GlaxoSmithKline Australia
Award for research excellence

GlaxoSmithKline is committed to fostering scientific skills and nurturing Australian ideas in the quest for new and improved medicines that will not only benefit people, but will also provide recognition of this country’s contribution to healthcare. The company’s aspirations are that this will enable us to develop Australian ideas from “Molecule to Market”.

The Glaxo Wellcome Australia Medal and Award was inaugurated in 1980 to mark the centenary of the Wellcome Foundation. It was presented to a scientist who was not a member of a commercial organisation, for distinguished discovery and its demonstrated or potential use in the field of human health, provided the work is carried out mainly in Australia.

Between 1980 and 2000 recipients of the Glaxo Wellcome Australia Medal and Award were presented with a traditional coin-style medal in a timber case along with a plaque and research grant. Each side of the Medal featured a relief of the companies’ founders, Joseph Nathan founder of Glaxo and Henry S Wellcome, co-founder of Burroughs Wellcome.

To mark the formation of GlaxoSmithKline Australia (through the merger of Glaxo Wellcome and SmithKline Beecham) a new GlaxoSmithKline Australia Award for research excellence was commissioned. This coveted Award recognises the outstanding achievement of the recipient, along with its accompanying grant of $50,000 which it is expected will be used in the furtherance of the scientist’s work and knowledge.