



Australian Government  
Department of Health

# COMMONWEALTH UPDATE ON HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH

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**CHA Research Symposium 2018**

1 June 2018

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Office of Health and Medical Research



## Australian Health System – 4 x PILLARS

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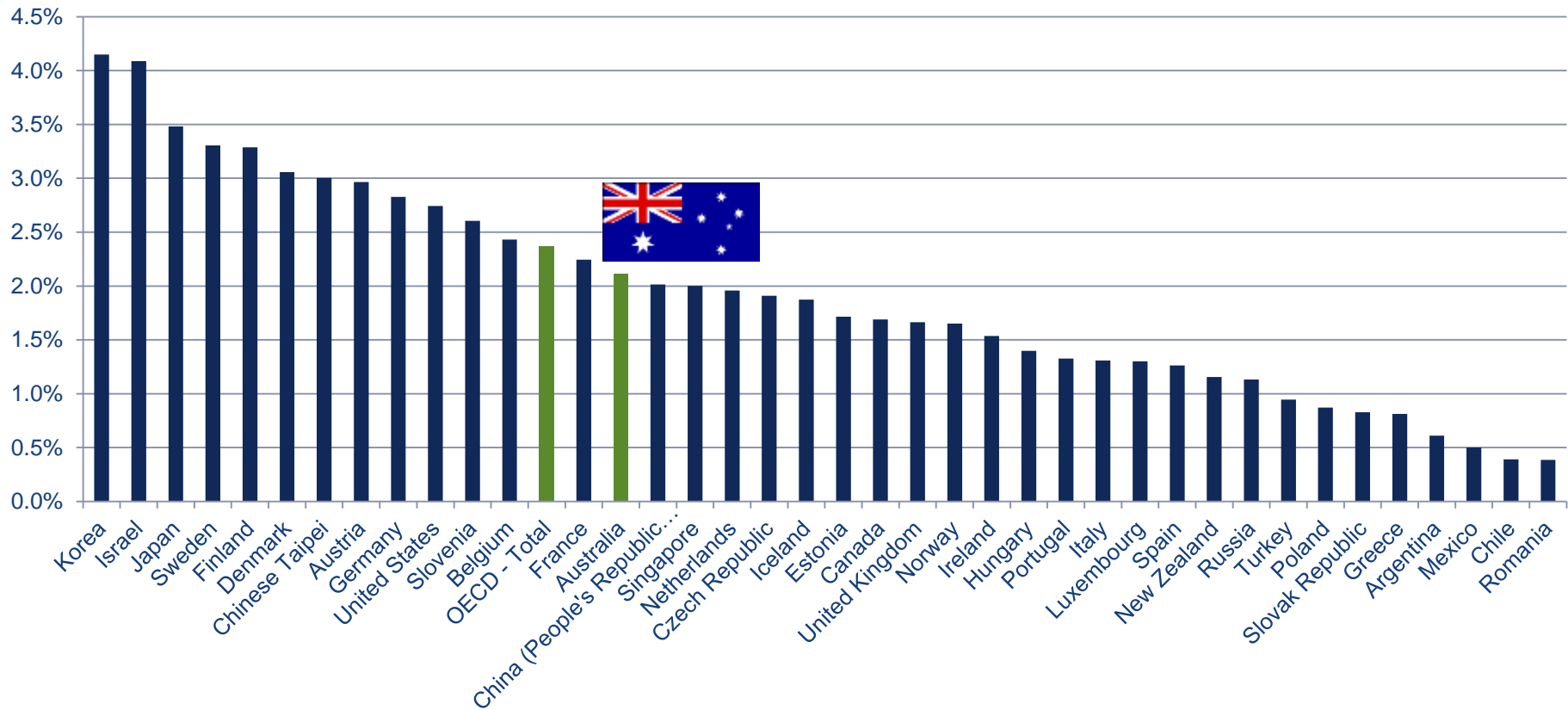
1. Guaranteeing Medicare and access to medicines
2. Supporting our hospitals
3. Prioritising mental health, preventive health and sport, and
4. **Investing in health and medical research**

>\$6 billion over the next five years on research



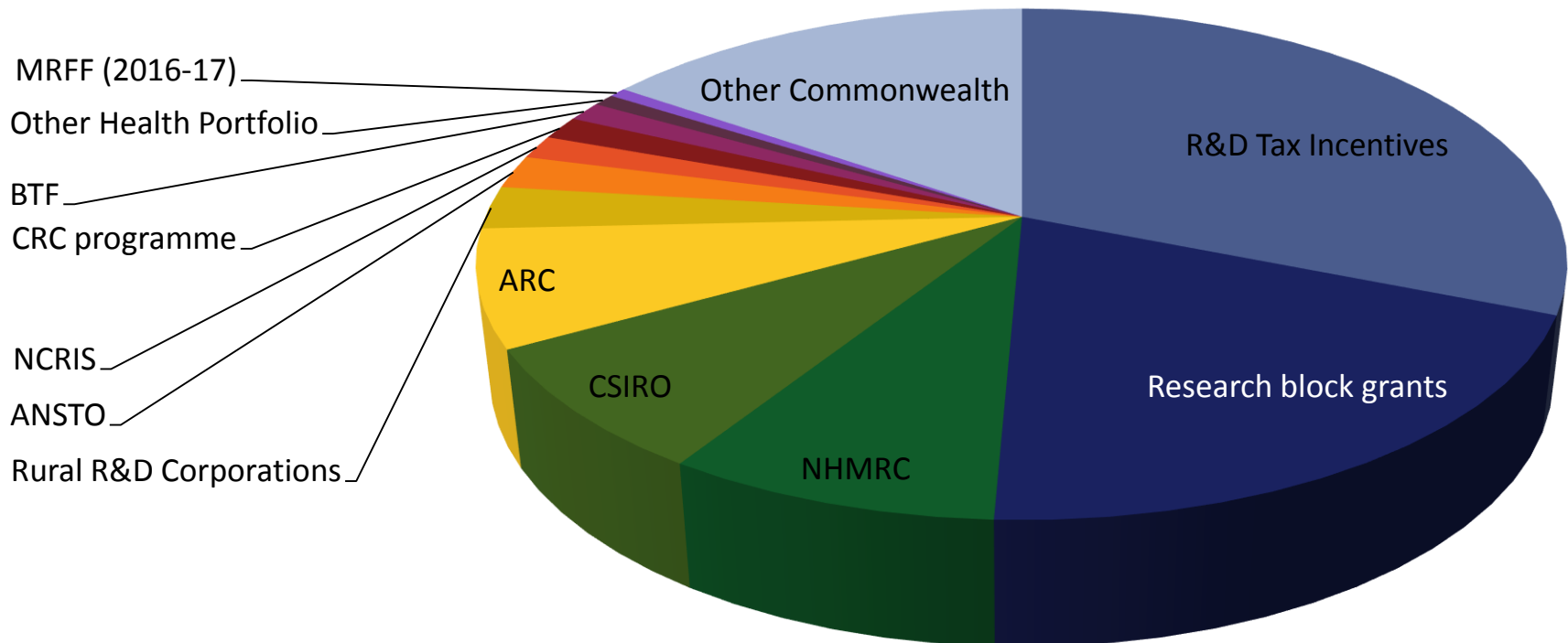
# How does Australia compare?

## R&D as a percentage of GDP





# Commonwealth investment





## MEDICAL RESEARCH FUTURE FUND

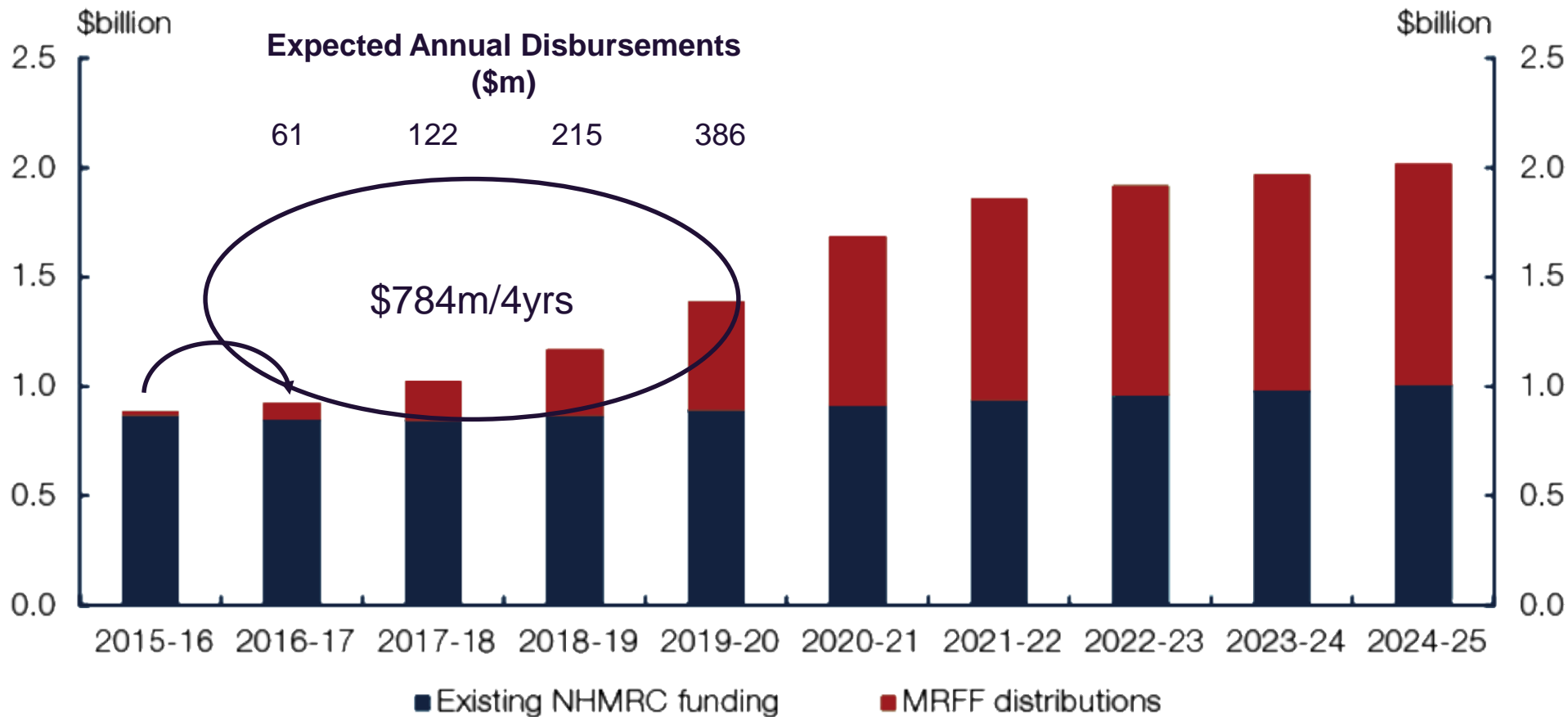
- dedicated vehicle for priority-driven investment
- endowment fund (\$20b), with capital preserved in perpetuity

2016-17 (\$M)	2017-18 (\$M)	2018-19 (\$M)	2019-20 (\$M)	2020-21 (\$M)
60.9	121.6	214.9	386.4	642.9

- additional and complementary to NHMRC
- Australian Medical Research Advisory Board
- inaugural MRFF **STRATEGY** and **PRIORITIES**
- [www.health.gov.au/MRFF](http://www.health.gov.au/MRFF)



# Disbursement projections



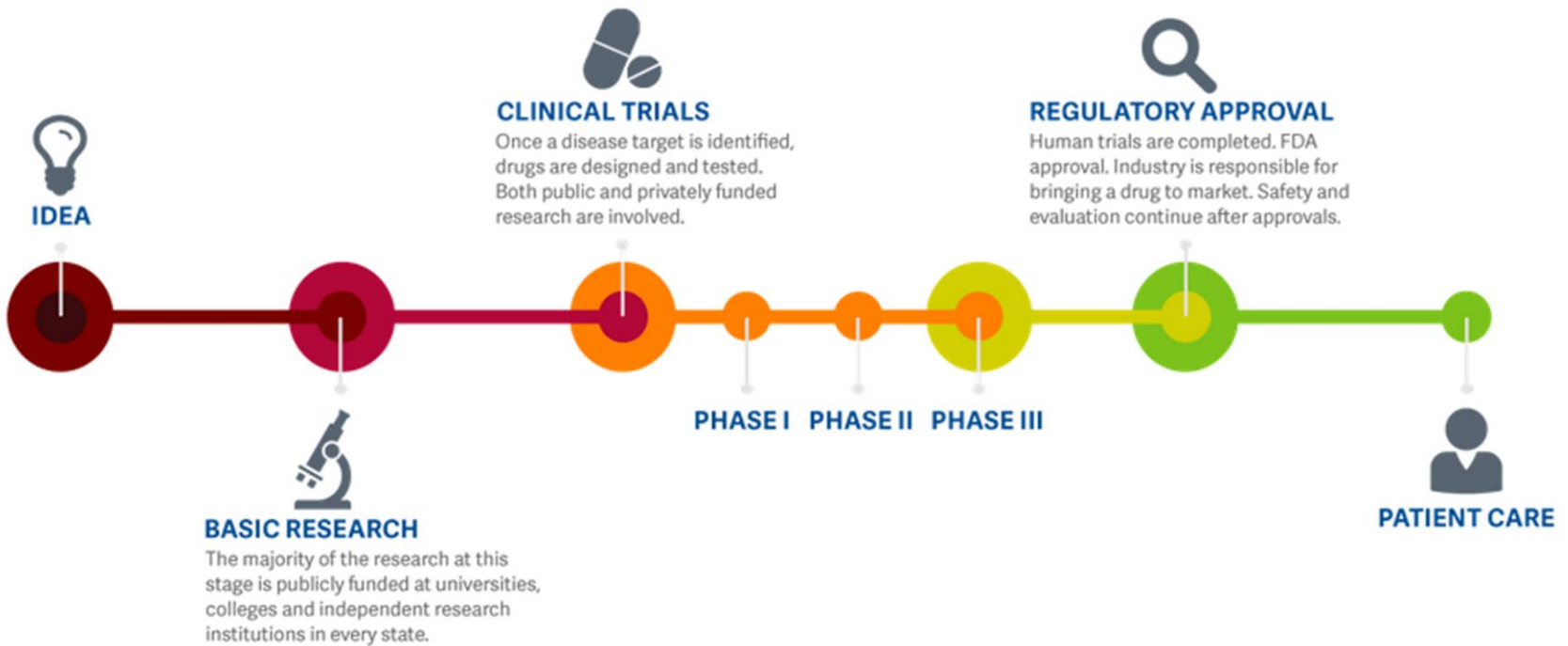
Source: Budget Paper 2, 2014-15



1. DISCOVERY

2. DEVELOPMENT

3. DELIVERY





## Biomedical Translation Fund

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- National Innovation and Science Agenda
- investment in biomedical start-ups that are commercialising discoveries for market success
- for-profit venture fund (>\$500M)
  - combined Commonwealth and private capital
- licensed private sector fund managers
  - OneVentures
  - Brandon Capital Partners
  - BioScience Managers







# Medical Research Advisory Board

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“ensure the MRFF is enduring and transformative”

## Funding Principles (announced 6 December 2017)

- Contestable processes, peer review, diverse perspectives
- Collaboration across sectors and with end-users
- Focus on burden and unmet need – evidence gaps
- Game-changers balanced with sector improvements

## 2019-2021 Priorities (consultation from mid -2018)

- Broad engagement - consumers, researchers, clinicians, health system managers



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## 2017-18 Announcements...

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- **Australian Brain Cancer Mission** - \$100m/10 years
  - research roadmap - double survival rates and improve quality of life
  - MRFF contribution of \$50m, to be matched by co-funding partners
- **Clinical Trials** - \$69m to award in 2017-18 and 2018-19
  - rare cancers, rare diseases and unmet need – 19 trials = \$26m
  - \$10m – targeted call for low survival cancers and diseases
  - further \$33m for open call in 2018-19
- **BioMedTech Horizons**
  - Horizons 1.0 – \$5m (precision medicine and 3D printing) – MTPConnect
  - Horizons 2.0 (medtech focus) – further \$30m/4 years from 2017-18
- **Next Generation Clinical Researchers** (+\$70m/5 years)
  - available via existing NHMRC fellowship schemes x 3
  - from 2018-19, transition to new Investigator Grants – integrated, flexible
- **Research Translation Centres** (\$55m/3 years)
  - AHRTCs and CIRHs - primed and ready vehicles to tackle health system challenges



## National Health and Medical Industry Growth Plan

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- \$1.3 billion total package – Budget 2018/19
- Genomics Health Futures Mission (Genomics Mission)
  - \$500M over 10 years
  - clinical flagship studies - rare diseases, rare cancers and complex conditions
  - privacy, legal, social and familial impacts
  - analytical power backed by national standards
  - secure data holdings - access, analysis and sharing
- First project is a \$20 million trial in pre-conception screening



## Genomics Mission – foundational elements

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- National Health Genomics Policy Framework 2017
- ACOLA: The Future of Precision Medicine in Australia 2018
- Large NHMRC grants - International Cancer Genome Consortium (ICGC) and Australian Genomics Health Alliance (AGHA)
- State and territory investments, e.g. Queensland Genomics Health Alliance
- International efforts, e.g. Global Alliance for genomics and Health (GA4GH), Global Genomic Medicine Collaborative (G2MC)



# National Health Genomics Policy Framework

- COAG Health Council
- aligned policy settings across Australia
- agreed strategic priorities:
  - precision medicine
  - skilled workforce
  - safety and quality
  - financing/cost effectiveness
  - power of data
- national standards: data, research, ethics, legal and delivery
- efficient, effective, ethical and equitable – system integration



# Genomics Mission – next steps



Steering Committee – Chaired by Professor Ian Fraser

Public Consultation – Operational Plan and options for IT solution

Considerations:

- Move from disease specific data holdings to federated or national approaches
- Build on strengths by identifying opportunities to scale-up
- Obvious areas are cancer and rare diseases, but what will genomics mean for chronic disease?
- Ethical, legal and social issues are critical, e.g. facilitate data sharing while protecting security and privacy



# MRFF Strategy and Priorities

- Health system fully informed by quality health and medical research

## Strategy 2016-2021

- Strategic and international horizons
- Data and infrastructure
- Health services and systems
- Capacity and collaboration
- Trials and translation
- Commercialisation

## Priorities 2016-2018





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**Thank you**