

Cancer control funding

# 2009-10 budget summary

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- \$2b – the largest ever cancer budget package
- Majority (\$1.3b) in capital grants
  - \$560m for regional cancer centres
  - \$426.1m for Parkville centre in Melbourne
  - \$100m for ‘Lifehouse’ centre at RPA
  - \$120m for digital mammography upgrade
- \$600m for cancer drugs [Avastin, Sutent, Herceptin (outside PBS)]
- Cancer Australia > 15 million CanNETs
- Digital Mammography \$120 million
- AIHW Cancer Australia \$4.2 m data sets

# Cancer Council comment

- Regional cancer centre grants must target highest need; must be matched with recurrent funding from applicants (but at least not totally state's responsibility)
- \$872m for preventative health partnerships protected from cuts – but major allocations must wait until 2011 (also await task force)
- Remaining Australian Better Health Initiative funds cut
- Government has only one budget left in this term to translate rhetoric on health reform into action

# Important omissions

- No new funds for bowel cancer screening (rescreening is now urgent)
- No increase in tobacco excise (most effective tobacco control measure)
- No new funds for national UV campaign (such should be rolling campaigns)