



Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW MEDICAL DEVICES FUND STAGE TWO PRELIMINARY APPLICATIONS OPEN

Health and Medical Research Minister Jillian Skinner today encouraged medical innovators to apply for grants under the NSW Medical Devices Fund.

The NSW Government awarded a total of \$10.3 million to five outstanding medical technologies in 2013 - the fund's inaugural year. A further \$7.7 million is now available through round two of the fund.

"As the state's first Minister for Medical Research, I am passionate about the power of research to deliver life-saving, life-changing benefits to individuals and the community," Mrs Skinner said.

"In Australia - and around the globe – health care is under increased pressure from the growing needs of an ageing population and the rise in chronic diseases associated with advanced economies.

"Medical research is vital to meeting these challenges and NSW has long been a world leader in the area of medical devices, with internationally-recognised companies such as ResMed and Cochlear based in Sydney.

"But the road from innovation to commercial reality is difficult and long, which is why the NSW Government is committed to supporting innovators to bring cutting-edge medical devices to fruition."

Mrs Skinner said the NSW Government's investment in medical research is more than \$200 million per annum.

"The NSW Medical Devices Fund is one of the important ways in which the NSW Government is tapping into the innovative thinking which will be at the heart of the modern health system," Mrs Skinner said.

"The \$7.7 million available in round two of the NSW Medical Devices Fund could help support individuals, public and private hospitals, medical research institutes, universities, other public sector research organisations or the medical devices industry to take NSW technologies to the world."

Applicants are encouraged to complete Stage One: Online Self-Assessment prior to submitting a preliminary application. The Stage Two preliminary application submissions for the second round of the NSW Medical Devices Fund close at 5:00pm on 4 March 2014.

An application kit and guidelines are available at <http://www.health.nsw.gov.au/ohmr/mdf> or via email at medicaldevicesfund@doh.health.nsw.gov.au