



**MEDIA STATEMENT
10 August 2011**

BETHESDA HOSPITAL APPOINTS HEAD OF PALLIATIVE MEDICINE

In recognition of the increasing importance of establishing clinical leadership roles in palliative care, Dr Ashwini Davray has been appointed the Head of Palliative Medicine at Bethesda Hospital. Dr Davray takes on this new role at a time when the hospital's palliative care program is growing and requiring more physician input as well as at a time when Bethesda is receiving increasing interest from universities for medical student placements.

Dr Davray has been the Consultant Physician for Bethesda Hospital's Palliative Care Unit since 2009. This new role of Head of Palliative Medicine, which she took up in July 2011, will see her providing clinical leadership for not only the in-patient program, but also the newly established Palliative Ambulatory Service North.

Dr Davray undertook advanced training in palliative medicine before commencing at Bethesda Hospital, with experience gained in the public health sector (Sir Charles Gairdner, Royal Perth and Kalamunda Hospitals), as well as the private/non-government sector with appointments at Hollywood, St John of God Hospitals and Silver Chain Hospice. Excited about the potential to further enhance the clinical learning environment at Bethesda, Dr Davray describes the hospital's Palliative Care Unit as being a cooperative and dynamic environment, and one which encourages a holistic teaching experience. She is passionate about the specialty in which she works, stating that her new leadership role was critical to ensure strong clinical support in a specialty that has become an essential component of the health care system in WA.

Bethesda Hospital Chief Executive Officer Yasmin Naglazas confirms that Dr Davray is uniquely placed to take on this new role, having a superior level of clinical skill and an acute understanding of what is needed to encourage more interest in the specialty. "Having Bethesda Hospital contribute to the building of capacity ready for the increasing demand for palliative care services in the future will be a key outcome of the Head of Palliative Medicine's new role" said Ms Naglazas. "Dr Davray has earned an enormous amount of respect from the team at Bethesda Hospital. She also has a very good reputation amongst palliative care physicians in Perth which will no doubt assist her in this new leadership role".

Bethesda is an independent 88-bed hospital in Claremont which has been providing outstanding care and service to the Western Australian community for nearly 70 years.

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Above: Dr Ashwini Davray, the new Head of Palliative Medicine at Bethesda Hospital

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