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the Australian Society for Medical Research



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PRESS RELEASE - October 1, 1999

"Australian Medical Researchers Commend the Prime Minister".

Dr. Robert Ramsay, President-Elect, ASMR

Today's announcement by the Federal government shows that the Prime Minister and the Health Minister have got it right on the future for Medical Research in Australia.

The adoption of the majority of the Will's Report on the Health and Medical Research Strategic Review recommendations is a extraordinary moment for all Australians who are looking forward to a better and healthier life for themselves and their children.

Dr. Ramsay, president-elect, of the Australian Society for Medical Research said. "The timing of the Will's Review and the Ralph Report on tax reform and the effect upon Australia's medical research effort is like the Astrological Alignment of the planets. The adoption of both reports is central to the next phase of medical research development while creating the right market for the Biotechnology Industry spin-offs we will depend upon".

"These reports had to happen at the same time and we congratulate the Prime Minister for his vision in bringing these two milestone events together."

Peter Wills has taught us a lot about how to get our message across to government and business. We as a community have always sincerely believed that medical research is absolutely central to Australia's future. We watched in awe as Peter Wills and his committee developed this report and achieved widespread support.

"The research community is delighted to hear the PM

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discuss the need to have career development opportunities for those who wish to marry their academic expertise with industry links. Fellowships in this area are not only welcome, they are essential to the future of a genuine Medical Biotechnology Sector" Dr Ramsay said.

Contact: 03 9656 1863 Mobile 0414 296352 Oct 1, 1999

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