



# **Jillian Skinner MP**

## **Minister for Health**

## **Minister for Medical Research**

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Monday, 3 September 2012

### **NSW GOVERNMENT CELEBRATES MULTICULTURAL HEALTH WEEK**

A spotlight is being shone on the health of children from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds across NSW during Multicultural Health Week, the Minister for Health, Jillian Skinner and the Minister for Citizenship and Communities, Victor Dominello announced today.

“Parents and their children will have access to nutrition, physical activity and hand hygiene advice and information over the next week as these important areas of health are the focus of Multicultural Health Week,” Mrs Skinner said.

“Multicultural Health Week kicks off today and is a great opportunity for CALD families to discuss health with their children.

“It is a chance for children with parents who speak a language other than English to access a variety of multilingual resources that address their health needs.

Minister Skinner said this year’s theme – Healthy Kids - reinforces the importance of a good start for children from multicultural backgrounds.

“Childhood obesity is of particular focus this year and messages around hand washing, diet and exercise are being emphasised throughout the resources on offer.”

Minister Dominello said health resources in a number of languages are available for children on the Healthy Kids website.

“The campaigns “Munch and Move” and “Healthy Kids” have translated materials that can be downloaded and hard copies can be ordered for free in Arabic, Chinese, Dinka, Filipino, Greek, Hindi, Italian, Korean, Macedonian, Somali, Spanish and Vietnamese.

“This year, two new languages have been added - Nepalese and Tamil - as a result of the growing health communication needs of these communities in NSW.

“A wide variety of events across the state have been organised to celebrate the health of younger children at libraries, community language schools and cultural and community groups.”

For more information on Multicultural Health Week visit [www.multiculturalhealthweek.com](http://www.multiculturalhealthweek.com) and [www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au](http://www.healthykids.nsw.gov.au)

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