Australian Government
Department of Health

Australian Brain Cancer Mission

Medical Research Future Fund
Snapshot 2019–20 to 2020–21

Theme
Research missions

Goal

To double survival rates and improve quality of life for people with brain cancer over the next 10 years, with the longer-term goal of defeating brain cancer

Budget

$49 million
over 10 years

Total Budget allocation
(as at Budget 2019–20)

Total committed = $11.8 million (over 11 years from 2017–18 to 2027–28, includes $1 million spent in 2017–18)

Grant rounds in progress = Nil

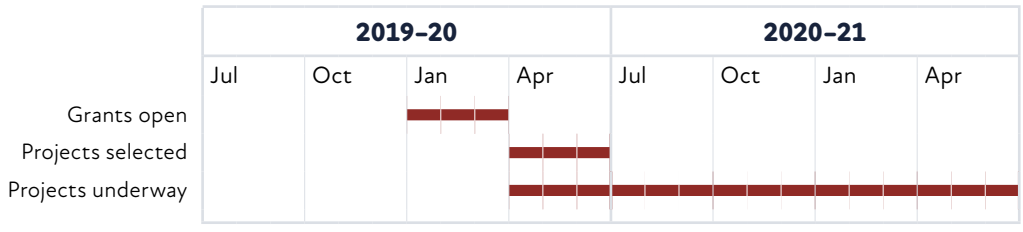
Not yet allocated = $34.0 million (includes an underspend of $4.2 million in 2018–19)

Total funding for this initiative is $124.7 million, including $9.35 million from other MRFF initiatives and $66.35 million from philanthropic contributions

	2019–20 ($m)	2020–21 ($m)	2021–22 ($m)	2022–23 ($m)
Budget	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
Committed	2.0	2.0	2.0	–
Grant rounds in progress	–	–	–	–
Not yet allocated	3.0	3.0	3.0	5.0

Funding timeline

Grant round



See GrantConnect for specific grant dates

Information correct as at 8 November 2019

Early funding priorities

- Enable Australian participation in glioblastoma brain cancer research
- Support the ZERO Childhood Cancer initiative to ensure that all Australian children with high-risk brain cancer receive individual treatment for their tumour type (personalised medicine)
- Establish a contestable grants program to support new and expanded clinical trials and international collaborations
- Review existing national care standards, decision support and clinical pathways for patients
- Determine if existing brain cancer platforms and technologies are meeting researchers' needs
- Improve access to international clinical trials through the Australian and New Zealand Children's Haematology Oncology Group (ANZCHOG) and the Cooperative Group for Neuro-oncology (COGNO) trial centres

Current or completed activity

- Reviewing national care standards, decision support and clinical pathways for patients, and analysing Australian brain cancer platforms and technologies
- Enabling Australian participation in 2 innovative brain cancer clinical trials through a contestable grant round
- Funded 4 brain cancer clinical trials through a contestable grant opportunity using the Clinical Trials Activity (Rare Cancers, Rare Diseases and Unmet Need) initiative

Delivery horizons

Establish 2018–19 to 2019–20

- Held a roundtable with key experts and consumers
- Developed and endorsed roadmap with prioritised investment strategies
- Initiated partnerships with co-funders
- Funded and started priority activities in roadmap
- Start scoping existing brain cancer platforms and technologies, and analysing patient care standards
- Build partnerships and collaboration between research clinicians, research organisations and clinical trial stakeholders

Expand 2020–21 to 2023–24

- Increase activity in brain cancer clinical trials across Australia
- Help more patients take part in clinical trials
- Reduce time to start brain cancer clinical trials
- Characterise, expand and coordinate existing brain cancer platforms and technologies
- Embed resources and strategies to improve patient experience and quality of life into clinical practice
- Develop collaboration between research clinicians, research organisations and clinical trial stakeholders

Embed 2024–25 to 2027–28

- Double survival rates and improve quality of life for people with brain cancer
- Develop major research and treatment centres, and networks to boost capacity, capability and standards
- Increase patient access to clinical trials, especially for children
- Strengthen Australia's leadership in conducting brain cancer clinical trials
- Tailor patient experience and improve quality of life
- Establish productive and sustained collaborations with research organisations and clinical trial stakeholders

Measures of success

- The community accepts and adopts new technologies and treatments
- Clinicians adopt best practices more quickly
- Increased focus of research on areas of unmet need
- New health technologies and treatments are developed and trialled
- More Australians access clinical trials