MINISTER OPENS NEW PREMISES OF AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR POSTTRAUMATIC MENTAL HEALTH

The Minister for Veterans’ Affairs, Senator the Hon. Michael Ronaldson, today officially opened the new premises of the Australian Centre for Posttraumatic Mental Health (ACPMH) at the University of Melbourne.

“The Coalition Government is committed to addressing mental health challenges facing veterans and ex-service personnel. This Centre actively contributes to the knowledge available and these new premises, co-located at the University of Melbourne, will enhance its role in mental health research,” Senator Ronaldson said.

“I am proud of my Department’s collaborative partnership with ACPMH and the Department of Defence; a partnership which is vital in helping us to deliver the support that our veterans need. This support will be based on research and testing of the best available treatment available to veterans and their families.”

Professor David Forbes, the Director of the ACPMH, said “The new ACPMH facility at the University of Melbourne places us at the centre of national efforts to help veterans recover from mental health issues. Being physically based at the University of Melbourne means we can provide a unique link between researchers, clinicians, the Department of Veteran' Affairs and Defence in a way that can fast track new research into the broader community.”

During the opening, Senator Ronaldson also launched the new Evidence Compass website – the first of its kind in the world – developed by ACPMH for the Department of Veterans’ Affairs.

“The Evidence Compass website will provide access to the most up to date evidence based research in an online centralised repository. This website is all about translating complex research literature into a summarised and accessible format for veterans and their families and medical professionals.

“This research will help guide future policy development and treatment pathways for veterans,” Senator Ronaldson said.

Media Note: Images will be available from the Minister’s Image Gallery after 1pm.

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