



New pathology lab opens

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DESPITE the last-minute absence of Health Minister Jillian Skinner, the official opening of Lismore Base Hospital's new Pathology North laboratory was well received.

Pathology North, which opened on Thursday, will help clinicians better understand illness and disease by providing specialised services such as biochemistry, anatomical pathology and microbiology.

It is part of the hospital's \$80 million Stage 3A redevelopment.

Lismore MP Thomas George and Federal Member for Page Kevin Hogan filled in for Ms Skinner, who was meeting with Liberal Party

colleagues following the shock resignation of Premier Barry O'Farrell.

Mr George congratulated those who made the new pathology unit possible and read a statement on behalf of Ms Skinner.

"As many of you know, Pathology North Lismore was relocated to make way for the construction of the \$80 million Lismore Base Hospital redevelopment," he said.

"Where the pathology unit was located will be the location of the new multi-storey development, which will provide Lismore Base Hospital with significant new facilities and change the way healthcare is provided to this community."

NSW Health Infrastructure also announced John

Holland as the successful tenderer for the main works component of the redevelopment.

An update on the project was also provided.

The redevelopment is expected to be finished by 2016 and includes a new emergency department, kidney dialysis unit, expanded community health unit and future expansion space.