



PRIME MINISTER

**MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER**

**HEALTHY MOTHERS, HEALTHY BABIES LAUNCH**

I am pleased to provide this message for the launch of the Burnet Institute's *Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies* research programme.

Australia and Papua New Guinea share a strong friendship. It is fitting that this programme is dedicated to improving the health of women and children living in PNG.

The Australian Government recognises the important role the Burnet Institute plays in helping to reduce maternal and child mortality and illness in PNG. That is why we are supporting the Burnet Institute's *Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies* Pilot Project in East New Britain.

This is also an opportunity to recognise the Burnet Institute for its work in health and medical research. The Institute's research is helping to make a real difference to the lives of people in Australia and our region.

The Government is doing its part to help Australian medical researchers. We are establishing a \$20 billion Medical Research Future Fund – one of the world's biggest medical research endowment funds.

This fund will support more research into cures and treatments, attract and retain first class medical researchers, and deliver more clinical trials and breakthrough drugs for patients.

I congratulate the Burnet Institute on launching the *Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies* research programme. I wish you every success.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tony Abbott'.

The Hon Tony Abbott MP  
Prime Minister of Australia

22 September 2014