

MEDIA RELEASE

Menzies secures funding to improve Indigenous child health

10 November 2017

Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies) has welcomed today's announcement of more than \$12 million in National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) funding for new and ongoing research.

Nine grants have been awarded to Menzies today. Indigenous child health, which is one of the key research areas at Menzies, will benefit from today's funding announcement.

The funding announcement was made this morning at Menzies' Royal Darwin Hospital campus by Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Nigel Scullion, and Minister for Indigenous Health, Ken Wyatt AM.

According to Menzies Director, Professor Alan Cass, this latest stream of funding will enable research teams to address fundamentally important health issues including maternal immunisation to improve child health and identifying key stages from early childhood throughout life when treatments to prevent chronic disease will be most effective.

"We're about identifying critical health issues and finding ways to tackle them. Through our research, based on good science, we aim to make the maximal difference," Prof Cass said.

"I would like to thank the Minister for Indigenous Affairs Senator Nigel Scullion and Minister for Indigenous Health Ken Wyatt for announcing these grants from the NHMRC here in Darwin, and for your commitment to improving Indigenous health in this country.

"The knowledge and understanding which Minister Wyatt brings to this portfolio through his extensive experience in the fields of Health and Education is wonderful for research teams working at the frontline of healthcare research and service delivery."

The National Health and Medical Research Council are the principal funders of health research in Australia.

Menzies researchers have worked with a wide range of health services and community based partners, for more than 30 years to undertake research with impact. ENDS

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Menzies School of Health Research

Menzies School of Health Research is one of Australia's leading medical research institutes dedicated to improving Indigenous, global and tropical health. Menzies has a history of over 30 years of scientific discovery and public health achievement. Menzies works at the frontline, joining with partners across the Asia-Pacific as well as Indigenous communities across northern and central Australia. Menzies collaborates to create new knowledge, grow local skills and find enduring solutions to problems that matter.