

**Media  
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## **Bethesda Health Care Appoints Director of Military, Veteran and First Responder Care for the Bethesda Clinic, Cockburn**

- Dr Richard Magtengaard has joined the Bethesda Clinic as the Director of Military, Veteran and First Responder Care.
- Role will oversee the development of specialist mental health inpatient and day programs for Defence personnel, veterans and first responders.

Bethesda Health Care has appointed ex Royal Australian Navy Commissioned Officer, Dr Richard Magtengaard, as the Director of Military, Veteran and First Responder Care at the Bethesda Clinic. Bethesda Health Care is committed to developing and expanding mental health services for those serving, Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) patients and their families in the southern corridor.

The Bethesda Clinic, Cockburn, will therefore have a strong focus on providing bespoke mental health services for our Defence personnel, veterans and first responders. Dr Magtengaard will develop and oversee inpatient and day programs specific to assisting Defence personnel, veterans, first responders and their families who have sustained physical and/or psychological traumas whilst performing their national duties.

Dr Magtengaard, now a consultant Psychiatrist, served as a Commissioned Officer for ten years with the Royal Australian Navy before practicing medicine. He is an active member of the Australasian Military Medical Association (AMMA). He specialises in mental health problems in veterans, Defence personnel, first responders and their families. These include Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Mood Disorders, Chronic Pain, Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) and General Adult Psychiatry.

The Bethesda Clinic, Cockburn, is well into its construction phase and is scheduled to admit patients from September 2022.

Dr Dharjinder Rooprai continues as our Director of Medical Services and welcomes Dr Magtengaard's appointment. Additionally, we thank and acknowledge Dr Taj Singh who has recently moved on from his position as Director of Partnerships to concentrate on developing his private business interests.

### **Comments attributed to Bethesda Chief Executive Officer, Dr Neale Fong:**

"The appointment of Dr Richard Magtengaard as a medical director at the Clinic is an important step to ensure Defence personnel, veterans and their families have access to tailored programs not yet offered in the southern suburbs."

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