Health, hope and human dignity: Catholic Health Research making a difference

Professor Christine Bennett AO
Dean, School of Medicine, Sydney
The University of Notre Dame Australia

Catholic Health Australia
Research Symposium
Darlinghurst, Sydney
30 June 2017
Imagine

Australia leading the world in medical breakthroughs with the Medical Research Future Fund

#ActionMRFF
The Imagine a Healthier Future campaign is supported by:

RESEARCH AUSTRALIA
CONNECTING • ENGAGING • INFLUENCING

GROUP OF EIGHT

AAMRI
Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes

AusBiotech
AUSTRALIA’S BIOTECHNOLOGY ORGANISATION

ASMR
Australian Society for Medical Research

MEDICAL RESEARCH FUTURE FUND
## The Medical Research Future Fund … first investments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$m.</th>
<th>Details of funding announced to date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>$8 million is to be allocated across the NHMRC Advanced Health Research Translation Centres and $2 million to support new and existing Advanced Health Research and Translation Centres (AHRTCs) and the soon-to-be-announced Centres for Innovation in Regional Health (CIRHs) to work together on national system-level initiatives. <em>(Includes $225,000 announced for the Dimantina partners AHRTC and $2 million for Monash Partners)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>$10 million in funding will be provided to The Australian Prevention Partnership Centre (TAPCC) to generate effective low-cost solutions to address chronic disease and childhood obesity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>$5 million for new targeted clinical trial activity for adolescents and young adults with cancer, to be administered by CanTeen.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.0</td>
<td>$13 million over four years to increase clinical trials and registries’ capacity. This includes funding for networks of investigators and service providers that work together, to identify and evaluate new approaches that will optimise healthcare effectiveness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>$5 million over four years to the Australian Clinical Trials Alliance (ACTA) as the national alliance partner to build the capacity of clinical trials networks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>$8 million to boost the scale of three existing NHMRC Fellowship schemes - Career Development Fellowships, (early to mid-career researchers in clinical, population health, biomedical and bioinformatics fields); Translating Research into Practice Fellowships (health professionals translating evidence into healthcare and public health improvements) and Practitioner Fellowships (implementing evidence-based practice among clinical, public health and health service professionals). Fellowship awards will be announced from early 2017-18.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>$2 million to the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), a new international initiative to address critical research and development gaps for pandemic preparedness and global health security.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>$5.9 million for antimicrobial resistance to address knowledge gaps in relation to the development and spread of resistance; and the development of new products, including diagnostic technologies and therapies, policies and approaches to prevent, detect and respond to resistance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>$5 million of the Biotech Horizons Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>$2 million for Cure4MND for clinical trials for adults with MND (provided as matching funding to public donations to the Big Freeze 3 fundraising event at the MCG on 12 June 2017).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ADVANCED HEALTH RESEARCH TRANSLATION CENTRES (AHRTC) AND CENTRES FOR INNOVATION IN REGIONAL HEALTH (CIRH)

In March 2015 NHMRC recognised the first four AHRTCs:


A call was made in 2016 for applications to be recognised as an AHRTC or as a CIHR. Dimantina Health Partners was announced on 9 June as a new AHRTC. [http://www.brisbanediamantina.com/brisbane-diamantina-health-partners-recognised-world-leaders-research-education-clinical-care/](http://www.brisbanediamantina.com/brisbane-diamantina-health-partners-recognised-world-leaders-research-education-clinical-care/)

Announcements for further AHRTCs and CIHRs are pending.

MRFF information is regularly updated on the Research Australia website - [researchaustralia.org/medical-research-future-fund/](http://researchaustralia.org/medical-research-future-fund/)
Discovery, invention, collaboration and translation for better health care and a healthier future
Hope.....

...is the oxygen of the human spirit.

Professor Margaret Somerville AM
Human Dignity

Respect for human life, dignity and social justice
Prosperity

Better value care and a stronger, smarter economy
Notre Dame Medicine, Sydney

Research Strategy Framework

Social Justice
Prevention and Primary Care
Rural and Community
Medical Education
Health Systems
Bioethics
Health Inequities
Targeted Innovation
Translation and Implementation
Partnerships and Collaboration
Evidence into Action

13
Opportunities and ideas for Catholic Health Research

• Unique national network of health care, university and research institutes

• Shared mission and distinctiveness building on Catholic faith and values and Catholic intellectual tradition

• Strengths – data, reach, collaboration and translation

• Areas of focus aligned to mission:
  • Bioethics
  • Palliative care
  • Social justice
  • Healthy start to life
  • Spiritual dimension of health and healing
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT MEMBERSHIP, PLEASE SEE VISIT THE RESEARCH AUSTRALIA WEBSITE HTTP://RESEARCHAUSTRALIA.ORG/