



## **Herbalists Welcome New National Research Body**

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Today the Federal Government announced the establishment of a **National Institute of Complementary Medicine**, signalling a new era for the profession.

“This is a great day for the future of complementary medicine in Australia” says Ses Salmond, Vice-President of the National Herbalists Association of Australia.

The new Institute, based at the Macarthur Campus of the University of Western Sydney, will allow for greater collaboration between researchers and research centres, and help coordinate the complementary medicine research efforts throughout the country.

The practices and medicines of herbalists have withstood the test of time, and now also the test of modern science. “This new Institute can only help to increase both the quality and quantity of complementary medicine research in Australia” says Ms Salmond, herself a researcher investigating the effectiveness of complementary medicines in Hepatitis C.

The best clinical outcomes from research always come from collaboration with clinicians who are at the coalface of healthcare. The way for researchers to identify reputable complementary medicine practitioners is through the statutory registration of western herbalists and naturopaths, a move strongly supported by the NHAA, the pre-eminent national body of professional herbalists and naturopaths.

“The NHAA warmly welcomes Tony Abbott and Pat Farmer’s announcement, and looks forward to collaborating with this new Institute”.

**Ses Salmond is available for comment on 0414 453 243 or [sessalmond@optusnet.com.au](mailto:sessalmond@optusnet.com.au)**

***The National Herbalists Association of Australia (NHAA) is Australia’s oldest complementary medicine association. It is dedicated to supporting the high quality education, practice and research of herbal medicine.***