



Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health

Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

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NEUROSURGEON HONOURED BY US CONGRESS

The Minister for Health and Minister for Medical Research, Jillian Skinner, has congratulated leading Sydney neurosurgeon Charlie Teo on signing an international agreement aimed at introducing new therapies for brain cancer.

Dr Teo's Cure For Life Foundation signed an alliance with the US-based Brain Mapping Foundation (BMF) and Society for Brain Mapping and Therapeutics (SBMT).

Early today (Sydney time), Dr Teo addressed the US Congress, saying approximately 1,200 Australians die annually from brain cancer and outcomes for patients in this country remain poor.

He said the new alliance would allow the top brain cancer centres in the world to focus on introducing a new generation of therapies through a nanobioelectronic approach, which integrates nanotechnology, devices, imaging and cellular therapies.

"What a remarkable honour for a great Australian – an invitation to address the US Congress on an issue of vital significance to humankind," Mrs Skinner said.

"President Barack Obama's stated vision is to advance opportunities for the exploration and mapping of the human brain.

"Charlie Teo is at the forefront of this international quest for answers. And he is aiming high - his Cure For Life Foundation hopes to find a cure for brain cancer in ten years."

Mrs Skinner said many people were inspired by Dr Teo's clinical skill and passion for research into brain cancer.

"I am in awe of the high regard in which he is held by his patients and their families. Whenever I attend a Cure For Life Foundation event, he is swamped," she said.