

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY****WRITTEN QUESTION**

Ms J Carney

to Minister for Health

**Menzies School of Health Research - Funding**

Minister, funding to health research has been cut in this budget by \$300,000. In your speech about the Budget last year, you said that the Menzies School of Health Research, CRC for Aboriginal Health, and the Health Gains Unit made 'a valuable contribution to the evidence base of our health policies and services':

1. Minister, have they stopped making valuable contributions?
2. If not, why has the funding to our researchers been cut?

**ANSWER**

The Menzies School of Health Research, CRC for Aboriginal Health and the Health Gains Unit continue to provide the most relevant local sources of new knowledge for health policy and practice in the NT.

\$300K was the variation between the 2004-05 estimated expenditure and the 2005-06 published budget for the Health Research output.

The variation between the actual expenses for 2004-05 of \$4.579M and the published budget for 2005-06 of \$4.380M is \$199k.

This variation is mainly due to the reallocation of \$276K of depreciation costs that were incorrectly attributed to this output in 2004-05.

In 2004-05 Menzies School of Health Research was paid a grant payment of \$3.44M. In 2005-06 the Menzies School of Health Research grant will increase to \$3.528M, reflecting the 2.5% increase in indexation. MSHR also administers the Father Frank Flynn Fellowship of \$87K.

The Cooperative Research Centre for Aboriginal Health was paid \$150K in 2004-05, and will receive the same amount in 2005-06.

Health Gains Unit expenditure for 2004-05 was \$1.35M against a budget of \$1.39M. The 2005-06 budget has increased to \$1.4M.