



SUMMARY OF NSW HEALTH & MEDICAL RESEARCH PLAN

- The Health & Medical Research Plan sets out a more strategic approach to health and medical research in NSW with the following objectives:
 - Reverse the decline of the health and medical research sector in NSW
 - Enhance NSW position as a leading State in health and medical research
 - Improve health outcomes through the application of research findings and retaining quality clinicians
 - Provide better economic returns to NSW.
- The strategies underpinning this approach to health and medical research are to:
 - Aggregate medical research at ten designated research hubs in NSW
 - Develop governance arrangements for the management of research within each research hub
 - Consolidate statewide research-enabling technologies and resources
 - Enhance the State's capacity to attract and retain high quality researchers
 - Better align State funding for health and medical research to NSW Government priorities.
- The six components of the 10 year Health and Medical Research Plan are:
 - Capital development of research institutes within designated hubs to build capacity through aggregation of research groups
 - Enhancement of research infrastructure and priority programs
 - Investment in research capacity through targeted people programs
 - Development of state-wide research platforms in key enabling technologies and services
 - Development of partnerships through research networks (clinical & population based networks)
 - Enhanced public/private funding partnerships
- The capital development plan aims to:
 - Invest capital funds into developing the medical research hubs in NSW
 - Bring together existing but disaggregated research groups within hubs
 - Facilitate relocation of research groups between hubs to build critical capacity in research strengths within NSW
 - Provide a framework for governance of research funding provided to hubs.
- The ten designated research hubs are centred around existing geographical clusters of research groups at:
 - Central Sydney – Camperdown (RPAH/Concord)
 - Darlinghurst (Garvan/Victor Chang/St Vincent's)
 - Hunter (Newcastle centred)
 - Illawarra (Wollongong centred)
 - Northern Sydney (RNSH)
 - South Eastern Sydney - Randwick (POW/St George)
 - South Western Sydney (Liverpool/Macarthur)
 - Western Sydney (Westmead/Nepean)
 - A Distributed Rural Network (Lismore centred)
 - Australian Technology Park.

- The State wide research enabling platforms and services already under development. Some have been progressed in conjunction with other agencies:
 - Animal house facilities
 - Proteomics and genomics and bioinformatics
 - Imaging
 - Tissue banks, cell banks and DNA banks
 - Research ethical review and governance
 - Data linkages, including data registries and health informatics
 - Clinical trials coordination and research informatics centre
 - Health Services and Population Health research

- The People Programs objectives are to:
 - Reverse the loss of researchers from NSW
 - Attract and retain high quality researchers and clinicians in NSW
 - Build critical mass in research teams in priority areas
 - Facilitate research collaborations across the State.

- Clinical Research Networks are being established with the aims to:
 - Facilitate multicentre clinical trials across the research hubs
 - Support collaborations across research hubs
 - Target funding to NSW Government priorities
 - Increase the capacity to attract additional research funding to NSW
 - Facilitate the translation of research outcomes into effective policies and practices across Government.

- The following proposed clinical research networks have been advanced:
 - Paediatric Pharmaceutical Clinical Trials Network
 - Cardiovascular Research Network
 - Pregnancy & Newborn Research Network
 - Diabetes Research Network
 - Immunology & Allergy Research Network
 - Aboriginal Health Research Network
 - Spinal Cord Injury Network
 - Mental Health & Neuroscience Network
 - Complementary Medicines Research Network