

SRHMRA Submission 184 — Jee Hyun Kim

Australia's exports comprise largely of natural resources, education and medical technologies. Considering that natural resources will ultimately run out, it is important to increase our level of education and medical technologies to stay competitive and attract foreign income.

Health and Medical research be best managed and funded by NHMRC in Australia – I am against ARC absorbing NHMRC. Health research is intrinsically expensive and requires special knowledge, especially because it directly impacts on people's everyday wellbeing, even if a scientist is figuring out the basic neural responses the brain has to drugs of abuse, or whether a particular type of clinical practice is efficacious.

It will be beneficial health-wise and financially if we prioritised more on mental health. Prevalence is very important (anxiety disorders affect 1 in 4 adult Australians in their lives) as well as the economic cost. I think it would be good to have an algorithm to help allocate % of funds, instead of pouring money on one or two areas that actually do not affect that many Australians.

Translation is often very difficult. It would be great to have a government-funded conferences that focused on networking between basic scientists and clinicians.