



New chair assists patients

A NEW chair to help in X-raying patients with swallowing difficulties was yesterday unveiled in Bendigo as part of Speech Pathology Week.

Unique to the city, the chair is designed to give patients the flexibility to move around.

“The majority of patients we are X-raying have had a stroke or a head injury or they may be quite elderly, they might be completely weak down one side and unable to stay completely upright in the chair or unable to move them-

selves around in the chair if we need a different angle,” explained Bendigo Health’s chief speech pathologist, Melinda Charlesworth.

“Because it’s a really narrow space we had a great deal of difficulty getting the patients in there, so we needed a way of safely transporting them into the space, and this chair enables us to do that.”

The video fluoroscopy chair was donated by the Honda Foundation and Bendigo management

have expressed pleasure that their donation will help a large number of patients.

“With the combined effort of the Honda Foundation and Honda Victorian dealers, we were able to support Bendigo Health’s speech pathologists with state-of-the-art equipment to assist patients to receive quality care,” Innes Motors dealer principal Stewart Innes said.

The chair has started work and is now in use.



IN THE CHAIR: Chief speech pathologist Melinda Charlesworth with medical imaging manager Luke Adoni.