \$7.2 million was received in Lotterywest grants, \$3.5 million from Curtin University and \$1 million each from the Wheatley family and UWA.

"It should not go unmentioned that North Metropolitan Health Service board chair and former Department of Health acting director-general Professor Bryant Stokes has steered the project from concept to reality since 2008," Mr Aylward said.

"Professor Stokes has been a tireless advocate for a facility of this calibre. He was behind the initial proposal and has seen the project through to its completion with the generous support of the donors."

The facility includes assessment and treatment rooms, tissue culture laboratories and facilities for neurodiscovery movement analysis, physiology research, experiments and cryogenic archival storage.

Giovanni Torre