



Endometriosis Progress Report 2021 Update

The Australian Government is taking active steps to address the significant burden that endometriosis is placing on Australian women. Since the release of our National Action Plan for Endometriosis (the Action Plan) in July 2018, we have committed \$22.50 million for:

- awareness and education – \$5.77 million
- clinical management and care – \$661,946
- research – \$16.07 million

For the first time, we are taking a coordinated and structured approach to improve awareness and understanding of endometriosis; speeding up diagnosis, developing better treatment options and, ultimately, finding a cure.

Awareness and education

Greater awareness, acknowledgement and education will improve responses to endometriosis. The Government is investing in activities to improve understanding for patients, health and education professionals, and the community.

Our commitment includes:



\$200,000 for a social media campaign run by Jean Hailes for Women's Health to raise awareness, reduce stigma and give women the confidence to get help.

Completed December 2019.



\$160,000 to EndoActive to develop and promote Endometriosis: Shared Perspectives suite of 20 educational videos on endometriosis available to medical professionals and women affected by endometriosis.

Completed January 2021.



\$140,000 to support the delivery of the Pelvic Pain Education Program (PPEP-Talk) pilot to 80 South Australian high schools to educate students about unusual menstruation symptoms and support services.

Completed June 2020.



\$270,000 to continue support for the delivery of the PPEP-Talk program in South Australia and extension to Western Australia.

Completed June 2021.



\$5.00 million for the PPEP-Talk program continuation and national expansion.

Commencing in 2021-22 to 2024-25.

Clinical management and care

The health sector is key to improving outcomes for women with endometriosis. We are working with the sector to improve access to services that are appropriate and accessible. This includes:

\$499,000 to develop Australia's first [clinical practice guideline for endometriosis](#) by the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (RANZCOG).

Released May 2021.

\$123,586 to RANZCOG to develop an electronic assessment tool, [Raising Awareness Tool for Endometriosis \(RATE\)](#) and Online Learning Resources.

Released 2020.

\$39,360 for the Australian College of Nursing to introduce a unit of study for Australian nurses and midwives to improve the care and management of people with endometriosis in a range of health care settings.

Completed April 2020.

Research

Australia is well placed to lead and develop research on endometriosis. The Government is investing in research that will pave the way for prevention and the development of a cure. Current research activities include:

\$9.59 million through the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) for five research projects to improve diagnosis, treatment and understanding of endometriosis. These include:

1. \$893,981 to Deakin University for a randomized Controlled Trial Comparing Yoga, Cognitive Therapy and Education to Improve Quality of Life and Reduce Healthcare Costs in Endometriosis.
2. \$948,619 to Monash University to create evidence base for clinical care: A randomized controlled study examining the efficacy of the low FODMAP diet for the relief of gastrointestinal symptoms in endometriosis.
3. \$1.96 million to Murdoch Children's Research Institute, LongSTEPPPP, a Longitudinal Study of Teenagers with Endometriosis, Period and Pelvic Pain in Australia to identify early risk factors, educational and management strategies that will lead to optimal health outcomes and appropriate health utilisation.
4. \$3.93 million to the University of Melbourne to improve diagnosis and treatment of endometriosis.
5. \$1.86 million to the University of Queensland for genetic variants, Early Life exposures and Longitudinal Endometriosis Symptoms study (GELLES).

\$2.50 million to Jean Hailes for Women's Health to establish the National Endometriosis Clinical and Scientific Trials Network for patients to take part in a coordinated national research platform.


\$1.06 million to the Robinson Research Institute to develop a digital health platform and gateway to endometriosis research and evidence-based information to empower people affected by endometriosis to make informed and timely decisions regarding their health.

\$1.99 million to Robinson Research Institute under the MRFF 2020 Primary Healthcare Research Data Infrastructure Grant: IMAGENDO Diagnosing Endometriosis Study.

\$927,741 to the University of Queensland for the Frontier Health and Medical Research Initiative Grant: Earlier Diagnosis and Personalised Treatments for Endometriosis (EndoAIMM) project.

Endometriosis Advisory Group

The Endometriosis Advisory Group (EAG) provides advice and guidance to the Department on issues relating to implementation of the Action Plan. The EAG undertakes to:

 Prioritise proposed actions outlined in the Action Plan, including providing advice on the: potential costs; cost-effectiveness; barriers to; enablers for; and probable timeframes associated with the proposed actions.



Provide advice on the ways in which prioritised actions may be shaped, developed and implemented, including identifying the sector area responsible for driving implementation of each action, and who the key implementation partners are.