

## HOW A LITTLE SACRIFICE GOES A LONG WAY

A cooperative arrangement involving salary sacrificing by Queensland Visiting Medical Officers (VMOs) and Queensland Health has seen five key health projects recently receive funding totalling \$630,325.

Funds were made available from interest raised through a salary sacrificing arrangement involving 500 VMOs.

2012 recipients of the VMO Salary Sacrificing grant scheme were:

- 1 QIMR**—developing a novel diagnostic tool supporting mental health, described by the institute's Professor Frank Gannon as "a predictable disaster coming at us"
- 2 The University of Queensland Healthy Communities project**—undertaking a 21st century version of 'the Boston Study', looking at the influence of environment and surrounds impacting health, with a focus on Ipswich
- 3 Princess Alexandra Hospital**—funding an associate professorship for five years to pursue melanoma research
- 4 The University of Queensland School of Pharmacy**—funding a domestic PhD student to pursue development of a diagnostic tool to improve detection of macular degeneration
- 5 AMAQ Foundation**—enabling continued medical student scholarships at James Cook University, support of medical services in remote and overseas locations and of people with special health needs.

In presenting the grants, Queensland VMO Committee chair Dr Ross Cartmill said: "The life of a VMO is such that many of us find it difficult to get involved in direct research. We're profoundly proud of our way of addressing this through our salary sacrificing grants scheme."



## SEX TALK

Family Planning Queensland will run a full-day workshop on sexual and reproductive health in Brisbane on 15 September, specifically designed to increase clinicians' confidence in communicating with, and assessing, young people.

Connections is an accredited Active Learning Module with RACGP (40 Group 1 CPD points).

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FROM LEFT: Dr Greg Siller (PA Hospital), Katharine Philp (AMAQ Foundation), Dr Tony O'Connell (QHealth), Beryce Nelson (UQ), Dr Ross Cartmill (VMO), Assoc Professor Harendra Praekh (UQ) and Prof Frank Gannon (QIMR).