

MEDIA RELEASE 11 April 2011

WILL FUNDING CUTS MEAN LESS ANIMAL EXPERIMENTS?

Humane Research Australia Inc. is hopeful that the alleged funding cuts that are causing concern to medical researchers will mean that grant applications will be more closely scrutinized to ensure precious funding is not wasted on animal experiments.

[According to the recent 'Discoveries Need Dollars' campaign, "A cabinet leak has confirmed medical research funding cuts to be \$400 million over three years." They are now urging researchers and patients to contact the politicians below to oppose the budget cuts.]

Chief Executive Officer, Helen Marston, said today "We know that much of the funding provided to medical research to date has been used on cruel and outdated animal experiments."

Visit http://www.humaneresearch.org.au/case-studies/ to see what ludicrous experiments our tax dollars have been funding!

"Animals differ from humans anatomically, genetically and metabolically, meaning that any data obtained from them cannot be extrapolated to humans with sufficient reliability. What we need is more species-specific research – that which is directly relevant to human conditions."

"Whilst Humane Research Australia is very much in support of medical research/progress, this is an opportunity for our government to fund only the most ethical and scientifically-valid research - that which does NOT waste precious resources on irrelevant and sometimes dangerously misleading animal data."

Ms Marston concluded: "Today's researchers carry a huge responsibility. Terminally-ill patients are looking toward cures. They don't care whether a cancer drug works on a mouse, or any other disease can be cured in another species. These ongoing claims in the media only taunt them with false hope. These people need real cures based on good science."