

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015-16**

Finance Portfolio  
27-28 May 2015

**Department/Agency:** Department of Finance  
**Outcome/Program:** 1/1.1  
**Topic:** Medical Research Future Fund – list of savings

**Senator:** Gallagher

**Question reference number:** F54

**Type of question:** Hansard, F&PA Committee, Pages 61-62, 28 May 2015

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** Friday, 10 July 2015

**Number of pages:** 3

**Question:**

**Senator GALLAGHER:** I have got some questions on the Medical Research Future Fund, on table 8.3.

... Is there a line somewhere in the budget that cross-references that saving line, savings invested in the MRFF?

...

**Senator GALLAGHER:** Yes, it is hard to go back. Is there some way you would be able to provide me with what those savings are?

**Senator Cormann:** Yes, we can; we will give you a list.

...

**Senator Cormann:** ... We will provide you with a list on notice but, essentially, at a high level, the savings that are intended to go into this capital fund are savings in health portfolio in the 2014-15 budget that are passing the Parliament.

**Answer:**

Health savings from the following measures have been allocated to the Medical Research Future Fund:

<b>Measure</b>	<b>Source</b>
Remaining component of A strong and sustainable Medicare	2014-15 Mid Year and Economic Fiscal Outlook Statement, p 166; Media release by the Minister for Health dated 15 January 2015; Media release by the Minister for Health dated 3 March 2015.

<b>Measure</b>	<b>Source</b>
Charles Sturt University – dental and oral health clinic developments in New South Wales – reversal	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 126.
Commonwealth Public Hospitals – change to funding arrangements	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 126.
Dental Flexible Grants Programme – cessation	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 127.
Diagnostic Imaging Quality Programme – cessation	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 127.
Discretionary Grant Programmes – cessation of certain programmes	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 128.
Health Flexible Funds – pausing indexation and achieving efficiencies	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 131.
Indigenous Affairs Programmes – rationalisation	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 185.
Medicare Benefits Schedule – comprehensive eye examinations	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 133.
Medicare Benefits Schedule – reduced optometry rebates and removal of charging cap	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 135.
Migration Programme – allocation of places for 2014-15	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 153.
National Partnership for adult public dental services – deferral	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 137.
National Partnership Agreement on Improving Public Hospital Services – cessation	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 137.
National Partnership Agreement on Preventive Health – cessation	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 137.
National Tobacco Campaign – a new and lower cost media campaign	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 138.
Northern Territory Medical Programme – consolidation	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 138.
Partners in Recovery – reduced funding	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 139.
Pausing indexation of some Medicare Benefits Schedule fees and the Medicare Levy Surcharge and Private Health Insurance Rebate thresholds	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 139.
Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme – increase in co-payments and safety net thresholds	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 140.
Rebuilding general practice education and training to deliver more GPs	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 143.
Simplifying Medicare safety net arrangements	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 145.
Smaller Government – Australian National Preventive Health Agency – abolish	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 145.
Smaller Government – More Efficient Health Workforce Development	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 146.
Stoma Appliance Scheme – new listing and amendments	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 146.

<b>Measure</b>	<b>Source</b>
Tasmanian nursing and allied health scholarship and support scheme – cessation	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 147.
World Health Organization – reduced funding	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2, p 149.
Health components of savings from other portfolio measures	2014-15 Budget Paper No. 2.