



News Release

Riverina Day Surgery to introduce leading prostate cancer biopsy procedure thanks to The Male Bag Foundation

- The Male Bag Foundation (MBF) has provided a \$30,000 grant to Riverina Day Surgery (RDS) in Wagga Wagga to purchase a Transperineal Biopsy Machine (TBM) that will be available to public patients.
- The MBF is a charity run by volunteers. Its objective is to reduce the incidence of prostate cancer in regional Australia. Its fund-raising postie bike ride last October targeted the Murrumbidgee Health Care District where the prevalence of prostate cancer is unacceptably high. The ride called in at major towns in the Murrumbidgee region and Australia Post riders led the tour into Wagga. Last November, the Foundation invited NSW regional hospitals to apply for grant assistance to purchase TBM equipment.
- Foundation Patron David Parkin OAM said, “The Foundation saw an enormous opportunity to help blokes, families and townships across the Murrumbidgee Health Care District – an area with more than 320,000 residents. Our grants to Riverina Day Surgery and Griffith Hospital guarantee that the world’s best practice biopsy procedure will be available across the entire Health District by mid-2019.”

He ended by saying, “We also acknowledge involvement of Megan King, and the team at the Riverina Day Surgery and Cura Day Hospitals Group. They took the initiative, wanting to deliver TBM services to this often under-recognised group as soon as possible. The result is a massive win for public health in the region. The TBM will be commissioned in a few months and when available, its use will augment current approaches to men’s health and save lives through early diagnosis. This is an exciting outcome for the Male Bag Foundation as well as our sponsors and volunteers.”

- Male Bag Foundation Chairman, Robert Glover, said, “Our team was overwhelmed by the support from local service clubs and prostate support groups, and especially Australia Post riders who joined us in Wagga. We listened to many calls to focus on better health outcomes in the Riverina region and we have responded in the best and swiftest way possible.”
- Riverina Day Surgery will commission the TBM by mid-year, enhancing Wagga’s positioning as a health service hub in Southern NSW.
- Megan King, RDS’s CEO/DoN said “these services are long overdue. There is a growing number of patients for which TBM biopsies are essential and we will be working with NSW Health and local specialists to ensure patients from the public system are provided with the best possible care. Serving the community is at the heart of what we do.”

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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 Wagga's TBM



Wagga's Australia Post riders that led the Male Bag Foundation's ride into Wagga with Robert Glover and David Parkin OAM