

**SENATE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS REFERENCES COMMITTEE
ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION (3 March 2006)**

Petition on Gynaecological Health Issues

Question – Ms Heffernan – Chair, May I ask Mr Kemp a Question? Even though \$14 million has been allocated, how much of that was actually distributed by NHMRC for ovarian cancer?

Response

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) is the key agency for fostering health and medical research and training in Australia.

The Research Committee of the NHMRC supports research across the entire spectrum of health, medical and public health research. It awards grants on the basis of scientific excellence as judged by peer review. The criteria used to assess scientific excellence include the significance and feasibility of the proposed research and the track record of the researchers.

Over the period 2000 to 2005, funding of \$15.1 million was provided by the NHMRC for ovarian cancer research.

A further \$5 million is expected to be expended in 2006 for ovarian cancer research.

A detailed report of projects funded during this period is provided at Attachment 1

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