

Media Release

\$71 million for Monash Health Research Precinct

Wednesday 13 May, 2009

The Federal Government's decision to invest \$71 million in a new Monash Health Research Precinct Translational Facility at the Monash Medical Centre in Clayton was welcomed by Professor Bryan Williams, Director, Monash Institute of Medical Research.

Prof. Williams said the new facility will provide an exceptional opportunity to accelerate basic laboratory observations to clinical practice improving patient care and outcomes and disease prevention, to the benefit of all Australians.

The Monash Health Research Precinct (MHRP) is a partnership between Southern Health, Monash Institute for Medical Research, Monash University and the Prince Henry's Institute.

MHRP unites Victoria's largest health care service provider with leading Australian medical research institutes, in fostering the translation of basic research knowledge into clinical practice, including providing shared core facilities. Prominent research themes include inflammatory and infectious diseases, men's and women's health, cancer and stem cell technologies among others.

Professor John Funder, Director of Research Strategy at Southern Health, described the announcement as a terrific outcome. The new facility will ensure outstanding links between laboratory, translational and clinical trials research, combined with Monash Medical Centre, a university affiliated teaching hospital of international renown.

The MHRP Translational Facility will provide a nucleus for health applications generated in the numerous facilities in the Clayton area including the Australian Synchrotron, CSIRO and Monash University regenerative medicine and stem cell programs.

The building program should be completed by the end of 2012, and will provide jobs both during construction and on completion.

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