

40 years of cardiac care

1981



1981
Dr Graeme Sloman AO becomes Epworth's first medical director. He establishes the cardiology unit at Epworth following an invitation from the Board and Peter Wilson, CEO.

1984
Nurse Bronwyn Picken and Peter Wilson, CEO, make a presentation to Eileen Issell to mark the 1000th open heart operation.



1986

The original cardiac ward at Epworth Richmond with Ann Hewitt on monitor duty.



1986

1990
The first stage of a new, state-of-the-art 45-bed cardiovascular unit opens in June at Epworth Richmond.



1990

A computerised radiographic system for angiographic procedures is installed.



1991

A/Prof Ron Dick (pictured) introduces a new procedure for keeping narrowing or obstructed arteries open with a tiny stainless-steel mesh known as a stent. This means many patients avoid major surgery.

1991



1995

MICA paramedic Steve Multigan with nurses Di Allen and Callum Free.

1995



1996

Cath lab with A/Prof Ron Dick and Dr Pintoko from Indonesia. Epworth is a major training facility for local and overseas specialists.

1996



1996

The first Epworth HeartSmart program with Nanci Thurston, HeartSmart Coordinator, far left. HeartSmart is an outpatient cardiac rehabilitation program that helps people recover after a cardiac event.

2001

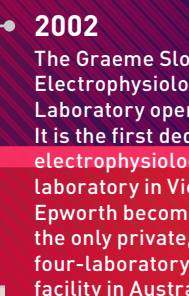


2001

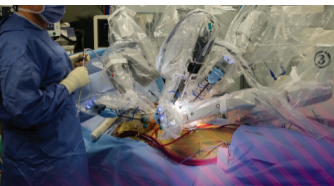
Candida Viana, a cardiac patient from East Timor, presents cardiologist Dr John Fuller with a bear she made while recuperating. She is one of many overseas patients undergoing cardiac surgery at Epworth.

2002

The Graeme Sloman Electrophysiology Laboratory opens. It is the first dedicated electrophysiology laboratory in Victoria. Epworth becomes the only private, four-laboratory facility in Australasia.



2003



2003

Epworth acquires a \$3 million da Vinci robotic surgical system, a totally intuitive, minimally invasive robot. The first heart surgery is performed in 2004 with a mitral valve repair. Photo: Mr Aubrey Almeida working with the da Vinci robot.

1998

Cath Lab team with Prof Yean Lim, a major proctor to overseas fellows.



1998

2010

The first Transcatheter Aortic Valve Implantation (TAVI) procedure is performed in March by Dr Tony Walton (pictured).



2010

2010

HeartSmart Cycling Challenges commence. These annual rides, which encourage cardiac patients to get back on their bikes, have raised \$1 million over 10 years.



2014

An Albury couple both undergo a TAVI procedure, four years apart, performed by the same cardiology team at Epworth.



2014

The first renal denervation at Epworth, used to treat difficult to control hypertension, is performed in September 2014 by A/Prof Tony Walton (pictured left with Dr Saibal Kar). Dr Kar, an Epworth interventional cardio fellow in 1995 is now a world interventional expert based in Los Angeles.



2011

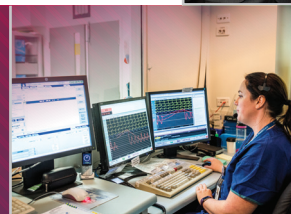
Celebrating 30 years of collaborative cardiac care at Epworth at Mural Hall, Myer Melbourne.



Photo (bottom): Alan Kinkade, former Group Chief Executive, Epworth, and Dr Graeme Sloman AO.

2016

Epworth Richmond completes its 200th TAVI procedure using the Medtronic CoreValve device. Photos: (Left) Delivery device poised for action. (Right) A TAVI procedure taking place in the Epworth Richmond Lee Wing cath lab.



2016

Epworth Richmond expands with the opening of the Lee Wing, housing a larger, purpose-built emergency department and ICU in addition to new theatres and wards.

2016

Epworth Richmond becomes the first private hospital in Victoria to offer open and endovascular capabilities for neurosurgery, cardiac and vascular procedures with the Siemens Artis Q hybrid biplane which allows surgeons to perform minimally invasive procedures that result in safer, faster and more efficient treatment of patients. Photo: Silvana Marasco, cardiothoracic surgeon, collaborating in a complex interventionist case.

2019

Dr Graeme Sloman AO is honoured as Consultant Emeritus at the Epworth Medical Leaders Awards.



2020

Some of the Heartbeat Committee with their partners at Epworth 100 year celebrations at Melbourne Town Hall in February.



2019

Jenny Marino, Cardiac Technologist, monitors ECG and haemodynamic recordings during a coronary angiogram procedure performed at Epworth Richmond 3rd Floor Thomas Wing cath lab.



2019



2019

Longevity of cardiac nursing leadership. Charles Bonavia, Nurse Unit Manager, who has been at Epworth for more than 20 years, with Siti Munirah Abdul Halid, Acting Nurse Unit Manager, who is receiving her 10 years of service award.



2021

Cardiac diagnostics today with state of the art 3D reconstruction of transeoesophageal echocardiogram.

2021

Epworth Geelong introduces an electrophysiological (EP) study service, complementing its high quality diagnostic and interventional facilities for the treatment of cardiac and vascular disease.

2020

A/Prof Ron Dick, Director, Cardiac Sciences Clinical Institute, and Greg O'Neill OAM, La Trobe Financial President and CEO, at the opening of the La Trobe Financial Cardiac Catheterisation Unit.



2020

2020

The cardiac team at Epworth Richmond share Kris Kringle gifts after a year of COVID-19 uncertainty.



2021

Fast forward 40 years...

More than 25,000 PCIs, almost 24,000 cardiac surgeries and 770 TAVIs!