

## **SRHMRA Submission 19 —Andrew Lew**

Medical research is vital as it provides the future to health improvement. Examples in the Australian context are endpoint discoveries like G-CSF for cancer and HPV for cervical cancer; and enabling discoveries like MHC as the target for T cells.

The biggest hurdle to medical research is career structure. Many recent adoptions like Australia fellowship, Future fellowship or even CD2 are all dead-end strategies. Moreover the rise in pay in postdoctoral fellowships are paradoxically a hindrance. Getting postdocs are not the problem and indeed high postdoc salaries are a negative incentive to hire them. What happens after senior postdoc'hood is. The only strategy for ongoing careers are NHMRC Research fellowships which can be rolled over every 5 years. Therefore more of these or a similar scheme is advised.