

# The Royal **Children's** Hospital

Year in Review **2002**



ROYAL  
CHILDREN'S  
HOSPITAL



Listening to the children



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This review reflects the activities of the Royal Children's Hospital (RCH) between 1 July 2001 and 30 June 2002. RCH is part of Women's & Children's Health (WCH), which also includes The Royal Women's Hospital (RWH). WCH has produced its own annual report that provides all statistical and financial information required under the Act.

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THE BEST  
DOCTORS IN  
THE WORLD  
THANK YOU  
FOR HELPING

The Royal Children's Hospital is committed to caring for the health and wellbeing of children and young adults. It is the only hospital in Victoria dedicated to paediatric care.

Treating children has been the focus of the hospital since it was established in 1870. The Melbourne Free Hospital for Sick Children was opposed by those who felt that a hospital dedicated to caring only for children was unwarranted, but compassion and the desire to help sick children prevailed and the hospital was built to serve the poor. For them it was an institute of last resort.

Today, the Royal Children's Hospital operates with the same compassion and commitment that inspired its establishment, but it serves all children and young people. The hospital continues to be a resource for those simply seeking to gain access to appropriate health care and for those in critical need of care – its doors are never closed to those in need.

But clinical expertise, bolstered by first-rate research and unique programs that help children and young people in the community as well as in hospital, have made the Royal Children's Hospital one of the most highly regarded paediatric hospitals in the nation.

The following pages give a brief overview of the services offered by the hospital, the skills of the staff and the courage and resilience of the patients and their families.



## contact

The Royal Children's Hospital  
Flemington Road, Parkville  
Victoria, Australia, 3052  
Telephone: (03) 9345 5522  
Facsimile: (03) 9345 5789  
[www.rch.unimelb.edu.au](http://www.rch.unimelb.edu.au)

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