

Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) – Melbourne, Australia

The new Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) facility is located in the Melbourne suburb of Parkville, the heart of Melbourne's research and biomedical precinct. Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, Melbourne Health and The University of Melbourne were the building partners for this exciting project. The project provides a brand new home for the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre and new cancer research and clinical services for Melbourne Health (including the Royal Melbourne Hospital), new cancer research facilities for The University of Melbourne and new education facilities for all building partners.

A key feature of the new building is the central atrium. Light-filled and extending up through the centre of the structure, the atrium is an intuitive way finding solution and will assist visitors and staff to orient themselves and navigate the building. Clinical floors will be located on the lower levels of the facility, making the patient's journey via stairs or lift simple and direct.

The new facilities are 130,000 sqm in total. This includes the new building on the former Dental Hospital site, as well as new facilities built on top of the existing Royal Melbourne Hospital buildings. The main building has thirteen floors above ground level and two below ground, and an additional four basement floors. It includes approximately 700 carparking spaces, 400 bicycle parking spaces and 22 lifts. There are three bridges linking the new building and The Royal Melbourne Hospital.

Education and training facilities include 47 seminar and meeting spaces and a large lecture theatre. Gardens and terraces are incorporated throughout the new facility, as well as landscaped spaces on The Royal Melbourne Hospital site.

Patients and visitors enter the facility through the ground floor 'Welcome Lounge'. There are discrete areas in the Welcome Lounge where patients will be admitted or directed to their clinical destination. The Welcome Lounge has a number of small areas that can be used for impromptu discussions with patients, staff and visitors.

There is also an amphitheatre leading down to Radiation Therapy on the lower levels of the facility that can be used for educational presentations and forums.

The new facility includes 110 chemotherapy, medical and surgical same day beds and chairs. It features eight operating suites, two procedure rooms, 27 treatment rooms and 97 consulting rooms.

There are ten purpose-designed research laboratory clusters with space for around 600 laboratory researchers. Wet laboratory research floors will be located on the upper levels. Space for approximately 330 dry researchers is also included, and these areas will be co-located to maximise opportunities for researchers to collaborate and share information. The research floors have been arranged in

'clusters' across the north and east sides of the building with adjoining office and write-up spaces to take advantage of the views to the informal staff decks on the south side. A designated stairway between classified lab areas will allow researchers to move between labs with ease. A general stairwell will provide connectivity between the research floors. All the research areas have been designed with the flexibility if future reconfiguration is required to meet changing research needs and priorities.

One of the key elements to Mapei's success with this project was the ability to provide Grocon (the builder) and Floor91 (the contractor) with a one manufacturer specification, ensuring no compatibility issues with all the Mapei products required for the floor and wall installations. As Mapei is a global leader with a vast range of products we were able to fulfil this request to exceed the requirements of the Australian standards and the flooring manufacturer's needs.

With stability testing previously completed in the Mapei laboratories in Italy, Mapei confirmed the compatibility and performance of our adhesives and the specified Gerflor flooring products. The concrete substrates throughout the entire project were primarily treated with **Planiseal EMB** (a two-component/one coat moisture vapour barrier), primed with **Eco Prim T** (undiluted) and then levelled with **Ultraplan** (premium ultra-fast self-levelling compound) throughout all general areas in the new facility.

All the bathrooms and wet areas had a set down formed in the concrete substrate so falls could be created to the waste drains. All wet areas were waterproofed with **Mapegum WPS** (fast drying flexible liquid waterproofing membrane for interiors). Falls were then created to waste drains by firstly priming with **Eco Prim T**, levelled with **UC Leveller** (fast hardening levelling and smoothing compound for thicknesses from 3 to 70mm) and again waterproofed over by laying **Mapetex Sel** (non-woven, macro-holed polypropylene fabric for reinforcing waterproofing membranes) into the **Mapegum WPS** (waterproofing membrane) on the floors and walls. At completion of the waterproofing applications any surface irregularities were smoothed with an application of **Latexplan Trade** (two-component smoothing/levelling compound) and **Planiprep SC** (high-performance fibre-reinforced skimcoating compound) to create a perfectly smooth surface on both floor and wall. Floor91 then installed 60 000m² of Gerflor vinyl on the floors using **Ultrabond V4 SP** (universal adhesive for installing resilient floorcoverings) and 2000m² on the wall with **Rollcoll** (universal adhesive for installing vinyl and textile floor and wall coverings).

Floor91 also installed 40 000m² of Interface carpet tiles with **Ultrabond Eco Tack** (acrylic tackifier for self-laying textile tiles).