



Improved technology to help fight brain tumours

MEDIA CALL
Thursday 22 August
Details below

Patients requiring brain surgery at The Children's Hospital at Westmead will benefit from the introduction of a state-of-the-art neurosurgical system, thanks to The George Naim Khattar (GNK) Foundation.

The upgrade to the new surgical navigation system was made possible by The George Naim Khattar Foundation's generous \$198,000 donation.

Department Head of Neurosurgery at The Children's Hospital at Westmead, Dr Raymond Chaseling, said the equipment had already made a significant difference.

"The GNK Foundation's generous gift has given us the funds needed to upgrade this vital and highly sophisticated machine," he said.

"This is a machine that we use every week and it is used to care for some of our most vulnerable patients."

The Station S7 Surgical Navigation System gives the Hospital's neurosurgeons improved information and visual access while performing complex brain operations.

President of the George Naim Khattar Foundation, Carol Khatter, said the donation is all part of the Foundation's commitment to make a difference.

"The GNK Foundation is committed to continuing the good deeds of my late husband George Naim Khattar and I am very delighted that this gift has been able to enhance treatment for children needing brain surgery," she said.

Children fighting brain tumours as well as children with other neurological conditions, including epilepsy and hydrocephalus, will benefit from the new system.

"We will now see even better outcomes for children needing brain surgery because the machine lowers the risk of complications. This means improved recovery times and less time spent in hospital," Dr Chaseling said.

The system can accurately define the margins of brain tumours, enabling neurosurgeons to remove whole tumours without harming viable brain tissue.



Media Opportunity

Media are invited to attend a special demonstration of the Stealth Station S7 Surgical Navigation System.

When: Thursday 22 August

Time: 2.30pm

Who: **Ray Chaseling**, Department Head of Neurosurgery at The Children's Hospital at Westmead and **Mrs Carol Khattar**, President of The GNK Foundation will be available for photos/interviews

Where: The Children's Hospital at Westmead
Corner Hawkesbury Road and Hainsworth Street
Media will be escorted from the front entrance just prior to 2.30pm.

For more information, or to arrange an alternative interview time, please contact Sarah Palmer at sarah.palmer@health.nsw.gov.au or on 9845 0512.