



Australian Government

Department of Health and Aged Care



Medical Research Future Fund

3rd 10-year Investment Plan

2024-25 to 2033-34

OVERVIEW

The Australian Government has committed \$6.5 billion for health and medical research through the 3rd 10-year Investment Plan for the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF). The 3rd 10-year Investment Plan provides funding for 22 initiatives between 2024-25 and 2033-34, to continue to support lifesaving research, create jobs, strengthen the local industry base for commercialising research and innovation, and further grow Australia's reputation as a world leader in medical research.

Commitments made through prior 10-year Investment Plans will remain available for expenditure as part of the 3rd 10-year Investment Plan.

The 3rd 10-year Investment Plan provides funding for the MRFF to respond to new and growing health needs and priorities, while continuing to fund activities that will stimulate health and medical research across the entire research, translation and commercialisation pipeline.





CONTEXT

The 3rd 10-year Investment Plan gives researchers, industry and consumers certainty and direction so that they can address areas of unmet need, excel in collaborative and transformative research, and harness resources across the research system.

The MRFF activities are based on national priorities identified by the independent, expert Australian Medical Research Advisory Board (AMRAB) following a national consultation process. Activities put consumers at the core and focus on translating research into practice so that all Australians can benefit.


FUNDING THEMES AND INITIATIVES


MRFF funding is directed into 4 themes:


 Patients	This theme aims to bring benefits to patients, including supporting life-changing clinical trials, funding innovative treatments and advanced health care and medical technologies
 Research Missions	MRFF Research Missions (Missions) are large programs of work that bring together key researchers, health professionals, stakeholders, industry partners and patients to tackle big health challenges
 Researchers	This theme aims to support Australian researchers, including to help build their skills and capacity, support their research in priority areas and assist them to develop and bring new research discoveries to the market
 Research Translation	This theme aims to translate research outcomes into practice by building the evidence base to support the adoption of best practice care into health care delivery


There are 22 initiatives under these themes, funded over 10 years to harness innovation, provide vital infrastructure, improve patient outcomes, and generate jobs and economic growth.

Today's research is tomorrow's health care. There is no better way to ensure Australians receive the highest quality health care than by investing in Australian medical research.

		2024– 2025 \$m	2025– 2026 \$m	2026– 2027 \$m	2027– 2028 \$m	2028– 2029 \$m	2029– 2030 \$m	2030– 2031 \$m	2031– 2032 \$m	2032– 2033 \$m	2033– 2034 \$m	Total over 10 years
Patients 	Patients theme total	142.5	158.5	153.45	148.45	138.0	138.0	138.0	138.0	138.0	138.0	\$1,433.6 million
	Clinical Trials Activity	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	\$750.0 million
	Emerging Priorities and Consumer Driven Research	67.2	80.5	75.45	75.45	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	60.0	\$653.6 million
	Global Health	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	\$30.0 million

<div>Research Missions</div> <div></div>	Missions theme total	148.0	138.0	138.0	153.0	153.0	153.0	153.0	153.0	153.0	153.0	\$1,495.0 million
	Australian Brain Cancer Mission	5.0	5.0	5.0	Extension subject to evaluation							\$15.0 million
	Cardiovascular Health Mission	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	Extension subject to evaluation					\$100.0 million
	Dementia, Ageing and Aged Care Mission	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	17.5	Extension subject to evaluation					\$87.5 million
	Genomics Health Futures Mission	50.0	50.0	50.0	41.2	Extension subject to evaluation						\$191.2 million
	Indigenous Health Research Fund	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	12.5	Extension subject to evaluation					\$62.5 million
	Low Survival Cancers Mission	-	-	-	14.4	11.9	11.9	11.9	11.9	17.6	17.6	\$97.2 million
	Million Minds Mental Health Research Mission	20.0	10.0	10.0	5.0	Extension subject to evaluation						\$45.0 million
	Reducing Health Inequities Mission	-	-	-	14.4	11.9	11.9	11.9	11.9	17.6	17.6	\$97.2 million
	Stem Cell Therapies Mission	18.0	18.0	18.0	18.0	Extension subject to evaluation						\$72.0 million
	Traumatic Brain Injury Mission	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	Extension subject to evaluation					\$25.0 million

		2024– 2025 \$m	2025– 2026 \$m	2026– 2027 \$m	2027– 2028 \$m	2028– 2029 \$m	2029– 2030 \$m	2030– 2031 \$m	2031– 2032 \$m	2032– 2033 \$m	2033– 2034 \$m	Total over 10 years
Researchers	Researchers theme total	125.2	130.0	134.8	134.8	134.8	134.8	134.8	134.8	134.8	134.8	\$1,333.6 million
	Clinician Researchers	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	\$200.0 million
	Early to Mid-Career Researchers	35.2	40.0	44.8	44.8	44.8	44.8	44.8	44.8	44.8	44.8	\$433.6 million
	Frontier Health and Medical Research	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	70.0	\$700.0 million

Research Translation	Translation theme total	231.6	223.5	223.75	213.75	188.75	188.75	188.75	188.75	188.75	188.75	\$2,025.1 million
	Medical Research Commercialisation	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	\$450.0 million
	National Critical Research Infrastructure	75.0	75.0	75.0	75.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	\$600.0 million
	Preventive and Public Health Research	68.6	60.5	60.75	50.75	50.75	50.75	50.75	50.75	50.75	50.75	\$545.1 million
	Primary Health Care Research	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	\$100.0 million
	Rapid Applied Research Translation	23.0	23.0	23.0	23.0	23.0	23.0	23.0	23.0	23.0	23.0	\$230.0 million
	Research Data Infrastructure	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	\$100.0 million

Total	All	650.0	650.0	650.0	650.0	614.55	614.55	614.55	614.55	614.55	614.55	\$6,500.0 million total funding over 10 years
Balance over the forward estimates		-	-	-	-	35.45	35.45 ¹	35.45 ¹	35.45 ¹	35.45 ¹	35.45 ¹	
		650.0	650.0	650.0	650.0	650.0	650.0²	650.0²	650.0²	650.0²	650.0²	

¹ Indicative figures based on \$650 million being available in years after 2028-29 (i.e. beyond the Forward Estimates period of the 2024-25 Budget).

² \$650 million is carried forward as an indicative amount expected to be available for disbursement beyond 2028-29. An actual amount will be confirmed through the annual Budget process.

ALIGNMENT WITH THE MRFF STRATEGY AND PRIORITIES

The MRFF is established under the *Medical Research Future Fund Act 2015* (MRFF Act) as a \$22 billion vehicle¹ for investment in medical research and medical innovation. The MRFF Act provides the legal framework for the distribution of MRFF funds.

The independent AMRAB develops the Australian Medical Research and Innovation Strategy (Strategy) and the Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities (Priorities) following a comprehensive national consultation process. The Strategy and Priorities inform where the Government directs MRFF investments in research.

The 10-year Investment Plan is the mechanism used by the Government to implement the Strategy and Priorities. The MRFF initiatives under the 10-year Investment Plan will contribute to outcomes that deliver on the vision, aim and strategic objectives of the MRFF articulated in the Strategy.

The 3rd 10-year Investment Plan sets out the levels of financial support from the MRFF for 22 initiatives to be funded from 2024-25 to 2033-34. Many of these initiatives will continue to build on investments made through prior 10-year Investment Plans. The 3rd 10-year Investment Plan also includes 2 new Research Missions (a Low Survival Cancers Mission and a Reducing Health Inequities Mission) and amends the policy parameters of 3 existing initiatives (Global Health, Rapid Applied Research Translation and Preventive and Public Health Research) to address clear gaps in the research landscape.

The table below provides a high-level overview of how the MRFF initiatives under the 3rd 10-year Investment Plan align with the 2022-24 Priorities. This list is not exhaustive, as investments through the MRFF initiatives may align with other Priorities.

The 3rd 10-year Investment Plan will continue to evolve to address emerging health challenges and maintain alignment with the Strategy and Priorities.

¹ As at 31 December 2023: see www.futurefund.gov.au/investment/investment-performance/portfolio-updates

**Australian Medical Research and
Innovation Priorities 2022-24****22 MRFF Initiatives**

Consumer-Driven Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emerging Priorities and Consumer Driven Research• Clinician Researchers• Frontier Health and Medical Research• Reducing Health Inequities Mission• Preventive and Public Health Research
Research Infrastructure and Capability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Early to Mid-Career Researchers• Frontier Health and Medical Research• Genomics Health Futures Mission• Stem Cell Therapies Mission• Medical Research Commercialisation• National Critical Research Infrastructure• Research Data Infrastructure
Translation and Commercialisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Early to Mid-Career Researchers• Clinician Researchers• Frontier Health and Medical Research• Cardiovascular Health Mission• Genomics Health Futures Mission• Million Minds Mental Health Research Mission• Stem Cell Therapies Mission• Medical Research Commercialisation• Rapid Applied Research Translation
Comparative Effectiveness Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clinical Trials Activity• Preventive and Public Health Research
Preventive and Public Health Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cardiovascular Health Mission• Million Minds Mental Health Research Mission• Reducing Health Inequities Mission• Preventive and Public Health Research
Primary Care Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Primary Health Care Research
Health and Medical Researcher Capacity and Capability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clinical Trials Activity• Early to Mid-Career Researchers• Clinician Researchers• Frontier Health and Medical Research
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Indigenous Health Research Fund

Priority Populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emerging Priorities and Consumer Driven Research • Clinical Trials Activity • Australian Brain Cancer Mission • Dementia, Ageing and Aged Care Mission • Indigenous Health Research Fund • Low Survival Cancers Mission • Million Minds Mental Health Research Mission • Reducing Health Inequities Mission • Traumatic Brain Injury Mission
Antimicrobial Resistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Health
Global Health and Health Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Health
Health Impacts from Environmental Factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Health
Data, Digital Health and Artificial Intelligence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Critical Research Infrastructure • Research Data Infrastructure

FUNDING OVERVIEW

The 3rd 10-year Investment Plan includes targeted investments in new and growing community and consumer needs through the establishment of 2 new Research Missions and amends of the policy parameters of 3 existing initiatives.

The 3rd 10-year Investment Plan demonstrates the Government's ongoing commitment to growing health and medical research and innovation in Australia and responding to the emerging priorities of consumers and the health and medical research sector. A long-term funding framework approach allows researchers to plan projects, make breakthrough discoveries, increase health efficiencies, and generate beneficial changes to health policy and practice.

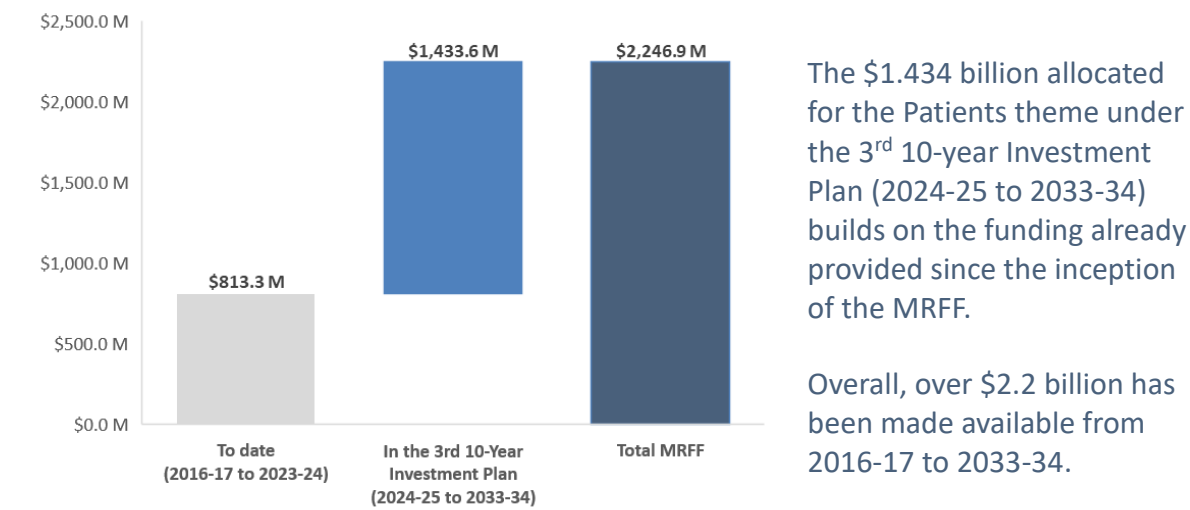
The 3rd 10-year Investment Plan carries forward all of the funding allocated from 2024-25 to 2031-32 in the 2nd 10-year Investment Plan, and commits to an additional \$1.3 billion for new initiatives, or to extend existing initiatives, from 2032-33 to 2033-34.

All of the initiatives funded under this 3rd 10-year Investment Plan will be subject to evaluation to determine the effectiveness of the Government's ongoing investments, consistent with the MRFF Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Strategy.

Information is provided throughout this document on the funding allocation for each theme and initiative. [Appendix A](#) provides information on the data provided in this document.

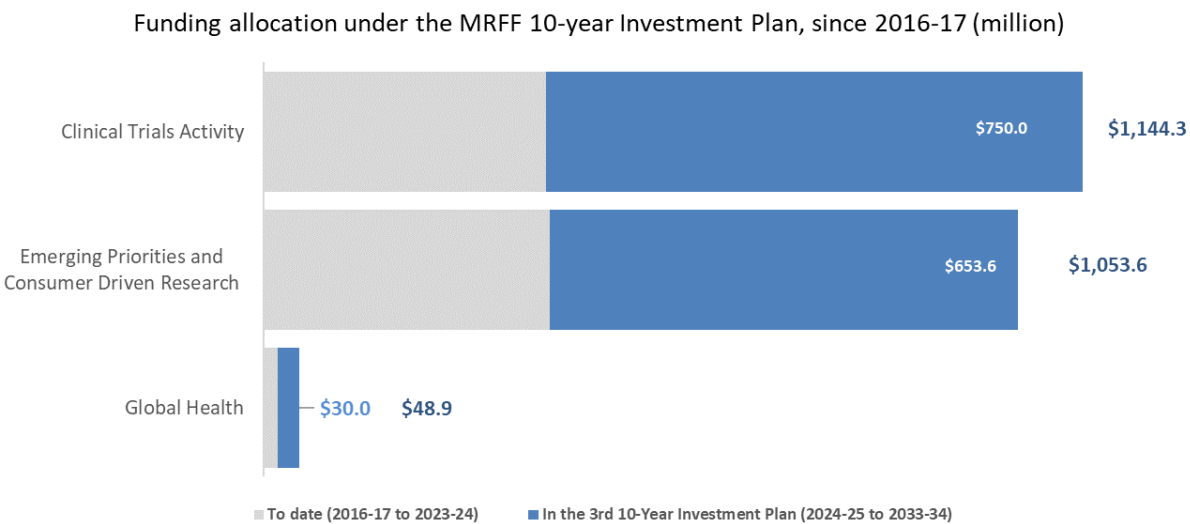
MRFF FUNDING THEME - PATIENTS

This theme aims to bring benefits to patients, including supporting life-changing clinical trials, funding innovative treatments and advanced health care and medical technologies.



There are 3 initiatives under this theme:

- Clinical Trials Activity
- Emerging Priorities and Consumer Driven Research
- Global Health



MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Clinical Trials Activity

Objectives

The objectives of this initiative are to increase clinical trial activity in Australia in order to improve the evidence base supporting clinical care and to help patients access trials relevant to their health circumstances, and enable researchers to bring international trials to Australian patients.

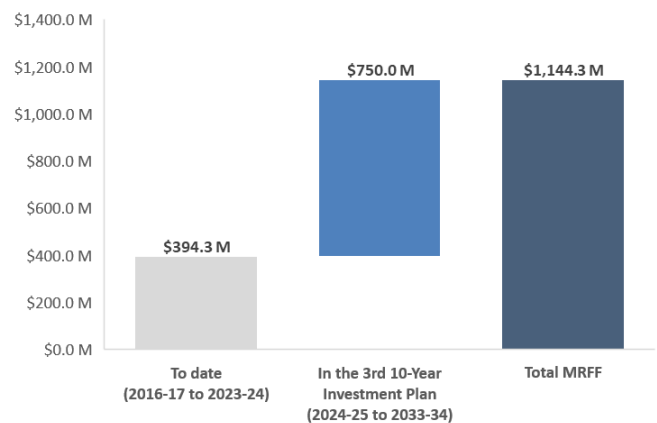
Funding supports clinical trials that test the effectiveness of therapies and treatments and create the evidence needed to improve clinical practice.

The funding for this initiative will support research on rare cancers, rare diseases and unmet need; bringing investigator-led international clinical trials to Australia; and effective health interventions (i.e. research projects focused on implementation science and comparative effectiveness research).

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Priority Populations
- Comparative Effectiveness Research
- Health and Medical Researcher Capacity and Capability.

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

25 grant opportunities were completed

204 grants valued at

\$398.5 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Emerging Priorities and Consumer Driven Research

Objectives

The objectives of this initiative are to support research that improves patient care and translation of new discoveries, and encourage collaboration between consumers and researchers.

Funding supports the development of new diagnoses, treatments and cures, and the translation of new discoveries into clinical practice.

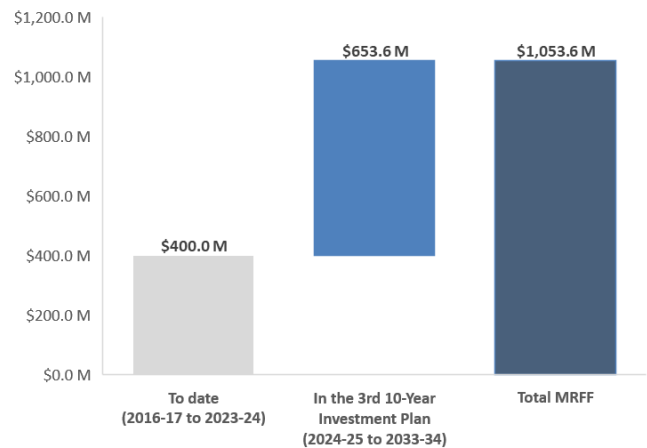
The funding for this initiative will continue to support research that addresses emerging priority health needs and areas of unmet need.

Early priorities through the 3rd 10-year Investment Plan include research on women’s health (e.g. menopause, pregnancy loss, infertility), novel treatments for chronic pain, and alcohol and other drugs. These areas for investment are in response to emerging priorities including the National Women’s Health Strategy.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Consumer-Driven Research
- Priority Populations

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

59 grant opportunities were completed

155 grants valued at

\$468.4 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Global Health

Objectives

The objective of this initiative is to develop knowledge and tools for addressing threats to Australia’s national health security from regional and global challenges.

Funding supports Australian researchers to collaborate to address shared challenges.

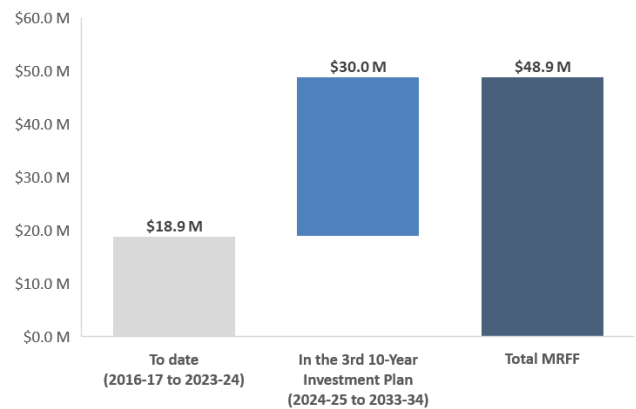
The 1st and 2nd 10-year Investment Plans supported national capabilities through the generation of new evidence and knowledge in the areas of antimicrobial resistance and drug-resistant tuberculosis.

Through the 3rd 10-year Investment Plan this initiative will expand to include a focus on the health impacts of changes in climate. This will create scope for this initiative to address this emerging health priority and support the National Health and Climate Strategy.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Global Health and Health Security
- Antimicrobial Resistance
- Health Impacts from Environmental Factors

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

3 grant opportunities were completed

9 grants valued at

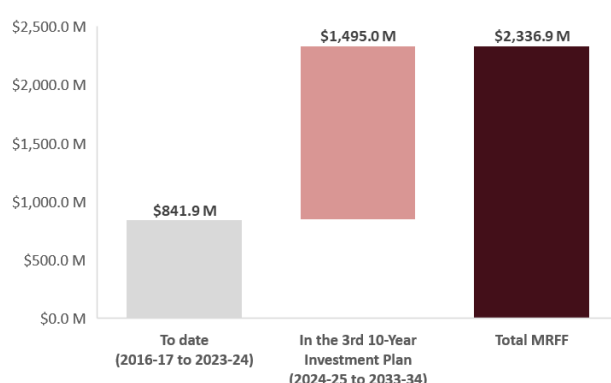
\$16.3 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING THEME – RESEARCH MISSIONS

MRFF Research Missions (Missions) are large programs of work that bring together key researchers, health professionals, stakeholders, industry partners and patients to tackle big health challenges.

Through Missions, this theme aims to:

- tackle significant health challenges
- enable the discovery of new medical interventions, diagnostic tools, treatments and devices.



The \$1.495 billion allocated for the Missions through the 3rd 10-year Investment Plan (2024-25 to 2033-34) builds on the funding already provided since the inception of the MRFF.

This includes \$792.6 million specifically allocated to new and existing Missions, and \$702.4 million to extend existing Missions that demonstrate outcomes. The distribution of this funding to specific Missions will be determined following their evaluation.

Overall, over \$2.3 billion has been made available for MRFF Missions from 2016-17 to 2033-34.

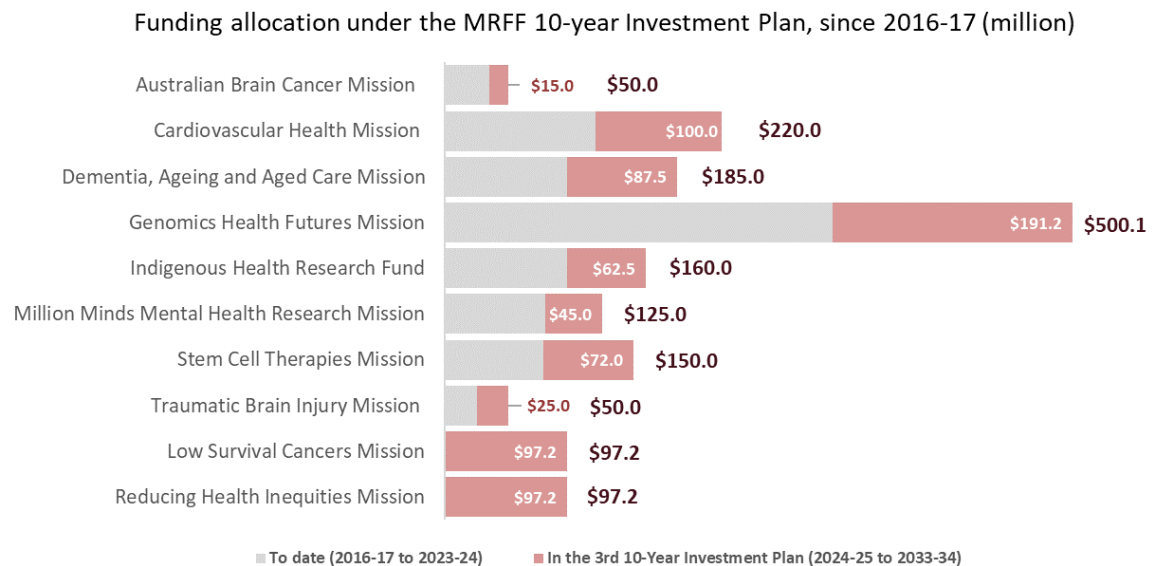
The MRFF Mission Governance document specifies that Roadmaps and Implementation Plans will guide the Minister for Health and Aged Care in making funding decisions for each Mission. These guiding documents are developed by Expert Advisory Panels established for each Mission and undergo international review and public consultation prior to finalisation.

Consistent with the MRFF Monitoring, Learning and Evaluation Strategy, each Mission will be reviewed to enable an assessment of progress against its aims and objectives.

There are 10 Research Missions under this theme:

- Australian Brain Cancer Mission
- Cardiovascular Health Mission
- Dementia, Ageing and Aged Care Mission
- Genomics Health Futures Mission
- Indigenous Health Research Fund

- Low Survival Cancers Mission
- Million Minds Mental Health Research Mission
- Reducing Health Inequities Mission
- Stem Cell Therapies Mission
- Traumatic Brain Injury Mission



MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Australian Brain Cancer Mission

Objectives

The objectives of this Mission are to:

- double the survival rate of Australians living with brain cancer over 10 years
- improve quality of life for people with brain cancer
- give every patient (adult and child) with brain cancer a chance to join a clinical trial
- boost Australian research and build research capacity.

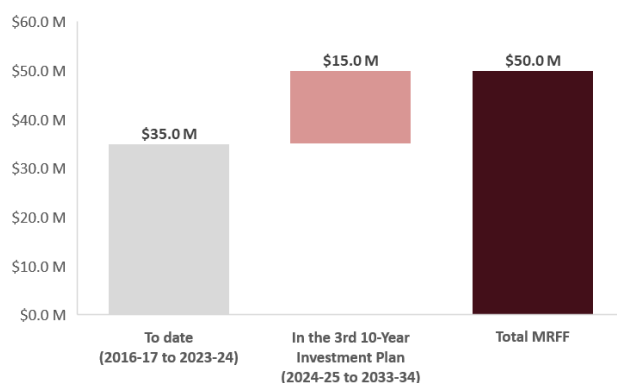
Funding for this Mission supports research into brain cancer treatment. In the long term, the Mission aims to defeat brain cancer.

An Expert Advisory Panel for the Mission was established in 2024 and will refresh the existing Roadmap and develop an Implementation Plan.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Priority Populations

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

8 grant opportunities were completed

12 grants valued at

\$33.2 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Cardiovascular Health Mission

Objectives

The objective of this Mission is to make transformative improvements in cardiovascular health and stroke management for all Australians.

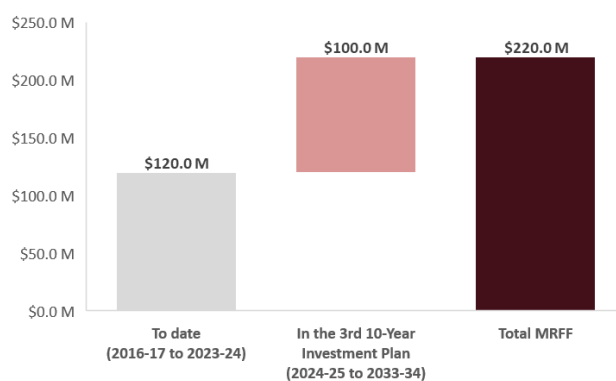
Funding for this Mission supports research to improve heart health and reduce stroke in Australia.

The Roadmap and Implementation Plan for this Mission were published in September 2021.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Preventive and Public Health Research
- Translation and Commercialisation

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

7 grant opportunities were completed

85 grants valued at

\$115.5 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Dementia, Ageing and Aged Care Mission

Objectives

The objective of this Mission is to improve quality of life for Australians as they age.

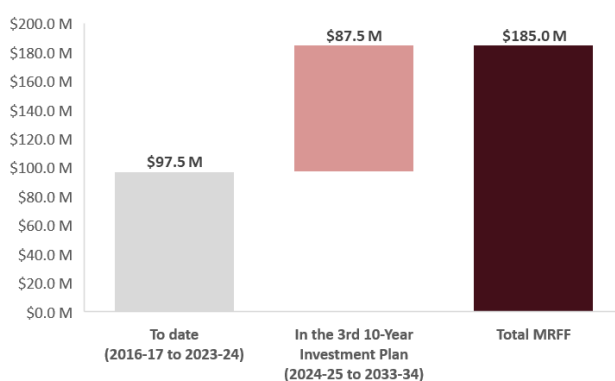
Funding for this Mission supports research that will help older Australians to maintain their health and quality of life as they age, live independently for longer, and access quality care when they need it.

The Roadmap and Implementation Plan for this Mission were published in September 2021.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Priority Populations

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

8 grant opportunities were completed

60 grants valued at

\$88.6 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Genomics Health Futures Mission

Objectives

The objective of the Genomics Health Futures Mission is to save or transform the lives of more than 200,000 Australians through genomics research to deliver better testing, diagnosis and treatment. It will:

- help Australia move towards routine use of genomics in healthcare
- support new clinical trials and technology applications allowing Australian patients to benefit from the latest medical research
- create a new highly skilled workforce and new career pathways
- support new industries
- talk with the Australian community to share the value of genomics
- listen and respond to the perspective of communities on issues like privacy, family impact, and the legal and social aspects of using genomics in health care
- support development of secure data storage, access, analysis and sharing to benefit Australians.

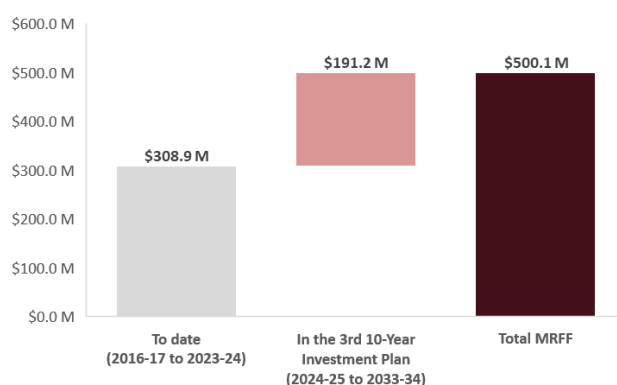
Funding for this Mission supports research to improve testing and diagnosis for many diseases, help personalise treatment options to better target and improve health outcomes, and reduce unnecessary interventions and health costs.

An Expert Advisory Panel for the Mission was established in 2024 and will refresh the existing Roadmap and Implementation Plan.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Research Infrastructure and Capability
- Translation and Commercialisation

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

8 grant opportunities were completed

88 grants valued at

\$273.2 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Indigenous Health Research Fund

Objectives

The objective of the Indigenous Health Research Fund is to improve the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through:

- Indigenous-led research practice and governance
- knowledge translation
- evidence-based structural change in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practice
- building on the unique knowledge, strengths and endurance of our communities, with particular reference to Country, culture and spirituality.

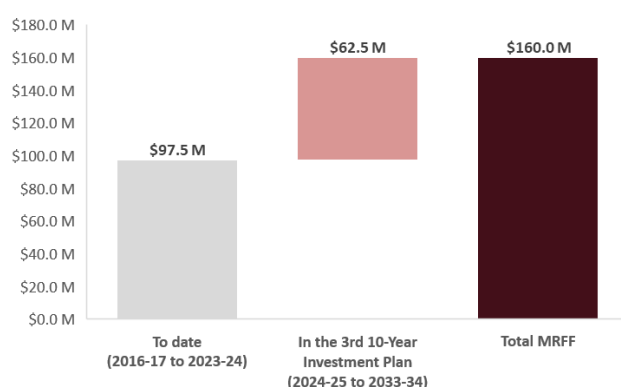
Funding for the Indigenous Health Research Fund supports Indigenous-led research to tackle health issues experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. It aims to improve health outcomes and close the gap on health mortality and morbidity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The Roadmap and Implementation Plan for the Indigenous Health Research Fund were published in December 2021.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health
- Priority Populations

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

5 grant opportunities were completed

53 grants valued at

\$98.5 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Low Survival Cancers Mission

Objectives

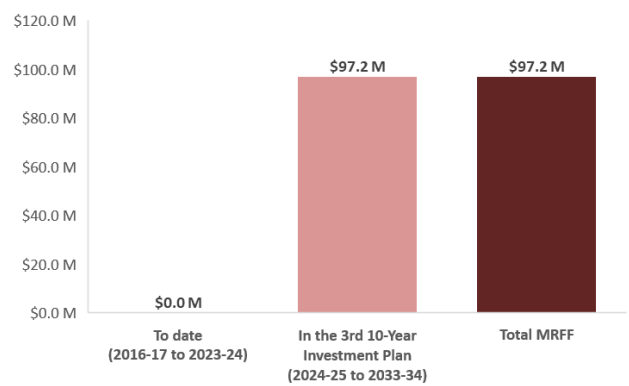
The objective of the new Low Survival Cancers Mission is to improve care and health outcomes for individuals with low survival cancer. This Mission would contribute to the Australian Cancer Plan.

An Expert Advisory Panel will be established to develop a Roadmap and Implementation Plan for this Mission.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Priority Populations

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

New Mission

\$97.2 million allocated

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Million Minds Mental Health Research Mission

Objectives

The objective of this Mission is to help an extra one million people be part of new approaches to mental health prevention, diagnosis, treatment and recovery.

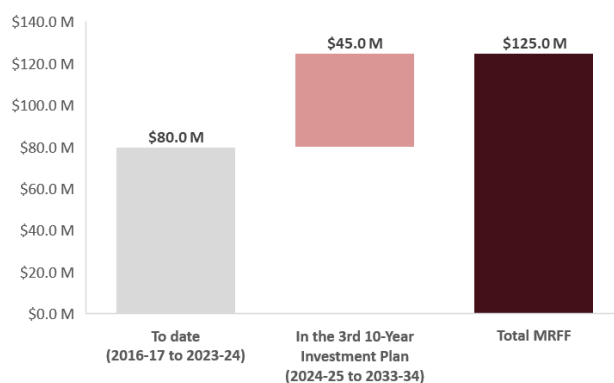
Funding for this Mission supports research to improve mental health by translating research outcomes into practice.

The refreshed Roadmap and first Implementation Plan for this Mission were published in April 2023.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Preventive and Public Health
- Translation and Commercialisation
- Priority Populations

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

5 grant opportunities were completed

28 grants valued at

\$72.8 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Reducing Health Inequities Mission

Objectives

The objective of the new Reducing Health Inequities Mission is to address inequities in health outcomes by improving access to quality health services by priority populations.

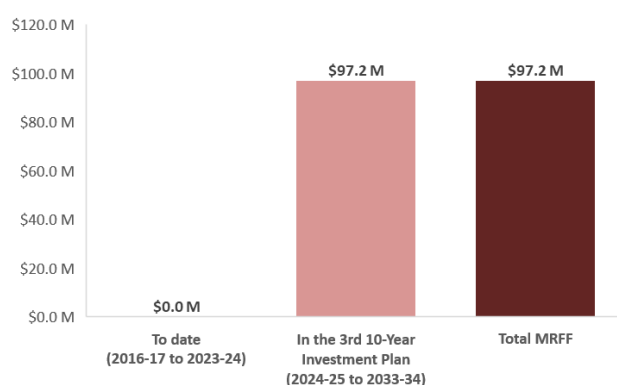
This Mission was designed in recognition of the fact that Australia has a diverse population and everyone should be able to attain their full potential for health and wellbeing.

An Expert Advisory Panel will be established to develop a Roadmap and Implementation Plan for this Mission.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Consumer-Driven Research
- Preventive and Public Health Research
- Priority Populations

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

New Mission

\$97.2 million allocated

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Stem Cell Therapies Mission

Objectives

The objective of this Mission is to support world-leading translational stem cell research that develops and delivers innovative, safe and effective stem cell medicines to improve health outcomes, in partnership with patients and carers.

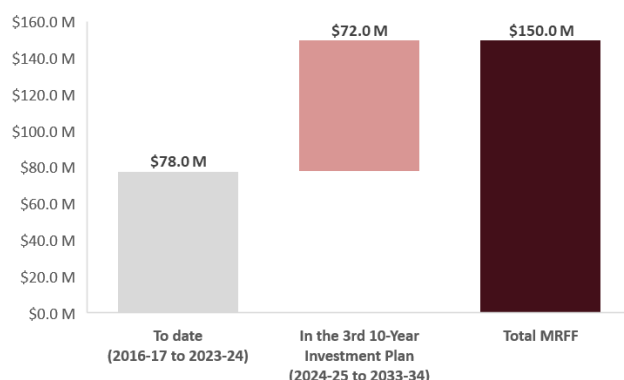
Funding for this Mission supports translational research to develop innovative, safe and effective stem cell therapies to improve health outcomes, in partnership with patients and carers.

The Roadmap and Implementation Plan for this Mission were published in October 2021.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Translation and Commercialisation
- Research Infrastructure and Capability

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

5 grant opportunities were completed

47 grants valued at

\$60.1 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Traumatic Brain Injury Mission

Objectives

The objectives of this Mission are to:

- better predict recovery outcomes after a traumatic brain injury
- identify the most effective care and treatments
- reduce barriers to support people to live their best life after a traumatic brain injury.

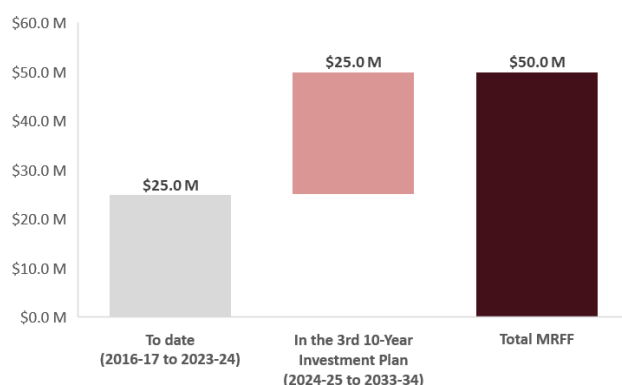
Funding for this Mission supports research to improve patient recovery after brain injury. This includes projects that predict recovery outcomes or identify the most effective care and treatments, to reduce barriers to living the best quality of life after suffering a traumatic brain injury.

An Expert Advisory Panel for the Mission was established in 2024 and will refresh the existing Roadmap and Implementation Plan.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Priority Populations

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

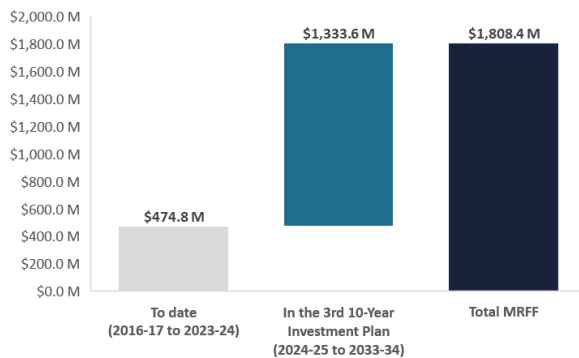
3 grant opportunities were completed

12 grants valued at

\$129 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING THEME - RESEARCHERS

This theme aims to support Australian researchers, including to help build their skills and capacity, support their research in priority areas and assist them to develop and bring new research discoveries to the market.



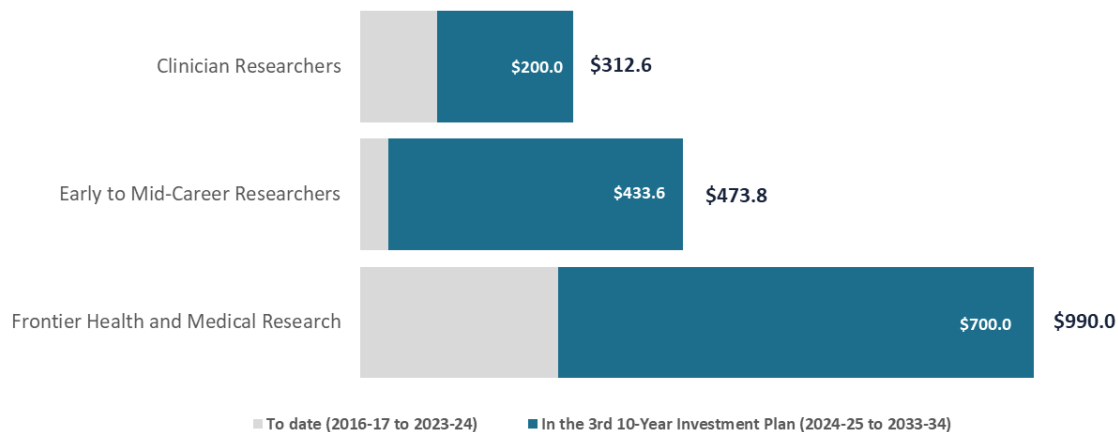
The \$1.334 billion allocated for the Researchers theme under the 3rd 10-year Investment Plan (2024-25 to 2033-34) builds on the funding already provided since the inception of the MRFF.

Overall, over \$1.8 billion has been made available from 2016-17 to 2033-34.

There are 3 initiatives under this theme:

- Clinician Researchers
- Early to Mid-Career Researchers
- Frontier Health and Medical Research

Funding allocation under the MRFF 10-year Investment Plan, since 2016-17 (million)



MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Clinician Researchers

Objectives

The objective of this initiative is to help the next generation of talented Australian health care professionals drive medical research, make new discoveries and ensure implementation of best practice care for their patients.

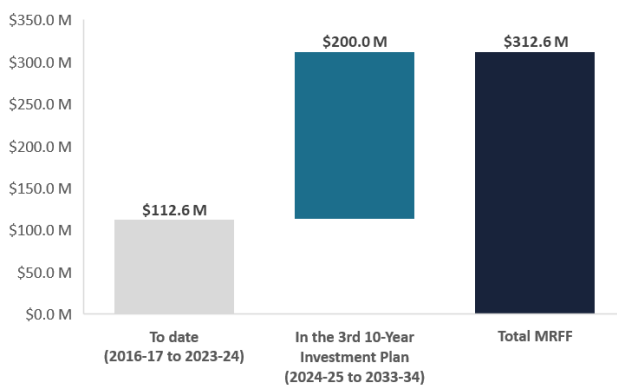
Funding for this initiative supports health care professionals to undertake research that will improve clinical care and practice, including through engagement with patients.

The funding is also intended to support health care professionals focus on developing and refining their research skills and to build research capacity.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Health and Medical Researcher Capacity and Capability
- Consumer-Driven Research
- Translation and Commercialisation

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

6 grant opportunities were completed

159 grants valued at

\$153.5 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Early to Mid-Career Researchers

Objectives

The objective of this initiative is to build and grow research capacity and capability in Australia by supporting Early to Mid-Career Researchers (EMCRs) to continue their health and medical research careers.

This initiative capitalises on the new ideas and emerging talent of EMCRs by providing the cohort with dedicated funding streams that enable them to address significant health challenges, undertake novel research, and develop new ideas and approaches.

The funding for this initiative will support emerging health and medical research leaders to make breakthrough discoveries, address intractable health issues, accelerate research translation, and develop their skills and progress their careers in Australia.

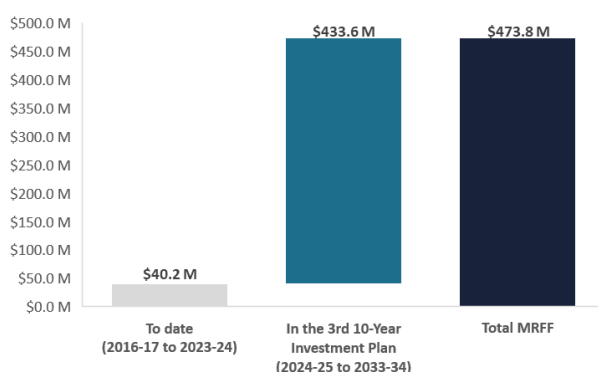
There are 3 streams within the EMCR initiative:

- **\$90 million** for **early career researchers** to develop and test the feasibility of novel solutions to challenging health issues, by utilising the **incubator model** that supports early stage small-scale research projects
- **\$258 million** for **mid-career researchers** to establish large interdisciplinary teams to devise and implement research that will improve health care and/or health system effectiveness, by utilising the **accelerator model** that funds large scale programs of work
- **\$100 million** for **accelerated research translation**, providing opportunities for EMCRs to lead co-funded (Government, university/medical research institute, private entity) projects that will accelerate the translation of research outcomes, by utilising the **targeted call for research model** that is conducive to furthering research-industry collaboration and translation into practice.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Health and Medical Researcher Capacity and Capability
- Translation and Commercialisation
- Research Infrastructure and Capability

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

2 grant opportunities were completed

48 grants valued at

\$85.1 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Frontier Health and Medical Research

Objectives

The objective of this initiative is to create opportunities to explore bold and innovative ideas, make discoveries of great potential, and to support the translation and commercialisation of these discoveries to achieve global health impact.

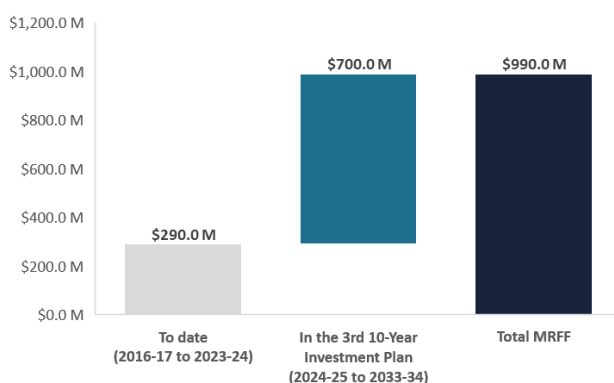
Funding for this initiative will support researchers to pursue big ideas to develop new products and interventions and implement these into clinical practice, benefiting patients, clinicians, and the health system.

The funding for this initiative will support researchers to accelerate the development of breakthrough technology-driven solutions to intractable health issues that are of importance to consumers, through long-term collaborative and interdisciplinary research programs.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Research Infrastructure and Capability
- Translation and Commercialisation
- Consumer-Driven Research
- Health and Medical Researcher Capacity and Capability

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

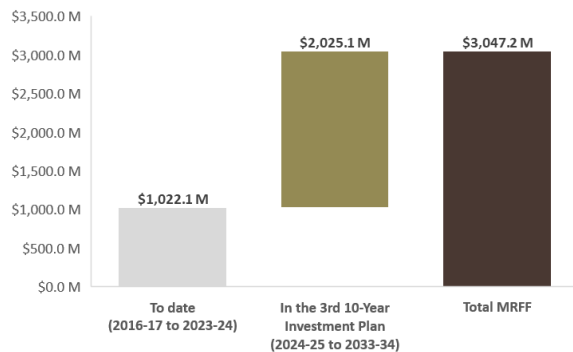
13 grant opportunities were completed

59 grants valued at

\$295.6 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING THEME - RESEARCH TRANSLATION

This theme aims to translate research outcomes into practice by building the evidence base to support the adoption of best practice care into health care delivery.



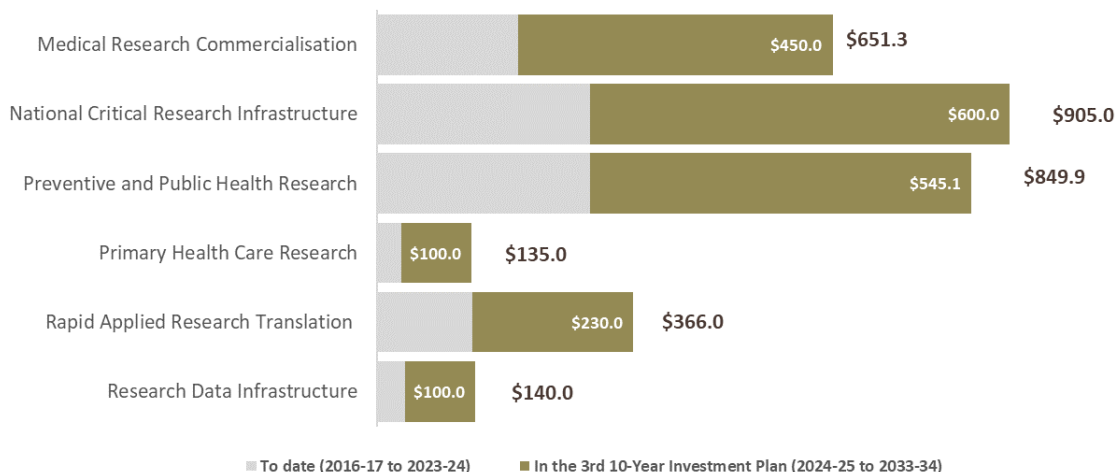
The \$2.025 billion allocated for the Research Translation theme under the 3rd 10-year Investment Plan (2024-25 to 2033-34) builds on the funding already provided since the inception of the MRFF.

Overall, over \$3.0 billion has been made available from 2016-17 to 2033-34.

There are 6 initiatives under this theme:

- Medical Research Commercialisation
- National Critical Research Infrastructure
- Preventive and Public Health Research
- Primary Health Care Research
- Rapid Applied Research Translation
- Research Data Infrastructure

Funding allocation under the MRFF 10-year Investment Plan, since 2016-17 (million)



MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Medical Research Commercialisation

Objectives

The objective of this initiative is to support early-stage health and medical research and innovation in Australia through to proof-of-concept and beyond, providing opportunities for commercialisation.

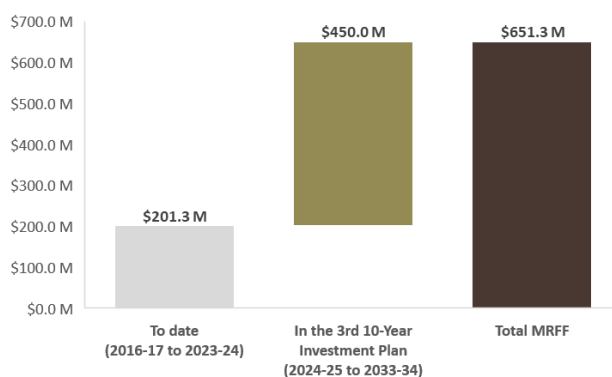
This initiative will build on previous support for projects with commercial potential (particularly from small and medium-sized enterprises), with a focus on supporting research discoveries, including for novel or repurposed drugs (preclinical and clinical), devices and digital health technologies, as they progress from proof-of-concept through to clinical implementation.

The funding for this initiative will use the 'incubator' style funding model to support and nurture early-stage medical research and medical innovation projects with commercial potential.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Translation and Commercialisation
- Research Infrastructure and Capability

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

6 grant opportunities were completed

9 grants valued at

\$246.3 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

National Critical Research Infrastructure

Objectives

The objective of this initiative is to establish and extend infrastructure (facilities, equipment, systems and services) of critical importance that will be used to conduct world-class health and medical research.

Funding supports researchers to develop and implement the infrastructure required to conduct the best research that will deliver outcomes and impact for Australians.

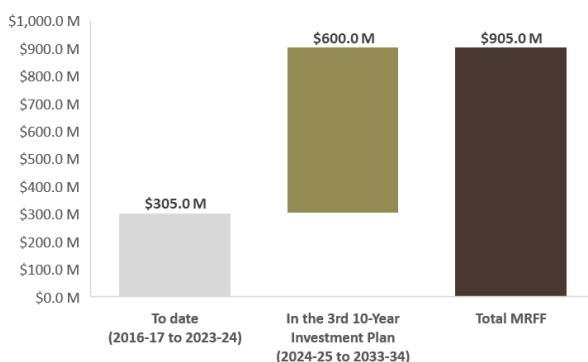
The funding for this initiative will support research through the following streams:

- **innovation enablers** – promoting the development and implementation of new research infrastructure by supporting development and/or expansion of research enablers such as biobanks, tissue repositories, novel research platforms, and secure health data environments to create valuable research resources
- **digitisation of health care** – developing and translating into practice digital therapeutics, artificial intelligence enabled health interventions and technologies (e.g. wearables), applications or other software for use in clinical practice
- **co-investment partnerships** – co-investment with the research sector, state and territory governments, and industry in significant critical research infrastructure (e.g. facilities and equipment) to support development of research capacity, capability and/or effectiveness in an area of need or to enable Australian research using new platforms
- **mRNA technology enablers** – leveraging and enhancing emerging mRNA technologies, platforms and infrastructure to accelerate development of mRNA based vaccines and therapeutics and building the capacity and capability of Australian researchers and developing and enhancing the enabling technologies supporting the mRNA sector.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Translation and Commercialisation
- Research Infrastructure and Capability
- Data, Digital Health and Artificial Intelligence

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

7 grant opportunities were completed

37 grants valued at

\$253.1 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Preventive and Public Health Research

Objectives

The objective of this initiative is to support research into new ways to address preventive and public health issues in Australia. This will include new ways to address risk factors and to detect, diagnose and treat chronic and complex diseases early.

Building on earlier investments in preventive and public health research, through the 3rd 10-year Investment Plan this initiative will be broadened to capture more comprehensive elements of preventive and public health, by supporting projects that:

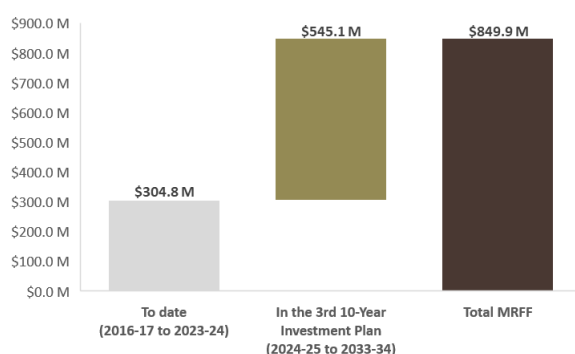
- identify and prioritise research that will most benefit patients and their families (Consumer Led Research, \$100 million over 10 years)
- assess the effectiveness of drugs and interventions, in order to improve the evidence base on the cost-effectiveness and comparative effectiveness of health care and strategies (Health Technology Assessment, \$100 million over 10 years)
- support the development and implementation of strategies and approaches for promoting the health of pregnant women, mothers, and young children, particularly in vulnerable populations; and strategies and approaches for early detection and early intervention in at-risk individuals (Maternal Health and Early Childhood, \$75 million over 10 years)
- support the development and implementation of strategies and approaches for promoting health and wellbeing and adopting healthy lifestyles, and for early diagnosis and treatment, at key life course stages: childhood, adolescence, mid-life, and amongst older people (Healthy Lifestyles, \$75 million over 10 years)

In addition, the initiative will support ongoing investments in Chronic Respiratory Conditions and the Targeted Translation Research Accelerator.

Alignment with Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24

- Preventive and Public Health Research
- Comparative Effectiveness Research
- Consumer-Driven Research

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

24 grant opportunities were completed

183 grants valued at

\$301.3 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Primary Health Care Research

Objectives

The objective of this initiative is to increase Australia's evidence base in primary health care through research to improve service delivery and patient outcomes, and translate this knowledge into action.

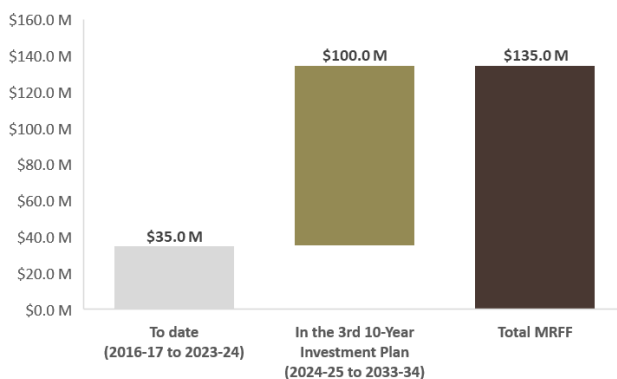
The funding for this initiative will support projects that enhance equity of access to high quality primary health care through digital health innovation and that help patients to monitor and control their own health care, support continuity of care and enable health care providers and patients to communicate in innovative and timely ways.

Funding decisions will be driven by meaningful engagement with end users, such as patients, clinicians and health service providers, to address specific needs of Australian populations, including those in rural or remote locations.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Primary Care Research

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

4 grant opportunities were completed

21 grants valued at

\$31.4 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Rapid Applied Research Translation

Objectives

The objective of this initiative is to support transformative translational research, so that patients can benefit from better quality of care.

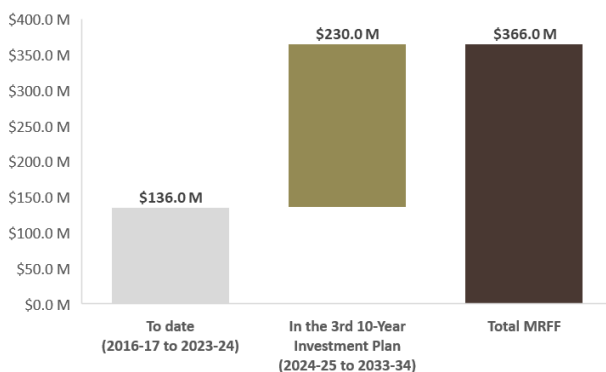
Funding for this initiative supports the translation of research evidence into clinical practice and better quality of care for patients by encouraging collaborations between academic researchers, health service providers, consumers and other end users on projects to improve health care delivery, service and systems sustainability.

Building on earlier investments in translational research, through the 3rd 10-year Investment Plan this initiative will increase emphasis on making sure that existing knowledge and evidence is routinely implemented into clinical care and practice through strong collaborative partnerships with health services.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Translation and Commercialisation
- Research Infrastructure and Capability

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

5 grant opportunities were completed

45 grants valued at

\$163.1 million were awarded

MRFF FUNDING INITIATIVE

Research Data Infrastructure

Objectives

The objective of this initiative is to support strategic investments that establish and extend national research data infrastructure to support world-class health and medical research.

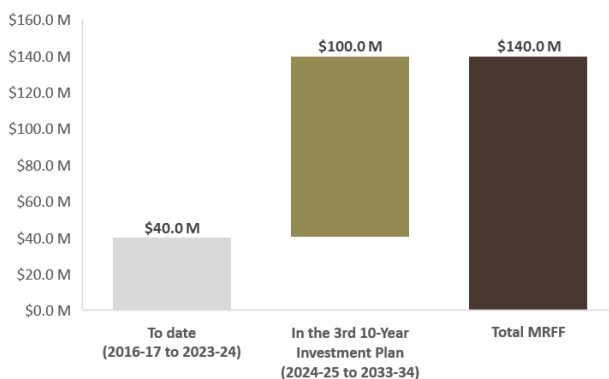
Funding for this initiative supports the creation or extension of national research data infrastructure with a focus on data registries, biobanks and data linkage platforms to enable and enhance Australian medical research. This will include supporting infrastructure that makes evidence-based care easier for health professionals, drives efficient use of resources and advances healthcare.

The funding for this initiative will support research that creates or extends research data infrastructure and uses established research data infrastructure in new ways to maximise the value generated from their establishment.

Alignment with *Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2022-24*

- Research Infrastructure and Capability
- Data, Digital Health and Artificial Intelligence

Funding allocation



Grant activities supported to date

3 grant opportunities were completed

16 grants valued at

\$35.2 million were awarded

Appendix A: Explanatory Notes

The following explanatory notes are intended to assist with understanding the figures presented in the 3rd 10-year Investment Plan.

- The total funding allocation under each initiative is the total amount that has been budgeted under the 1st, 2nd and 3rd 10-year Investment Plans. Details are also provided of expenditure to date (grants awarded) as at 31 January 2024.
- References to funding allocations “from 2016-17” reflect that expenditure from the MRFF made prior to 2018-19 was subsequently attributed to relevant initiatives under the 1st 10-year Investment Plan (2018-19 to 2027-28). This has allowed for more accurate reporting on the use of MRFF funds over time. Expenditure prior to 2018-19 is additional to the amounts available for expenditure in the 1st 10-year Investment Plan, i.e. there has been no reduction of available amounts for individual initiatives due to this approach.
- In some cases the total value of grants awarded under specific initiatives as at 31 January 2024 might not equal the funding allocation for that initiative at the time of publication (i.e. there may be instances where specific initiatives appear to be overspent or underspent). These differences reflect the nature of delivering large-scale priority-driven granting activities across a broad program of research. These fluctuations will be resolved over the next 10 years so that the cumulative expenditure under each initiative aligns with its overall budget.
- The indicated number of grant opportunities under each initiative includes both competitive and non-competitive/ad hoc grant opportunities.
- Some grant opportunities have been delivered through multiple initiatives. In these cases, the grant opportunity is included in the count for each initiative.
- The indicated number and value of grants under each initiative includes grants that have been awarded and announced as at 31 January 2024.