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 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

APPROACH TO DELIVERY
Incentivise Collaboration
Strengthen Workforce Capabilities
Invest in the System
Enablers
**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.

**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.

**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.
### 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

#### 2017
- 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

#### 2016
- 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
- 2016-2020 announcement 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

#### 2015
- 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

#### 2014
- 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

#### 2013
- NSW Health and Medical Research Hub Strategy and funding commenced
- 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
- Medical Research Support Program – Brokered MRI mergers and joint venture initiatives

#### 2012
- Medical Device Fund established