



# Jillian Skinner MP

## Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

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### MEDIA RELEASE

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Tuesday, 8 January 2013

### **\$3.4 MILLION FOR NEW GENERATION OF CANCER RESEARCHERS**

Health and Medical Research Minister Jillian Skinner has awarded \$3.4 million in grants to six young researchers who are forging careers to find new treatments and a cure for cancer.

Mrs Skinner said the three-year grants are part of the Cancer Institute NSW's Early Career Development Fellowship program.

"Few people can say their lives have not been touched by cancer so it is vital that we invest in fighting this terrible disease," Mrs Skinner said.

"I am committed to ensuring our best and brightest researchers have the means to discover new treatments and potentially a cure for cancer to deliver better outcomes for patients here and across the globe.

"The work of these six researchers will ensure patients benefit from cutting-edge cancer research as their findings are translated into better treatments and care across the NSW health system.

"By 2021 almost 51,000 people in NSW will be told 'you have cancer'. It has never been more important to invest in cures and treatments to reduce the burden of this disease," Mrs Skinner said.

The areas of research include new therapies for the prevention of skin cancer, testing novel therapies for prostate cancer and research into cancer prevention intervention specifically for disadvantaged communities.

"The work these researchers are doing is at the forefront of cancer studies. I commend them on their efforts and look forward to learning about the results of their research," Mrs Skinner said.

Professor David Currow, Chief Cancer Officer and CEO of the Cancer Institute NSW said that investing in the future of cancer research will have a significant impact on the way we understand and treat cancers.

"I welcome this announcement as it gives certainty to our state's finest and freshest researchers to undertake their important and potentially life-saving work."