

Media Coverage

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Proposed Policy Framework for Medical Research to be Unveiled at AusBiotech 2010

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September 7, 2010 -- A proposed policy framework for medical research in Australia will be unveiled and discussed at AusBiotech 2010, encouraging collaboration within the research sector and the wider industry. AusBiotech and Research Australia believe that now is the time to discuss the policies required to stimulate medical research and, in turn, the delivery of better healthcare solutions for Australians.

Representatives from academia, industry, research funders and the research community will provide an in-depth discussion on the future of medical research in Australia at a session titled 'Maximising Australia's investment in medical research – new approaches to discovery and commercialisation,' to be held on Wednesday afternoon of AusBiotech 2010 in Melbourne from 19 – 22 October.

Research Australia will commence the discussion with its proposed policy framework as well as revealing recent polling on what the Australian public thinks of medical research and how public support for research can be harnessed in order to contribute to industry growth.

Research Australia CEO, Rebecca James said: "Australia, through its strengths in the area of medical research, has demonstrated its ability to create local solutions that meet global challenges. In order to maintain and grow our position as a global player, the research sector and the wider industry require a new approach to collaboration, cooperation and support for innovation."

"Encouraging investment and the support of both governments and the public is crucial for the future of Australian R&D," said AusBiotech CEO, Dr Anna Lavelle. "Research institutions, VCs, policy makers and industry representatives with a stake in this issue will be interested in this panel discussion."

Alex Gosman of Alex Gosman Consulting will chair the session, which also features key speakers from across the industry, including:

- Rebecca James, CEO, Research Australia
- Nick Gruen, CEO, Lateral Economics
- Prof Warwick Anderson, CEO, National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)
- Dr Ashley Bates, Head of R&D Alliances GlaxoSmithKline

AusBiotech 2010 is the annual conference of AusBiotech and the premier biotechnology conference for Australia and the Asia-Pacific. The conference attracts over 1400 delegates from across the world each year and is renowned for its agenda-setting programs, significant business analysis and world-class Business Matching Program.

For additional event information visit the conference website at: www.ausbiotech2010.com.au.

About Research Australia

Research Australia is a unique national alliance of over 170 member and donor organizations with a common mission to make health and medical research a higher national priority. For more information on Research Australia visit: www.researchaustralia.org.

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AusBiotech is Australia's voice on biotechnology, and represents more than 3,000 members, encompassing medicines, medical diagnostics and devices, agriculture, alternative fuels and climate change.