22 October 2014

MEDIA RELEASE

ESTABLISHING THE NHMRC NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR DEMENTIA RESEARCH

The first step to establish a National Institute for Dementia Research was taken today.

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) has opened an Expression-of-Interest (EOI) process for organisations interested in providing services to establish the institute.

Health Minister Peter Dutton said the NHMRC National Institute for Dementia Research was a cornerstone of the Australian Government’s $200 million commitment to boosting research into dementia.

“We are establishing an innovative research institute to help target, co-ordinate and translate the national research effort to ensure existing and new research translates into better understanding of these diseases, better treatment and care for dementia patients and hopefully one day a cure,” Mr Dutton said.

“One of the key objectives of the institute is to identify essential dementia research priorities for Australia across the full spectrum from basic research to implementation.

“The NHMRC has already commenced a comprehensive consultation project to begin identifying these priorities to inform the strategic direction of the institute,” Mr Dutton said.

Work is also well underway on other components of the $200 million Boosting Dementia Research initiative.

Forty nine applications from collaborative teams have been received in response to a recent special round of NHMRC Dementia Research Team grants worth a total of $32.5 million.

It is anticipated that five teams will be funded for up to $6.5 million each over five years, to pursue collaborative research, promote effective translation of research, and develop capacity under a dementia research priority framework. Outcomes will be announced in 2015.

Expressions of interest for the NHMRC National Institute for Dementia Research must be lodged via AusTender by the Closing Time; 10am Monday, 17 November 2014. Further information is available at https://tenders.gov.au.

For further information please contact the Minister’s office – 02 6277 7220