

the Australian Society for Medical Research



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September 15, 1998

HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH - NOT AN ISSUE?

It is disappointing that both major parties have failed to identify H&MR as an issue of critical importance to Australia and Australians.

ASMR's Newspann survey clearly indicates that the public view H&MR as important enough to commit to pay, on average, an additional 4.7 cents per day in taxes if the money is guaranteed to fund medical research.

Outcomes from the basic medical research which underpins the development of new products, impact directly or indirectly upon all Australians.

There is absolutely no doubt the return on even the current limited investment in H&MR has been substantial in terms of job creation, export substitution and improvements in the health and welfare of Australians.

Maintaining *status quo* funding levels is not enough. *Our international research competitiveness is being eroded; particularly where other developed nations are increasing government funded medical R&D.*

Politicians must have the vision to commit significant resources to H&MR.

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