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

MEDIA RELEASE

WA researchers to investigate new cancer treatment

8 November 2013

Researchers will work to develop new cancer treatments and examine the role of cataract surgery on driving performance, thanks to funding of over $40 million for investment in Western Australian research projects through the Australian Government.

Announcing funding for 87 Western Australian projects, Minister for Education Hon Christopher Pyne MP 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 Associate Professor Pilar Blancafort from The University of Western Australia will use a $755 320 grant to help inhibit cancer causing ‘transcription factors’ by constructing specially engineered proteins.

“Research into new cancer treatments is another step on the research ladder towards a breakthrough that could save lives and hopefully one day find a cure.

Early career researcher Dr Donell Holloway at Edith Cowan University will use a $383 899 Discovery Early Career Researcher Award to study the internet usage of primary school children, and develop recommendations for parents and policy makers.

And researchers at the Curtin University of Technology will receive a $353 000 grant to study the impact of eye cataract surgery on driving performance.

“This overall $40 million investment is great news for Western Australia because it highlights the outstanding research occurring in this state that will lead to outcomes that may have important impact not just in Australia, but internationally,” Mr Pyne said.

The 87 research projects were announced as part of the ARC’s 2013 Future Fellowships and 2014 Major Grants funding outcomes announcements.

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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