



Australian Government

Department of Health

Deputy Secretary

Ms Jeanette Radcliffe
Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2066

Dear Ms Radcliffe

Clarification of evidence to 2018-19 Budget Estimates Hearings, 29 and 30 May 2018

I am writing to clarify evidence provided to the Committee during its examination of the Department of Health in the 2018-19 Budget Estimates hearings on 29 May 2018.

In answering questions from Senator the Hon Lisa Singh in relation to commitments from the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF), I said that \$1,770.4 million had been committed or announced over the duration of the fund. I then indicated amounts by year:

"We might start in 2016-17, which was the first year of disbursements being committed, which was \$18 million. In 2017-18, \$143.4 million. In 2018-19, \$236.2 million. In 2019-20, \$332.1 million. In 2020-21, \$369.6 million. In 2021-22, \$233.6 million. There have also been commitments in relation to out years of \$437.5 million, taking us to the total of \$1,770.4 million."

Hansard, Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee, Estimates, 29 May 2018, Proof Copy, page 33.

It has been brought to my notice that the numbers I quoted included \$52.8 million in non-MRFF amounts which have been allocated to the National Health and Medical Industry Growth Plan. As Senator Singh inquired specifically about MRFF funding, the correct figures are:

Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	Out years	TOTAL
\$m	18.00	143.35	222.37	317.43	356.95	222.00	437.50	1717.60

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Edwards
Health Systems Policy & Primary Care
14 June 2018