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media release

INTENSIVE CARE DOCTOR WELCOMED TO BEGA

Bega Health Service has extended a warm welcome to the newly appointed Intensive Care Doctor who commenced in mid January.

Chair of the Medical Staff Council, Dr Gabriel Khouri, is pleased with the recruitment of Dr Daryl Catt who he said brings a great deal of experience to the area.

Dr Khouri said: "This represents a giant leap forward in the ability to provide intensive care services for residents of the far South Coast. To my knowledge it is the first intensive care unit to operate south of Nowra on the NSW coast. We have just finished a refurbishment at Bega Hospital which will allow the operation of a six-bed Intensive Care Unit (ICU)."

Dr Khouri said Dr Catt brings a high level of expertise in intensive care from his work in Adelaide and Alice Springs and is particularly familiar with the challenges of working in a rural area.

Dr Catt has assisted with the development of the Bega Hospital ICU over the past few months. He said he is happy with his relocation to Bega after his last posting at the Royal Adelaide Hospital where he provided senior intensive care consultancy.

Dr Catt said: "It is rewarding to open such a service to residents of the South Coast. I feel that we can successfully meet the needs of residents to provide intensive care services locally. While some tertiary treatment may still be required in Canberra, with suitable staff, and the newly opened ICU facility, I hope to enable patients, their families and friends access to suitable treatment closer to home."

Dr Catt is also a qualified anaesthetist, which will be an additional resource to Bega Hospital.

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Media note: for interview opportunities with Dr Catt, please contact Public Affairs, GSAHS on 6933 9181 or 0412 324 122.