

SRHMRA Submission 26 — Hsin-Hao Yu

Question 1: Australia is luckily among the healthiest and the happiest countries in the world. To keep Australian healthy and happy, it is very obvious that we need to make investments to fight health related problems. As a researcher, I know that even though Australia has the proud tradition of excellency in biomedical research, we are behind. The scale of Australian biomedical research is a fraction of that of European countries, American countries, and even Asian countries. Without strong government support, talents will leave Australia to work for the said European, America, and Asian countries. When that happens, we'll end up unhealthy and unhappy. An investment of research is an investment of the future. There is no better investment the government can make on behalf of the Australians than the investment in research.

Question 2: Increase the budget for NHMRC will be a good start.

Question 3: It is very difficult to prioritize research because breakthrough can come from anywhere. I do not believe in strategic directions. Reward the people who do their jobs well so that they can make new discoveries. Good things will follow.

Question 4: I can't answer this question.