The Mental Health Unit at the new Royal Adelaide Hospital (RAH) has been designed to provide the best possible healing environment for consumers and to streamline access to care.

**BEST CARE IN AN OPTIMAL HEALING ENVIRONMENT**

Access to the natural environment is a key design feature of the Mental Health Unit at the new RAH. Drawing on international evidence and best practice facility design, the unit maximises the use of natural light and incorporates open spaces and access to garden courtyards.

All 40 beds in the Mental Health Unit are provided in single rooms with ensuite bathrooms, and every bedroom has a window with views of nearby gardens or across the River Torrens.

The unit incorporates five internal courtyards, providing private outdoor spaces with visibility from all points across the unit. These courtyards form part of a 3.8 hectare footprint of landscaped outdoor areas across the hospital precinct.

The focus on the natural environment continues in the artwork which has been integrated into the design of the Mental Health Unit and includes large photographs celebrating South Australia’s diverse landscape.

**IMPROVED ACCESS FOR MENTAL HEALTH CONSUMERS**

The Mental Health Unit has been designed to enable direct admissions to support consumers in accessing the care they need and to avoid the stress of admission through a busy Emergency Department.

Consumers being admitted to the Mental Health Unit will enter directly through the hospital’s northern garden entrance. High-acuity consumers requiring support from the SA Ambulance Service, SA Police and community mental health teams can be admitted via a private entrance to the south west of the unit.

This will reduce pressure on the Emergency Department and offer consumers immediate access to the care they need.
DESIGNED TO FACILITATE HEALING

The Mental Health Unit at the new RAH has been designed in consultation with South Australian clinicians and consumers, and draws on international best practice to create the best possible healing environment.

The unit includes an exercise room with exercise equipment, lounges, dining rooms, a pool table, provisions for game consoles and three internet kiosks. In addition, the unit incorporates advanced technology including bedroom doors with electronic locks for privacy and security, and facilities to enable meals to be ordered electronically.

QUICK FACTS

> 40 mental health beds, comprising acute care, psychiatric intensive care and short stay assessment beds.
> All beds located in single rooms with ensuite bathrooms and windows with garden or River Torrens views.
> The Mental Health Unit includes a family room, activity dining areas, exercise facilities and comfort rooms increasing the space available for therapeutic treatment and activities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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