2019-20 Federal Budget Summary

This document provides a summary of the main announcements in the 2019-20 Federal Budget. If there is a specific item that has not been covered below but you would like further information then please contact AAMRI’s Director of Policy and Operations, Dr Peter Thomas (peter.thomas@aamri.org.au).

1 Summary

- The capitalisation of the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) remains on track, with the Government continuing to commit to build the fund to $20 billion by 2020-21.
- A ten year investment plan for the MRFF has been released, outlining the all the major areas the MRFF will invest in over the coming decade.
- There were no significant changes to funding for the National Health and Medical Research Council and the Australian Research Council.
- Funding for a dementia centre of excellence at Curtin University has been announced.
- Funding will also be provided for a regional, rural and remote medical research institute to be established in Orange.
- Under the banner of the ‘Community Health and Hospitals Program’ significant funding will be provided for a Comprehensive Children’s Cancer Centre at Sydney Hospital, a Centre of Excellence in Cellular Immunotherapy in Victoria, and for James Cook University to be a centre of excellence in tropical medicine.
- Support for diabetes research will be provided to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, as well as some specific funding earmarked through the MRFF.
- The Lowitja Institute has been refunded.
- Expenditure on research through the university block grants will grow at a slower rate than forecast at the previous budget (announced late last year).
- There are no significant changes to funding for NCRIS and the CRC program.
- Funding for ANSTO is expected to rise more quickly than previously forecast.
## Contents

1. Summary ................................................................................................................................. 1

2. Medical Research Future Fund ............................................................................................... 3
   2.1 MRFF building the fund to $20 billion ................................................................................ 3
   2.2 MRFF total planned expenditure on medical research ....................................................... 3
   2.3 MRFF 10 Year Plan ............................................................................................................. 4
   2.4 Health and Medical Research Office .................................................................................. 5

Medical Research Future Fund - 10 year plan ......................................................................... 6

3. Research Council Funding ....................................................................................................... 7
   3.1 National Health and Medical Research Council ............................................................... 7
   3.2 Australian Research Council ............................................................................................ 8

4. Notable new expenditure, savings and revenue measures .................................................... 9
   4.1 Improving STEM Gender Equity in Australia ................................................................... 9
   4.2 Medical research infrastructure – Dementia Centre of Excellence and Regional, Rural and Remote Health MRI ....................................................................... 9
   4.3 Community Health and Hospitals Program .................................................................... 9
   4.4 Channel Nine Queensland Telethon .................................................................................. 9
   4.5 Diabetes research ............................................................................................................... 9
   4.6 Lowitja Institute .............................................................................................................. 10
   4.7 ANSTO ............................................................................................................................. 10

5. Forecast expenditure/savings in other ongoing programs relating to medical research .... 11
   5.1 University research block grants ....................................................................................... 11
      5.1.1 Research Support Program ......................................................................................... 11
      5.1.2 Research Training Program ....................................................................................... 12
   5.2 Research infrastructure and NCRIS .................................................................................. 13
   5.3 CRC Program ................................................................................................................... 14
   5.4 ANSTO ............................................................................................................................. 15
2 Medical Research Future Fund

2.1 MRFF building the fund to $20 billion

There are no changes to the planned capitalisation of the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF), with the Government continuing to commit to fully fund the MRFF to $20 billion by 2020-21. The following charts show expected payments into the fund, along with the total balance of the fund.

![Payments into the MRFF chart]

![MRFF balance (target of $20 billion by 2020-21) chart]

2.2 MRFF total planned expenditure on medical research

Project expenditure on medical research is broadly in line with previous budget estimates.
2.3 MRFF 10 Year Plan

The Government has released a 10 year plan for the Medical Research Future Fund, outlining the different projects set to receive investment. The projects are broken down into four areas: patients, researchers, missions and translation, representing a total of $5 billion of investment in medical research.

A breakdown of the annual investments in each of the initiatives is provided on page 6.

To summarise, the ten year funding total for each of the initiatives is follows:

- **Patients** (total $1.3B)
  - Emerging Priorities and Consumer Driven Research - $633M
  - Clinical Trials for Rare Cancers, Rare Diseases and Unmet Needs - $614M
  - Global Health – tackling Antimicrobial Resistance and Drug Resistant Tuberculosis - $28M

- **Researchers** (total $793M)
  - Frontier Health and Medical Research - $570M
  - Industry Researcher Exchange and Training - $32M
  - Clinical Researchers - $191M

- **Missions** (total $1.4B)
  - Australian Brain Cancer Mission - $49M
  - Million Minds Mental Health Research Mission - $125M
  - Genomics Health Futures Mission - $500M
  - Ageing, Aged Care and Dementia Mission - $168M
  - Indigenous Health Futures - $148M
  - Stem Cell Mission - $150M
  - Cardiovascular Mission - $200M
- **Translation (total $1.5B)**
  - Traumatic Brain Injury Mission - $45M
  - Preventative and Public Health Research - $261M
  - Primary Health Care Research - $45M
  - Rapid Applied Research Translation Centre - $218M
  - Medical Research Commercialisation - $311M
  - National Critical Infrastructure - $605M
  - Data Infrastructure, registries, biobanks, linkage platforms - $80M

### 2.4 Health and Medical Research Office

A new Health and Medical Research Office will be established within the Department of Health to oversee the MRFF. The office will provide strategic and policy support for the MRFF and will be headed by a CEO. Funding of $20 million over four years has been set aside for this initiative.
## Medical Research Future Fund - 10 year plan

**Federal Budget 2019-20 (2 April, 2019)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$m</td>
<td>$m</td>
<td>$m</td>
<td>$m</td>
<td>$m</td>
<td>$m</td>
<td>$m</td>
<td>$m</td>
<td>$m</td>
<td>$m</td>
<td>$m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PATIENTS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emerging Priorities and Consumer Driven Research (EPCD)</td>
<td>97.8</td>
<td>124.4</td>
<td>140.3</td>
<td>146.5</td>
<td>135.1</td>
<td>129.1</td>
<td>125.6</td>
<td>125.6</td>
<td>125.6</td>
<td>1,275.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Trials for Rare Cancers, Rare Diseases and Unmet Needs (RCRDUN)</td>
<td>53.7</td>
<td>54.3</td>
<td>71.2</td>
<td>80.9</td>
<td>69.5</td>
<td>63.5</td>
<td>60.0</td>
<td>60.0</td>
<td>60.0</td>
<td>633.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Health – Tackling Antimicrobial Resistance and Drug Resistant Tuberculosis</td>
<td>42.3</td>
<td>67.1</td>
<td>66.5</td>
<td>62.6</td>
<td>62.6</td>
<td>62.6</td>
<td>62.6</td>
<td>62.6</td>
<td>62.6</td>
<td>614.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RESEARCHERS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frontier Health and Medical Research</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>49.3</td>
<td>92.6</td>
<td>102.1</td>
<td>94.0</td>
<td>90.0</td>
<td>90.0</td>
<td>90.0</td>
<td>90.0</td>
<td>792.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry Research Exchange and Training</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>60.0</td>
<td>70.0</td>
<td>70.0</td>
<td>70.0</td>
<td>70.0</td>
<td>70.0</td>
<td>70.0</td>
<td>570.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Researchers</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>21.8</td>
<td>22.6</td>
<td>22.1</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>190.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MISSIONS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Brain Cancer Mission (Total = $123.6m(^1))</td>
<td>9.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>49.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Million Minds Mental Health Research Mission</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>125.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genomics Health Futures Mission</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>56.6</td>
<td>68.7</td>
<td>69.9</td>
<td>54.9</td>
<td>50.0</td>
<td>50.0</td>
<td>50.0</td>
<td>50.0</td>
<td>500.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ageing, Aged Care and Dementia Mission (Total = $185m(^2))</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>17.5</td>
<td>167.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous Health Futures Mission (Total = $160m(^2))</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>147.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stem Cell Mission</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>150.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cardiovascular Mission (Total = $220m(^3))</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>23.0</td>
<td>24.0</td>
<td>24.0</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>200.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traumatic Brain Injury Mission (Total = $50m(^3))</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>45.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TRANSLATION</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preventative and Public Health Research</td>
<td>18.8</td>
<td>32.5</td>
<td>57.1</td>
<td>33.5</td>
<td>29.5</td>
<td>26.5</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>15.8</td>
<td>260.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Health Care Research</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>45.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapid Applied Research Translation Centres</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>20.0</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>22.0</td>
<td>23.0</td>
<td>23.0</td>
<td>23.0</td>
<td>218.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Research Commercialisation</td>
<td>15.4</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>35.3</td>
<td>35.3</td>
<td>35.0</td>
<td>35.0</td>
<td>35.0</td>
<td>35.0</td>
<td>35.0</td>
<td>311.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Critical Infrastructure</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5.0</td>
<td>43.8</td>
<td>106.2</td>
<td>75.0</td>
<td>75.0</td>
<td>75.0</td>
<td>75.0</td>
<td>75.0</td>
<td>605.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Infrastructure – Registries, biobanks, linkage platforms</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>80.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>204.1</td>
<td>392.5</td>
<td>579.8</td>
<td>627.5</td>
<td>567.5</td>
<td>540.6</td>
<td>527.1</td>
<td>517.1</td>
<td>498.6</td>
<td>4,972.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL 10 year plan(^4)</strong></td>
<td>5,093.4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance over the forward estimates</strong></td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>82.6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current MRFF disbursements over the forward estimates</td>
<td>222.4</td>
<td>396.0</td>
<td>579.9</td>
<td>646.0</td>
<td>650.0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Funds from the $20 billion MRFF endowment fund will continue to be disbursed beyond the forward estimates.

---

1. Australian Brain Cancer Mission $123.6m = $49m MRFF funding, $65.3m in philanthropic contributions, $5m in RCRDUN clinical trials funding and $3.4m in EPCD research funding and $1m in 2017-18

2. Million Minds Mental Health Mission total includes $17.5m in 2028-29

3. Indigenous Health Futures total includes $20m in 2028-29

4. Cardiovascular Mission total includes $20m in 2028-29

5. Traumatic Brain Injury Mission total includes $5m in 2028-29

6. Total 10 year plan includes $93.5m in philanthropic funding, $1m in 2017-18 and $55m in 2028-29
3 Research Council Funding

3.1 National Health and Medical Research Council

There were no significant changes to medical research funding through the NHMRC Medical Research Endowment Account (MREA). Slight inflationary increases are provided for in the coming years.
3.2 Australian Research Council
There are no significant changes to Australian Research Council (ARC) funding compared to the previous budget. The following table shows expenditure on research through the Discovery and Linkage programs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2018-19</th>
<th>2019-20</th>
<th>2020-21</th>
<th>2021-22</th>
<th>2022-23</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funding</td>
<td>$759,925</td>
<td>$787,370</td>
<td>$805,086</td>
<td>$823,603</td>
<td>$838,839</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Red bars indicate 2018-19 Federal Budget - ARC research funding, and black bars indicate 2019-20 Federal Budget - ARC research funding.
4  Notable new expenditure, savings and revenue measures

4.1  Improving STEM Gender Equity in Australia
The Government will provide $3.4 million over four years from 2020-21 for women in STEM programs. The funding will support an extension of SAGE for an additional three years, and a digital content National Awareness Raising Initiative, led by the Women in STEM Ambassador.

4.2  Medical research infrastructure – Dementia Centre of Excellence and Regional, Rural and Remote Health MRI
The government will invest $46 million over seven years from 2020-21 in medical research infrastructure including:

- $10 million to establish Curtin University Dementia Centre of Excellence
- $18 million for the Charles Sturt and Western Sydney Universities to establish the Institute for Regional, Rural and Remote Health and Medical Research Institute in Orange, NSW.

4.3  Community Health and Hospitals Program
Under this broad initiative there are a number of funding announcements that relate to medical research, including:

- $100 million for a Comprehensive Children’s Cancer Centre at Sydney Hospital, Randwick, New South Wales.
- $80 million to establish a Centre of Excellence in Cellular Immunotherapy in Victoria, including for manufacturing of cellular immunotherapies for Australia and the Asia-Pacific.
- $60 million to support the James Cook University Tropical Enterprise Centre in Queensland to become a centre of excellence in tropical medicine.

4.4  Channel Nine Queensland Telethon
The Government will provide $2.0 million in 2018-19 to the Channel Nine Queensland Telethon. The telethon raises funding for medical research, new medical equipment and provides support services for families.

4.5  Diabetes research
As previously announced the Government will provide $56 million for diabetes research, including:

- $6.0 million over four years from 2019-20 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.
- $25.0 million over five years from 2019-20 for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation to advance its Type 1 Diabetes Clinical Research Network.
- $25.0 million from the MRFF for targeted diabetes research under the broader $125.0 million MRFF Targeted Translation Research Accelerator initiative.
4.6 Lowitja Institute
The Government will provide $10 million over three years to the Lowitja Institute, Australia’s National Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research, to continue their work to improve the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples through research.

4.7 ANSTO
The Government will provide $56.4 million over three years from 2019-20 (including $31.9 million in capital funding) to ANSTO to support nuclear medicine and nuclear decommissioning activities and asset management.

4.8 Mindgardens Neuroscience Network
The Government is providing $7 million for research aimed at developing improved models of care for people living with brain disorders. This clinical and research translation program will be led by Mindgardens Neuroscience Network. The Mindgardens Neuroscience Network comprises AAMRI members the Black Dog Institute, Neuroscience Research Australia, as well as Eastern Sydney Local Health District and UNSW Sydney.
5 Forecast expenditure/savings in other ongoing programs relating to medical research

5.1 University research block grants

5.1.1 Research Support Program

The Research Support Program helps cover the systemic costs of undertaking research for universities.

As announced earlier this year funding for university research block grants will grow much more slowly than forecast in the previous Budget.
5.1.2 Research Training Program

The Research Training Program provides support for higher degree research students. There are no significant changes in funding for this program.

![Budget Summary Chart]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018-19 '000</th>
<th>2019-20 '000</th>
<th>2020-21 '000</th>
<th>2021-22 '000</th>
<th>2022-23 '000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018-19 Budget - Research Training Program</td>
<td>$1,036,842</td>
<td>$1,057,588</td>
<td>$1,081,400</td>
<td>$1,106,260</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-20 Budget - Research Training Program</td>
<td>$1,027,084</td>
<td>$1,036,328</td>
<td>$1,057,595</td>
<td>$1,081,921</td>
<td>$1,105,710</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.2 Research infrastructure and NCRIS
Funding for research infrastructure continues as forecast in the previous budget, but there will be a significant increase in funding in 2022-23.
5.3 CRC Program
There are no significant changes in the funding profile for the Cooperative Research Centre program.
5.4 ANSTO

Expenditure on scientific programs was higher in 2018-19 than previously planned. Expenditure over the forward estimates will be a little higher than forecast in the previous budget.

### ANSTO - total expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dollars</td>
<td>$372,884</td>
<td>$364,146</td>
<td>$375,946</td>
<td>$382,539</td>
<td>$418,153</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **2018-19 Budget - ANSTO**
- **2019-20 Budget - ANSTO**