THE HON CHRISTOPHER PYNE MP
Minister for Education
Leader of the House

MEDIA RELEASE

VIC researchers to analyse the causal link between epilepsy and other psychiatric illnesses

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New treatments will be developed for epilepsy and interrelated psychiatric disorders, and better management of wastewater and concrete infrastructure will be possible thanks to funding of over $135 million for investment in Victorian research projects through the Australian Government.

Announcing funding for 305 Victorian projects, Minister for Education Christopher Pyne said that investing in research was absolutely critical for the development of new ideas, for progress of our society and a better life for all Australians.

“This Government is providing a total of $522 million towards promising research to occur across Australia’s research institutions through the Australian Research Council (ARC),” Mr Pyne said.

Future Fellow Dr Nigel Jones at The University of Melbourne will use his $755 320 grant to analyse the link between epilepsy and psychiatric disorders such as depression, with a view to developing new treatments for these interrelated conditions.

Early career researcher Dr David McCarthy at Monash University will use a $395 220 Discovery Early Career Researcher Award to help understand the exact mechanisms used by plants to clean stormwater and wastewater, before it is released back into streams or recycled.

And researchers at RMIT will receive a $456 493 grant to find ways of remedying upheaval buckling or ‘blowup’ of concrete pavements under high environmental temperatures.

“This $135 million investment is great news for Victoria because it highlights the outstanding research occurring in the state.”

“This research that will lead to outcomes that could potentially have an important impact not just in Australia, but also on the international stage,” Mr Pyne said.

The 305 research projects were announced as part of the ARC’s 2013 Future Fellowships and 2014 Major Grants Announcement.

To view summaries of all funded projects visit the ARC media announcement kit. For more information on the ARC and its funding schemes, visit www.arc.gov.au.

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