

13 March 2019

Dr Stephen P King
Presiding Commissioner
Productivity Commission
GPO Box 1428
Canberra City ACT 2601

Economic impact of mental health research

Dear Dr King,

The Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes (AAMRI) recently commissioned KPMG to undertake an analysis of the economic impact of medical research in Australia. The findings of this report are relevant to the current Productivity Commission inquiry into Mental Health. As the recently released inquiry Issues Paper outlines mental health issues impact on both our quality of life as well as the performance the economy.

In addition to looking at the broader economic impact of Australian medical research, the KPMG report specifically examines the economic benefits of investment in Australian mental health research. The results show that for every dollar invested a return of \$2.70 is delivered to the broader economy. Investment in medical research is one of the best ways to improve both mental health outcomes as well as economic productivity, and as such the importance of mental health research should figure strongly in this inquiry.

For your reference I have enclosed a copy of the KPMG report for your reference. If you would like to discuss the report methodology and its findings then please do contact AAMRI's Director of Policy and Operations, Dr Peter Thomas

Yours sincerely,

Professor Vlado Perkovic
AAMRI President
T 03 9345 2500
president@aamri.org.au