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OFFICIAL STATEMENT

MEDICAL RESEARCH

The HAP recognises that our country suffers when medical research is manipulated to produce results which serve vested interests, but which is then used by politicians to form the basis of public health decisions. The HAP will expose deliberate corruption in medical research using the considerable body of evidence which already exists in professional journals and elsewhere, and will support the recruitment of researchers with proven independence and integrity to undertake needed medical research which will then be published, whatever the findings. The HAP will review existing medical institutions to ensure that public money is spent only on objective and unbiased research which benefits all citizens.

Government funding for natural medicine research is almost non-existent. Since 2009, the NH&MRC has funded only a single complementary health project, and spent less than \$500,000, out of a total budget of over five and a half a billion dollars. This is less than one one-hundredth of one percent of total funding. The HAP will ensure that natural medicine research receives appropriate funding from the NH&MRC both by way of targeted calls for projects and strategic awards of funding, and by including natural medicine as a discrete research category alongside conventional medical research categories.