

**BUDGET
2016-17**
COMMUNITY.
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John Elferink
Minister for Health

Funding boost for health research

24 May 2016

Menzies School of Health Research will receive an additional \$5 million in Budget 2016 to increase support to fund research that is delivering strong economic and health returns for the Territory.

Menzies has a demonstrated record of conducting high value research which provides significant returns on investment for the Northern Territory.

In a recent report by Deloitte which reviewed the direct economic impact of the work that Menzies undertakes, it was revealed that an investment of a single dollar in Menzies School of Health Research returned more than \$2.20 directly to the Northern Territory economy.

Professor Alan Cass, Director of Menzies School of Health Research said that the funding represented a welcome boost to Menzies capacity to grow and sustain employment in critical clinical and health research roles.

“This investment will enhance our capacity to make some crucial investments in priority areas for the Northern Territory and our strategy in responding to tropical health, emerging infectious diseases and the burden of complex chronic illness.”

“This funding will enable Menzies to continue to develop this critical response capacity to tackle issues that need to be addressed here in the Territory.”

The additional funds will be invested in new research in areas that make an impact in people’s lives, including early child development, prevention and management of chronic disease. The funding will also address issues that cause a burden to Northern Territory Health System – diabetes, kidney disease, rheumatic heart disease, hepatitis, mental health, hearing in children and infections specific to the Territory.

Minister for Health John Elferink said that the work of the Menzies School of Health Research is the “world’s best practice.”

“Menzies School of Health Research is one of the things that makes the Territory so proud to be the ambitious jurisdiction that we are.”

“Having such a vibrant health research institute here in the Territory means that we can better understand the issues we are currently dealing with on the coalface.

“Those dealing with these issues are leading the research and this funding will enable them to do so with such continued success.”

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