

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2015-2016, 1 - 2 June 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000408

OUTCOME: 1 – Population Health

Topic: Non-human Primates for Research purposes

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Rhiannon, Lee

Question:

1. How many grants have been made that involve using primates, over the past two year?
2. Who/what body was the grant given to?
3. What was the purpose of the grant?
4. What was the dollar value of the grant?
5. What is the purpose of the research or activity?
6. What were the species, sex and numbers of primates used for each project?
7. What projects that involve primates is the NHMRC currently considering funding? For each project please detail:
 - i. Who or what body or organisations?
 - ii. For what amount?
 - iii. What is the stated purpose of the research or activity?
 - iv. What are the numbers and species of primates proposed?
8. Please provide names and numbers of relevant people if I need to obtain any further information on the above series of questions.

Answer:

1. Over the period 2013-2014, the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) has awarded 14 grants to applicants who indicated that they would involve non-human primates in their research.
2. Australian National University, Centre for Eye Research Australia, Monash University, University of Melbourne, University of Sydney and University of Queensland.
3. Medical research including studies into vision, hearing, brain physiology, stroke, diabetes and vaccine development.

4.

Grant recipient	Number of grants	Value of grants
Australian National University	1	\$0.51 million
Centre for Eye Research Australia Ltd	1	\$0.85 million
Monash University	8	\$5.27 million
University of Melbourne	2	\$1.95 million
University of Sydney	1	\$0.59 million
University of Queensland	1	\$0.75 million

5. Medical research including studies into vision, hearing, brain physiology, stroke, diabetes and vaccine development.
6. These are active projects. The number of non-human primates used will not be known until the Projects are completed and final reports are submitted to the NHMRC.
7. The review of potentially fundable applications has not yet concluded. NHMRC does not disclose detailed information regarding applications while they are still under an independent review process.
8. Requests for additional information should be directed through the Minister for Health, the Hon Sussan Ley MP, office.