The Australian Government’s 2013-14 Budget provides SA with a record $1.2 billion for its health system. This means improved health and hospital facilities, more frontline services, and improved care for patients, where and when they need it.

Record funding for hospitals

Funding for hospitals means more doctors, nurses and services for patients — and better care. It also supports improvements in elective surgery and emergency department waiting times to help patients get treatment sooner. In this Budget, SA hospitals will receive $1.1 billion — $257 million more than in 2007-08.

Since 2007, $118.2 million has been targeted to improve emergency departments and $108.6 million has been provided to reduce elective surgery waiting times. Patients will be better able to get a hospital bed — with an additional 97 sub-acute beds to be delivered by the end of 2013-14.

Australian Government funding to South Australia for public hospitals, 2007-08 to 2016-17

Note: Australian Government funding for public hospital services includes Public Health funding allocations. Health and Hospitals Fund figures include payments to South Australia for other health services.
The state’s health and hospital infrastructure is expanding significantly through $271 million in investments under the nation-building Health and Hospitals Fund. This includes:

- $200 million to expand the SA Health and Medical Research Institute;
- $39.2 million to redevelop the Port Lincoln Health Service; and
- $26.7 million to redevelop the Mount Gambier Health Service.

**South Australia - funding to Health and Hospitals Fund projects, GP Super Clinics and Regional Cancer Centres**

**Improving frontline health care**

Primary care is the part of the health system which South Australians use the most. This Budget provides $35.5 million, an increase of $5.9 million on 2012-13, to support the state’s Medicare Locals, part of the Government’s national network of primary health care organisations that are playing a central role in improving the primary health care system. Medicare Locals plan, coordinate and deliver health services for local communities, making it easier for people to access the health care they need, including after hours, mental health and immunisation support.

Since 2007-08, the Australian Government has spent $73.5 million to build and upgrade primary care facilities in South Australia. $54.5 million has been provided for five GP Super Clinics. Three of these, at Modbury, Playford North and Noarlunga, are completed.
and operational. A total of $14 million has been allocated to upgrade facilities, improve training and expand allied health services within general practice settings.

In addition, since 2007, the Australian Government has provided $49 million for a range of primary health care support in SA, including better access to after-hours GP services.

**World Leading Cancer Care**

The Australian Government is building a world-class cancer care system to ensure people get the best treatment available. In this Budget, a new national $226 million cancer care package, funded by the Australian Government over four years, will ensure that people in South Australia get top quality cancer care and support across a range of cancers — including prostate, breast, lung, bowel and cervical cancers. Youth Cancer Networks are also being funded to support young people fighting cancer. Since 2007, the Australian Government has invested a record $102 million to provide better cancer facilities for South Australians. This includes $69.8 million for the Whyalla Regional Cancer Centre. Other initiatives include $17.4 million for digital mammography equipment and $15 million for the Children’s Cancer Centre in Adelaide.

**More doctors**

More doctors are training to be GPs and specialists in SA. In 2012, 311 GPs were in training compared to 184 in 2007. More doctors means easier access for patients. There were 45 training positions in 2012, with four more beginning in 2013 - a total of 49 positions for doctors to train as specialists.
**Dental**

The Government is providing $12.5 million to SA in 2013-14 to cut public dental waiting lists. This is part of the Australian Government’s $4.6 billion investment in sweeping dental health reforms across the nation.

As part of the reforms, our ‘Grow Up Smiling’ initiative will deliver dental services for kids and teenagers from 1 January 2014. This will mean that for future generations it will be as easy to see a dentist as it is now to see a doctor.