NHMRC announces support for Alltrials

The National Health and Medical Research Council today released a statement in support of the Alltrials campaign.

Alltrials calls for all past and present clinical trials to be registered and their results reported, to reduce research duplication and legitimise trial results.

In speaking about NHMRC’s support to register and report, CEO Professor Warwick Anderson emphasised the importance of clinical trials in confirming the safety and efficacy of drugs, treatments and medical devices.

“NHMRC believes in the value of registering clinical trials and promotes transparency in and the reporting of NHMRC-funded outcomes. Transparency helps to ensure accountability and high standards in research – which ultimately results in better outcomes for the beneficiaries of medical discoveries,” Professor Anderson said.

“All NHMRC-funded researchers are required to register clinical trials with a recognised clinical trials register prior to the commencement of the clinical phase of the trial. This helps to meet the requirements of NHMRC’s Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research and the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research which applies to all Australian researchers,” he said.

NHMRC also encourages transparency in research through its Open Access Policy. Under this policy, publications that have resulted from NHMRC-supported research need to be placed in an open access repository within twelve months of that publication being published.

In supporting Alltrials, NHMRC joins other similar bodies including the Wellcome Trust, the UK Medical Research Council and the South African Medical Research Council.

The statement of support reads:

*The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) is pleased to support the principles of the AllTrials statement.*

NHMRC recognises the importance of registering clinical trials. A NHMRC Enabling Grant funded the establishment of the Australian New Zealand Clinical Trials Register (ANZCTR) in 2005. The *Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research* (2007) (the Code), with which all NHMRC funded researchers must comply, requires the registration of clinical trials with a recognised clinical trials register. In addition, the *NHMRC Funding Rules*, which apply to all...
funding schemes, require that all NHMRC funded clinical trials be registered in the ANZCTR, or equivalent, prior to commencement of the clinical phase.

NHMRC is committed to the transparency and reporting of NHMRC-funded research outcomes. The Code states that researchers have a responsibility to their colleagues and the wider community to disseminate a full account of their research as broadly as possible. This responsibility is reinforced by the NHMRC Open Access Policy.

Whilst acknowledging that there may be some barriers to overcome, NHMRC supports the principle of publishing clinical trial methods and summary results.

For more information on the Alltrials campaign visit: www.alltrials.net

CONTACT: NHMRC Media Team
M: 0422 008 512
E: media@nhmrc.gov.au