

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

**Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 1 – 2 June 2015**

**Ref No:** SQ15-000675

**OUTCOME:** 4 - Acute Care

**Topic:** Medical Research Future Fund

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 92, 2 June 2015

**Senator:** Moore, Claire

**Question:**

Senator MOORE: Minister, is that still being considered? These are very similar questions to what I asked last budget in terms of the process. When we have identified the specific research model through Cancer Australia and the development of the Medical Research Future Fund, is it part of the ongoing discussion to see whether those things would be able to be looked at together? How is it going to work?

Senator Nash: I understand, but I will take it on notice.

**Answer:**

The legislation proposed by the Government to establish the Medical Research Future Fund provides for the Australian Medical Research Advisory Board to be created. The Advisory Board will develop the:

- Australian Medical Research and Innovation Strategy; and
- Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities.

In determining the Strategy, the Advisory Board must ensure that a coherent and consistent approach is adopted in providing financial assistance under the *Medical Research Future Fund Act 2015* (this Act) for medical research and medical innovation, with all elements of health and medical research in Australia to be considered.

In determining the Priorities, the Advisory Board must take into account the:

- a) the burden of disease on the Australian community;
- b) how to deliver practical benefits from medical research and medical innovation to as many Australians as possible;
- c) how to ensure that financial assistance provided under this Act provides the greatest value for all Australians;
- d) how to ensure that financial assistance provided under this Act complements and enhances other financial assistance provided for medical research and medical innovation; and
- e) any other relevant matter.