

the Australian Society *for* Medical Research



Newsletters, News and Events

Media Releases

[back to home page](#)

ASMR Platform, 1998

ASMR through its regular members and affiliate member societies represents almost 15,000 medical researchers.

Currently health care is going through dramatic and rapid changes, due to swift advances in our understanding of human physiology, particularly at the molecular level.

We believe that there has been lack of imagination and vision in the funding of R&D in Australia and consequently there has been a significant dismantling of Australia's R&D capacity. The future means understanding technology, inventing it and translating it in a meaningful way to our industrial sector and into our hospitals and clinics.

ASMR has developed a PLATFORM which we believe should have bipartisan support.

The implementation of this platform is critical to the continuing welfare of medical research in Australia.

This document has been presented to all Federal MP's and Senators; ASMR will vigorously pursue support for its implementation from all political parties.

Summary of Platform

- Expenditure on biomedical research should be at a minimum of 5% of national health outlays and the NHMRC budget should be doubled in the next five years.
- There must be mechanisms for assured stability and continuity of medical research funding.
- There must be significant Government initiated mechanisms for Industry support of biomedical research.
- There must be a significant increase in infrastructure

support of Medical Research in Universities and
Hospitals.

- Continuation of the merit driven, peer-reviewed broad based biomedical research effort.

There is absolutely no doubt the return on investment in medical research has been substantial in terms of job creation, export substitution and improvements in the health and welfare of Australians.

The implementation of this platform is necessary to adequately meet the challenges that advances in knowledge-based technologies will bring to the Australian health system and to adequately capture the economic benefit of national and international developments in health R&D.

*

Steven Wesselingh, *President, ASMR* Tel. 08 8204 4284 Fax. 08 8276 8658
mislw@gamgee.cc.flinders.edu.au

Matthew Gillespie (Vic) *President Elect* Tel. 03 9288 2480 Fax. 03 9416 2676
m.gillespie@medicine.unimelb.edu.au

[go back](#)