Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research – Additional funding

Why is this important?
- The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research is one of Australia’s foremost medical research organisations. It primarily undertakes research into cancers such as leukaemia, lymphoma and breast cancer; immunology; auto-immune diseases such as juvenile diabetes, multiple sclerosis and rheumatoid arthritis; and infectious diseases such as malaria and influenza. Research undertaken by the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research has the potential to benefit Australians through increased understanding, diagnoses and treatments of the diseases that it studies.

Who will benefit?
- The measure will provide state-of-the-art facilities to attract researchers and produce optimum outcomes in health and medical research. Funding has been provided to the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research to support its construction of a seven storey expansion to the Institute. This expansion will double the floor space available for research.

What funding is the Government committing to the initiative?
- The Government is providing new funding of $50 million to the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research for its expansion.

What have we done in the past?
- Recent Government funding of infrastructure for health and medical research has included:
  - Medical Research Infrastructure initiative of $31 million announced in the 2004-05 Budget;
  - $200 million over seven years from 2004-05 to fund overhead infrastructure in independent medical research institutes in receipt of NHMRC research grant funding; and
  - New funding of $10 million for the Brain and Mind Research Institute and to establish the Centre for Medical Bionics and Hearing Science announced in 2004-05.

When will the initiative conclude?
- Funding will be provided to the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research in 2005-06.