



Expression of Interest Background – Australian Medical Research Advisory Board Chair

This nomination process will identify suitable candidates to fill the vacancy for the Chair of the Australian Medical Research Advisory Board (AMRAB) following the [retirement](#) of the inaugural AMRAB Chair, Professor Ian Frazer AC.

This nomination process may also be used to establish suitable candidates to fill future vacancies within AMRAB.

Expertise sought

We are looking for a dynamic and visionary individual to lead AMRAB into a new era. Nominees for Chair are exceptional and recognised leaders with a demonstrated passion in improving the health and wellbeing of Australians.

Individuals from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Individuals are selected based on the individual expertise and experience they will bring to the role. They are not appointed to represent the views or position of a specific organisation or institution.

You will bring experience and knowledge that ensures that AMRAB collectively possesses expertise in the following fields:

- (a) medical research;
- (b) policy relating to health systems;
- (c) management or delivery of health services;
- (d) medical innovation;
- (e) financing and investment;
- (f) commercialisation;
- (g) philanthropy; and
- (h) consumer issues relating to health.

Current AMRAB members and their expertise can be found [here](#).

Gender diversity

From 1 July 2016, the Australian Government has stipulated a gender diversity target whereby women are to hold 50% of positions on Government boards and committees, and at least 40% of positions on individual boards and committees. The membership composition of AMRAB will aim to have a gender balance of 50% females and 50% males, whilst ensuring an appropriate balance of skills and experience.

Appointment process

Under the Medical Research Future Fund Act 2015, the Minister for Health and Aged Care has the power to appoint members of the AMRAB including the Chair.

The Minister will make appointments based on the list of suitable nominees identified in this nomination process. In making this decision, the Minister must be satisfied that the AMRAB has the right skills and experience to guide MRFF spending.

About AMRAB

The [AMRAB](#) was established under the *Medical Research Future Fund Act 2015* to advise the Minister for Health and Aged Care on prioritising spending from the [Medical Research Future Fund \(MRFF\)](#). Membership of the AMRAB consists of the Chief Executive Officer of the [National Health and Medical Research Council \(NHMRC\)](#) and up to 7 other members.

The functions of the AMRAB are:

- (a) to determine the Australian Medical Research and Innovation Strategy (the Strategy) and the Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities (the Priorities); and
- (b) to advise the Health Minister about other matters that the Health Minister refers to the Advisory Board.

The Strategy is determined every 5 years, and the Priorities are determined every 2 years. The Minister for Health and Aged care takes the Priorities into account when making decisions in relation to grants of financial assistance to support research and medical innovation from the MRFF.

Under new arrangements to reform the Australian Government's investment in health and medical research, AMRAB will work closely with the [NHMRC Council](#) to improve alignment and coordination of NHMRC's Medical Research Endowment Account (MREA) and the MRFF administered by the Department of Health and Aged Care.