

# NSW Health and Medical Research



Health

In 2012 the NSW Health and Medical Research Strategic Review made recommendations on improving the way the NSW Government manages research resources, including: supporting greater collaboration between research organisations; having a priority-driven approach to research and innovation; and focusing on translation of research evidence into better patient care and health outcomes.

The NSW Government Response to the NSW Health and Medical Research Strategic Review made a number of commitments such as:

- changes to the Medical Research Support Program
- establishment of a Medical Devices Seeding Fund
- establishment of a Research Capacity Building program to support the research workforce
- support for Health and Medical Research Hubs.

The Office for Health and Medical Research was established to implement these commitments and other recommendations from the Review as part of a 10 year Strategic Plan. To support implementation the NSW Government made an initial budget enhancement of \$70m over four years in 2011 and a further \$159m over four years in 2015, which included \$70m in capital works over two years.

The Office for Health and Medical Research has been implementing the Strategic Plan by:

- working with other Ministry branches, pillar organisations and local health districts to deliver key programs
- facilitating engagement of health and medical research stakeholders
- providing a supportive policy framework
- administering funding programs that support research infrastructure and innovation
- improving health and medical research administration and supporting clinical trials.

## NSW Health and Medical Research Strategic Plan (2012-2022)

### VISION

NSW will have a global reputation as a centre for excellence for health and medical research that supports a high quality health system and generates social and economic benefits to the people of NSW

### OBJECTIVES

Foster translation and innovation from research

Build globally relevant research capacity

### THEMES

- Encourage research and innovation in health services
- Maximise the use of policy and practice and health service delivery
- Enhance health and medical research collaboration

- Provide leadership in clinical trials
- Focus on intellectual property
- Support early-stage venture capital
- Strengthen the research workforce

- Improve research infrastructure support
- Build research assets and maximise their use
- Leverage all investment sources
- Improve NSW Health research administration

- Strategic investment approach
- Robust implementation approach



Incentivise  
Collaboration



Strengthen Workforce  
Capabilities

APPROACH  
TO  
DELIVERY



Invest  
in the System



Enablers

## APPROACH TO DELIVERY IN DETAIL

The NSW Government delivers a wide range of programs and activities that incentivise research collaboration,

### INCENTIVISE COLLABORATION



**Creating an environment that facilitates collaboration in research and rewards collaborative behaviour, to:**

- create efficiencies and maximise the use of resources and expertise
- enable co-production of quality research and related outputs
- promote research activity and innovation within the health system
- support the translation of health and medical research findings into health policy and practice.

### STRENGTHEN WORKFORCE CAPABILITIES



**Strengthening current workforce capabilities and developing the workforce of the future, to:**

- harness innovation and facilitate the commercialisation of medical devices
- ensure the health and medical research workforce of the future has the necessary skills to deliver high quality research that is relevant to the health system
- support the translation of health and medical research findings into health policy and practice
- build a dynamic and supportive research culture in local health districts and enhance clinical trial capabilities
- attract new researchers to NSW as well as support and retain the existing workforce.

### INVEST IN THE SYSTEM



**Enhancing statewide research infrastructure, assets, systems and processes, to:**

- create efficiencies and maximise the use of resources and expertise
- build research capacity in local health districts and in the sector more broadly, and establish NSW as a preferred choice for conducting clinical trials
- support excellence in health and medical research and the delivery of quality outputs.

### ENABLERS



**Adopting a strategic and robust approach to investment and implementation, to:**

- ensure that there is transparency in funding and decision making processes
- leverage opportunities arising from the national and international health and medical research policy agenda
- build on and promote NSW's research strengths.

strengthen the capabilities of the research workforce, and invest in the health and medical research system.

### Main activities and programs

- NSW Health and Medical Research Hub Strategy working with Advanced Health Research Translation Centres
- Activities to help embed quality research into the health system
- Translational Research Grant Scheme
- Sydney Genomics Collaborative & Pathogen Genomics Collaborative
- Partnerships in proteomics
- Clinical Research Networks
- Facilitating merger and joint venture discussions
- Knowledge brokerage & stakeholder meetings: Industry, LHDs, MRIs, Universities, peak bodies, Commonwealth Department of Health, NHMRC and jurisdictions
- Supporting the NSW-US Cancer Moonshot proteogenomics initiative

### Main activities and programs

- Support for early and mid-career researchers (EMC Fellowships and PhD Scholarships)
- Commercialisations Programs (Medical Devices Fund and Medical Devices Commercialisation Training Program)
- Activities to build capabilities and leadership in clinical trial delivery
- Cannabis Clinical Trials (Office of the Chief Health Officer)
- Support for clinician researchers to improve translational research methodology

### Main activities and programs

- Medical Research Support Program
- Prevention Research Support Scheme (Centre for Epidemiology & Evidence)
- Activities to support research governance offices (including the Research Ethics and Governance Information System)
- Enhance biobanking capability and launch statewide Biobank
- Strengthen data linkage capacity and access to health / biomedical informatics (Centre for Epidemiology & Evidence)
- Development of a framework to support early phase clinical trials
- Capital investments in research infrastructure
- Translational Research Support Program
- Medical Devices Fund

### Main activities and programs

- Establishment of the Office for Health and Medical Research
- Research Activity Survey
- Participation in Commonwealth and inter-jurisdictional activities & consultations





## Timeline of Key Achievements & Initiatives

<b>2017</b>	★ Construction completed for the statewide Biobank
	★ Genomics grant announced to study bipolar disorder
	★ Medical Device Commercialisation Training Program Ignition IP launched
	Translational Research Grants Scheme second round successful applicants announced
	Early-Mid Career Fellowships first round successful applicants announced
	Medical Device Fund fifth round successful applicants announced
	Medical Device Commercialisation Training Program third cohort graduate
	Medical Device Commercialisation Training Program Ignition Health round one launched
	PhD Scholarships Program first round successful applicants announced
<b>2016</b>	★ Expanded Medical Device Commercialisation Training Program announced
	★ Early to Mid-Career Fellowships launched
	★ PhD scholarship program launched
	★ Cancer Moonshot collaboration with the United States
	★ Clinical trial & patient recruitment metrics included in local health district Service Level Agreements
	★ Early Phase Clinical Trials Initiative commenced
	★ Garvan - Weizmann cellular genomics research partnership established
	2016-2020 expanded program announced
	2016-2020 announced with \$44.5 million per annum
	Genomics Collaborative Grants round two successful applicants announced
	Medical Device Fund fourth round successful applicants announced
	Translational Research Grants Scheme first round successful applicants announced
	Medical Research Support Program 2012-2016 program evaluation
<b>2015</b>	★ Budget enhancement of \$159 million over four years announced including \$70 million for research capital over two years
	★ NSW Health statewide Biobank announced
	★ Statewide Biobanking Consent policy initiated
	★ Translational Research Grants Scheme established
	★ Cannabis Clinical Trials Centre established
	★ Procurement of Research Ethics Governance Information System commenced
	★ Embedding Quality Research in local health districts initiative commenced (Hub Council project)
	National Mutual Acceptance of scientific and ethical review of multicentre human research agreed, reducing red tape
	Medical Device Fund third round successful applicants announced
	Bioinformatics Training Program (Genomics) third cohort
	First recipients of Rosenman Scholarship travel to San Francisco
	Medical Device Commercialisation Training Program second cohort graduate
	Genomics Collaborative Grants round one successful applicants announced
	Medical Research Support Program policy review and reform
<b>2014</b>	★ The Sydney Genomics Collaborative established
	★ Medical Devices Commercialisation Training Program established
	★ Rosenman Scholarship program established
	★ Pathogen Genomics Collaborative established
	★ Research Ethics & Governance Reform initiative commenced
	★ Clinical Trials Jurisdictional Working Group established (national initiative)
	★ Statewide Biobanking Framework initiated in partnership with NSW Health Pathology
	Bioinformatics Training Program (Genomics) second cohort
	Statewide service delivery model for statewide biobanks initiated
	Medical Device Fund second round successful applicants announced
	Medical Devices Commercialisation Training Program first cohort graduate
	<b>2013</b>
★ Bioinformatics Training Program (Genomics) established first cohort	
★ Phase one clinical trials centre commissioned (Scientia)	
Bioinformatics Collaborative Grants announced	
Medical Device Fund first round successful applicants announced	
<b>2012</b>	Medical Research Support Program – Brokered MRI mergers and joint venture initiatives
	★ Medical Device Fund established