



A Win for Medical Research and for Australians' Health: Federal Government Commits to Releasing more than \$500 million from the Medical Research Future Fund

Australian researchers not only save lives — they drive economic growth and deliver vital innovation that benefits our region and the nation. After running a national campaign to remind the Albanese Government that ‘Medical Research Matters’, Dr Monique Ryan has celebrated tonight’s announcement that an additional half a billion dollars in new funding has been secured for a vital part of Australia’s economy, with MRFF disbursements to increase permanently.

Dr Ryan: “The saying goes that if you care about something, you pay for it. Tonight, the government has recognised that medical research matters. It’s telling our researchers and the Australians who depend on our health care system that they matter.”

“After months of campaigning for the government to invest in medical research, we’ve had a really big win. The government has finally listened, and has committed to releasing an additional \$508.5 million over the next four years to medical research. Spending from the MRFF will increase from \$650 million to \$1 billion annually from 2030-2031.”

“I want to thank the almost 8,000 people who have made a big contribution to my ‘Medical Research Matters’ campaign, and the medical research community for its inspiration and support.”

Analysis commissioned by Dr Ryan’s office found that up to \$1.4 billion a year could be disbursed from the Medical Research Future Fund without affecting its closing balance. Funding has been frozen at \$650 million annually since 2018-1019, while research institutes have struggled, and early- and mid-career researchers have left the field permanently.

Dr Ryan: “Tonight’s announcement from the Treasurer is not the full amount that could be released from the MRFF, but it is a significant win — not only for the medical research community, but for every Australian who benefits from medical research.”

“We’ve seen the consequences when governments neglect science and medical research. Australia must strengthen sovereign capability, increase productivity, and back its researchers to ensure their lifesaving work can continue here.”