

Media Release

Friday, 10 May 2019

ALP GUARANTEES \$20B HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH FUND

After years of campaigning by Research Australia, the Australian Labor Party has committed to the full \$20 billion capitalisation of the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) by 2020-21.

The MRFF is a once-in-a-generation plan to underwrite health and medical research, providing better health outcomes for all Australians; and a safer, better quality and more effective health system.

Research Australia CEO and Managing Director, Nadia Levin, said she was thrilled that the MRFF now has bipartisan support, with the fund to reach the full \$20 billion by 2020-21.

“Let’s be clear - every dollar invested into medical research is a dollar invested into the health of all Australians, and the health of our economy,” Ms Levin said.

“This funding will make a tangible, measurable difference to the lives of Australians, from treatments for people touched by common killers, through to those with rare diseases.

“It is incredibly rewarding to see both sides of politics reflecting so closely the commitment we called for in our [Pre-Election Statement](#) on behalf of the health and medical research community.

“We would like to express our gratitude to the Shadow Minister for Health and Medicare, Hon Catherine King MP for meeting with us recently in April to discuss the issue.

“At the end of the day, this funding will allow new medical discoveries and treatments to bring hope to Aussie patients.

“Research Australia recognises the significant scale of this win, which our membership has been calling for since we convened a Pre-Election summit in 2018.

“This bipartisan support is an important underwriting of a rapidly evolving area of research and healthcare, and will further strengthen Australia’s expertise and build upon our potential.

“The beneficiaries of the MRFF are universities, medical research institutes, not-for-profits and commercial medical research, and ultimately the Australian people and the economy.

“I challenge people to come up with a list more worthy of support.”

To find out more about Research Australia visit: www.researchaustralia.org

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