



POSITION STATEMENT – April 15, 2011

The Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes calls on the Prime Minister to immediately address growing community concern over potential cuts to health and medical research funding in the upcoming May budget.

Investment in medical research delivers positive economic, social and health outcomes for Australia. The Commonwealth Government must maintain current levels of medical research funding to ensure that Australia remains at the cutting-edge of healthcare innovation and delivery.

Strong community support for sustained investment in Australia's health and medical sector has been demonstrated by the 'Discoveries Needs Dollars' campaign (www.discoveriesneeddollars.org). An estimated 10,000 people have attended public rallies across the nation to voice their concerns over possible funding cuts.

Prime Minister Gillard must address these concerns through a commitment to maintain National Health and Medical Research Council funding at current levels while a strategic roadmap for the medical research sector is developed over the next two years.

[ENDS]

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