



News Release

Dubbo Health Service to introduce leading prostate cancer biopsy procedure thanks to The Male Bag Foundation

Key points

- The Male Bag Foundation (MBF) has provided a \$60,000 grant to the Dubbo Health Service (DHS) to purchase a transperineal biopsy machine (TBM). The grant is the Foundation's equal highest for 2019.

- Foundation Patron David Parkin OAM said

“the Foundation is a purpose-built charity working to reduce the impact of prostate cancer in regional communities, and we welcome the opportunity to accelerate the delivery of world class prostate cancer biopsy services to such a large and diverse health district in NSW.”

He went on to say,

“The Foundation's riders and support team on our 2,000 km postie bike ride last October experienced the vastness of the Western Health Care District first-hand, and our experience tells us that the convenience and improved health outcomes from TBM services will be a game-changer for men, their families and towns from Bourke to Canowindra. Being able to help people in the bush really drives us.”

- Male Bag Foundation Chairman Robert Glover said

“the grant acknowledges the great support we received along our 2018 ride including a number of local councils and community service clubs. We look forward to continuing our support to Western NSW.”

- Scott McLachlan, Chief Executive of Western NSW Local Health District said

“We would like to thank the Foundation. They appeared from no-where on their postie bikes raising funds to fight prostate cancer, and now their generosity will ensure that advanced biopsy services will be available in Dubbo in a just few months.”

- The incidence of prostate cancer in regional NSW is much higher than Australia's major cities. In the past, public patients in the NSW Western Health Care District with a population of over 330,000 had to incur the inconvenience and costs associated with travel to major cities for a TBM procedure.
- The MBF will announce an additional grant to regional NSW. In recent weeks, the MBF provided support to Griffith Hospital for TBM services in the Riverina.



Full Release

- The Male Bag Foundation has provided a \$60,000 grant to the Dubbo Health Service to purchase a transperineal biopsy machine (TBM).
- The grant was made possible from donations raised by the Foundation's 2,000 km postie bike tour in October 2018 that specifically targeted the Western NSW and Murrumbidgee Local Health Districts where the incidence of prostate cancer is unacceptably high.
- The TBM procedure supersedes existing surgery, has a much lower risk of infection, a shorter recovery time. Equipping Dubbo with a TBM is a game changer for men's health in the vast Western Health District with 320,000 residents stretching from Bourke in the north to Parkes and Canowindra in the south. Previously, TBM procedures have not been readily available in the Western District and patients were forced to accept significant costs associated with travel and longer recovery times.
- Foundation Patron David Parkin OAM said "the Foundation is a purpose-built charity working to reduce the impact of prostate cancer in regional communities, and we welcome the opportunity to accelerate the delivery of world class prostate cancer biopsy services to such a area of NSW. Our riders and support team on the 2,000 km postie bike ride last October experienced the vastness of the Western Health Care District first-hand."

He went on to say "this grant follows a matching grant in the Murrumbidgee, so it's especially rewarding to know our help will directly benefit the blokes, their families and communities stretching from Bourke to Mulwala."

- Male Bag Foundation Chairman Robert Glover said "the grant acknowledges the great support we received from local councils and community service clubs. We look forward to continuing our support to Dubbo and the community it serves."
- Scott McLachlan, Chief Executive of Western NSW Local Health District said "We would like to thank the Foundation. They appeared from no-where on their postie bikes raising funds to fight prostate cancer, and their grant ensures the Western Health Care District will offer advanced biopsy services in a just few months."

He added "the provision of TBM biopsy services boosts services being delivered in the Western NSW Local Health District. The announcement is great for our communities."

- In recent weeks, the MBF announced a matching grant to Griffith Hospital for improved biopsy services in the Riverina. A further grant to a regional hospital will be announced shortly.



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The Male Bag Foundation's 2018 Big Ride participants led by David Parkin OAM - the leading edge of fund raising for Dubbo's TBM

