STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2020

Introduction

As the voice of medical research institutes the AAMRI works to:

1. **Represent** the needs of medical research institutes to government, industry and the public.
2. **Coordinate communication** between medical research institutes and improve scientific and administrative collaboration amongst those institutes and other research organisations.
3. **Advocate** for a sustainable funding and regulatory environment that delivers efficient, effective and high quality research.
4. **Raise the profile of health and medical research,** particularly in medical research institutes, and its importance to a health and prosperous Australia.

Membership

AAMRI was founded to represent the interest of independent medical research institutes. In recent years AAMRI has broadened its membership criteria to include medical research institutes that while not an independent legal entity, operate with an independent board and a high degree of autonomy. Reflecting the changing nature of health and medical research, AAMRI's membership has been opened up to health and medical research hubs and centres.

Advocacy

The advocacy landscape has evolved since AAMRI was established in 1993. The establishment of a range of health and research peak bodies means there are a far great range of stakeholders seeking to influence the research agenda. AAMRI must continue to ensure it represents the unique interests of medical research institutes, and where possible align with the advocacy and policy efforts of related organisations.

AAMRI Strategic Plan 2017-2020

Our vision

Hope, health and prosperity through health and medical research.

Our mission

To achieve positive policy outcomes for health and medical research in Australia.

Our role

To represent medical research institutes through advocacy, information provision, relationship building and member services.

Our values

AAMRI will achieve its objectives and fulfil its mission by being proactive, engaged, approachable, balance, trustworthy, and informed.

Our objectives

1. Advocate for high level policy reform
2. Be a trusted source of authoritative advice and information
3. Build the positive profile and strong voice of our members amongst key stakeholders
4. Represent, engage and connect our members

Our strategies

Objective 1 – Advocate for high level policy reform

- Promote the broader health and economic benefits of medical research.
- Advocate for sustainable and predictable investment in all stages of medical research commensurate with the future health needs of the nation.
- Campaign for the full capitalisation of a Medical Research Future Fund and provide strategic advice on how to get the most from the new opportunities it will deliver.
- Develop policies that encourage diversity and strength within the research workforce

Objective 2 – Be a trusted source of authoritative advice and information

- Build a solid evidence base by collating and analysing existing information, and address knowledge gaps through the development of new authoritative reports and papers.
- Base policy and advocacy activities on strong evidence and insights from our members and other stakeholders.
- Inform and influence government policy, regulation and funding decisions through regular consultations and formal submissions.

Objective 3 – Build the positive profile and strong voice of our members amongst key stakeholders

- Build relationships and partner with related peak bodies and stakeholders – including in the research, health and patient advocacy sectors – to help shape a strong, united voice and consistent, joined-up policy and advocacy activities.
    - Influence decisions through strong relationships with key decision makers and opinion leaders, and a network of influential advocates and champions.
- Strengthen awareness of the unique purpose and benefits of medical research institutes and AAMRI's distinct role in representing them.

- Develop and implement a communications and advocacy strategy that builds the profile, resonance and reach of both AAMRI and its member institutions.

Objective 4 – Represent, engage and connect our members
- Provide sector leadership, representing members in areas of shared concern.
- Act as an information and networking hub for members and external stakeholders, and coordinate member involvement in advocacy, consultations and AAMRI's strategic direction.
- Actively recruit members to augment our resources and capabilities to address the array of state and federal matters affecting our member organisations.
- Ensure a governance and organisational structure that maximises the continuity, fairness and quality of our services to members.

Our outcomes

Benefits to members
- Useful information and advice
- Unique sector representation and insights
- Valuable knowledge sharing and networking
- Collegiality amongst members
- Value for money and competent service provision
- Improved fiscal and regulatory environment
- Improved research and organisational outcomes

Benefits to government
- Stakeholder-informed policy, regulatory and funding decisions
- More effective and efficient administration of research funding
- Improved return on investment in health and medical research

Benefits to other stakeholders
- Improved understanding of the role and concerns of medical research institutes
- Information sharing
- Networking with health and medical research organisations

Measures of success

AAMRI's success in achieving its objectives will be measured by indicators of:

- Degree to which health and medical research continues to be supported by the government and the community
- Level of uptake of AAMRI advice in government policy, legislation and regulatory decisions
- Application of AAMRI information and reports by AAMRI itself, our members, government and other external stakeholders
- Degree to which AAMRI engages with and influences related peak bodies and stakeholders in common policy and advocacy areas
- Extent, breadth and resonance of AAMRI's communications with external stakeholders on the role, outcomes and concerns of AAMRI's members
- Level of networking and information uptake amongst AAMRI members
- Member satisfaction with AAMRI's services and outcomes