



## **Premier lemma announces NSW and China partnership on developing traditional Chinese medicine**

State Plan Priority P1: Increased Business Investment

November 19, 2007

Premier Morris Iemma today announced a new partnership between NSW and China to research and develop traditional Chinese medicines for the multi-billion dollar complementary medicine market.

Mr Iemma announced the formation of an Australia-China Centre for Research in Chinese Medicines (ACCRCM), a joint collaboration between the University of Sydney and Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou, China.

He also announced the establishment of a Joint Chair in Traditional Chinese Medicine at the University of Sydney and the University of Western Sydney.

"The Australia-China Centre for Research in Chinese Medicines (ACCRCM) will be a world class partnership between Australia and China to study and develop traditional Chinese medicine for modern health markets," Mr Iemma said.

"Research shows that between 50 and 75 per cent of the Australian adult population use complementary medicine products and services each year.

"Each year some \$2 to \$3 billion is spent on complementary medicine products and practitioners in Australia while the value of the global herbal medicines' market alone is estimated to be 20 times that amount.

"There is huge potential for traditional Chinese medicine to figure prominently in mainstream health regimes worldwide given the right research and development focus and proper scientific validations.

"NSW is well placed to work with China in this area as we have world-renowned capabilities in health, medical research and clinical trials that comply with rigorous United States and European regulatory standards."

Mr Iemma said the ACCRCM would see Chinese medicines researched to the highest academic standards with a focus on treating major diseases in China and Australia, including cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and infectious diseases.

"It will involve a professional partnership between the University of Sydney's Herbal Medicines Research and Education Centre and Sun Yat-sen University's Institute of Integrated Traditional Chinese and Western Medicine," Mr Iemma said.

"The new centre will draw on each institute's expertise as well as the leading experts from their faculties of medicine.

“In June, a National Institute of Complementary Medicine was established at the University of Western Sydney, with Commonwealth and NSW Government support, to pursue this growing industry.

“The Joint Chair announced today will help drive the institute’s activities, liaise with international experts in the field to ensure world’s best practice, and help build complementary medicine links with the mainstream health, medical research and clinical trials sectors.

“Our efforts to develop the complementary medicine market will be further assisted by our recent establishment of a NSW Clinical Trials Business Development Centre in Sydney, positioning NSW as an Asia Pacific leader in medicine development.”

Mr lemma said NSW is home to most of the Chinese medicine research centres operating in Australia and is home to almost half the Australia population with Chinese heritage.

He said there is great potential and demand for the integration of Western and Eastern medicine.

“There is a need to build the scientific evidence base of traditional Chinese medicines which our efforts will squarely address,” Mr lemma said.