



**RESEARCH &
INNOVATION
STRATEGY**
2021-2024

BACKGROUND AND PROCESS

AIM

This strategy guides the activities of the IHMRI Research Development Office (RDO) and Clinical Research and Trials Unit (CRTU) to:

1. Support and drive translational research.
2. Support IHMRI affiliated researchers to develop their research to be competitive for external funding.
3. Support the conduct of commercial and investigator initiated clinical trials at IHMRI's CRTU in collaboration with the local health district (LHD).

BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW

This strategy was written in 2020 to supersede the IHMRI Research & Innovation Strategy 2017-2020. The 2017-2020 strategy had four key elements, the IHMRI Research Leadership Program and three key 'collectives'. That strategy focused on building collaboration by holding quarterly forums within each collective, to bring together stakeholders with the hope of increased research collaboration. This revised strategy has removed the effort of holding quarterly forums and matured the RDO's activities to more tangible initiatives based on key themes from the review process. Those key themes were provision of training and connection within the collectives, and wrapping the collectives with targeted funding support. Furthermore, the title of two of the collectives has been revised. The 'Med Tech and Pharma' collective has been broadened to 'Translation and Commercialisation' to encompass the broader scope of research translation conducted by IHMRI affiliates. The 'Health Analytics' collective has been broadened

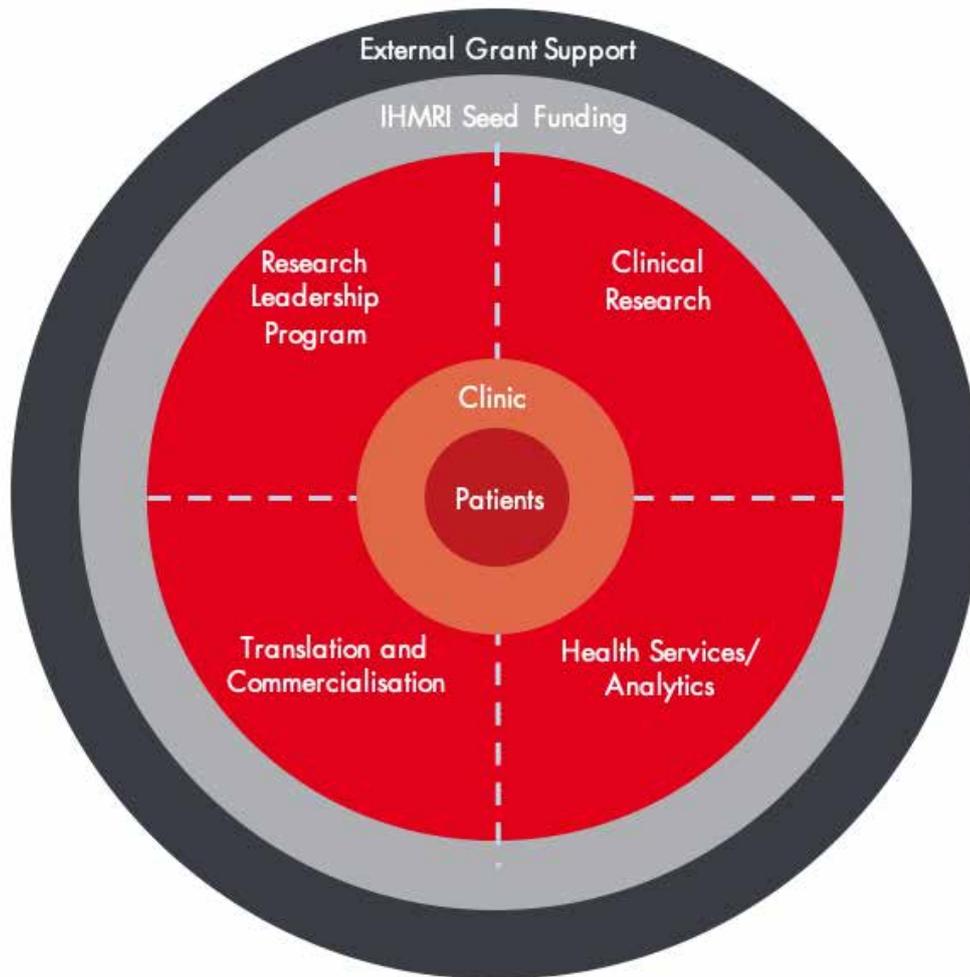
to 'Health Services/Analytics' to encompass the current national focus on the health services research by both the NHMRC and MRFF.

REVIEW PROCESS

The review of the IHMRI Research & Innovation Strategy 2017-2020 was initiated prior to the 2019 IHMRI annual retreat with an online survey seeking feedback on the activities of the RDO. A workshop was then held at the annual retreat asking 'what has gone well?', 'what hasn't gone well?' and 'where to next?'.
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In 2020, the IHMRI affiliate leadership structure was revised and the new Affiliate Stakeholder Advisory Panel (ASAP) was appointed to represent our broad affiliate base. Having completed feedback on the 2017-2020 strategy, IHMRI asked the ASAP to help direct the strategy revision. To gain a broad perspective of our affiliate's views, the ASAP were asked to respond to questions related to the four key elements of the strategy 'what are our affiliate groups doing?' and "what are the needs of our affiliate groups?". From all feedback, a list of 'big picture ideas' was generated. The ASAP then workshopped what on the list is achievable, leading to the condensed priorities that have been included in this revised strategy. The RDO also advertised for input from any IHMRI affiliates, consulted with the IHMRI board members, and held an early/mid-career workshop.

ELEMENTS OF THE STRATEGY



EXTERNAL GRANT SUPPORT

Support to prepare high quality external grant applications is one of IHMRI's most valued services.

- Provide high level support to assist in preparation of high-quality external grant applications
- Provide strategic advice to develop project funding plans
- Actively target LHD clinicians* to collaborate on external grant applications

Measuring success:

- Total affiliate income
- Total external grant applications with an ISLHD investigator

IHMRI SEED FUNDING

Priority support for projects that are likely to become competitive for external grant funding.

- Target seed funding to ensure development of projects within each of the three elements
- Provide awards to assist affiliates to build their career track record

Measuring success:

- Number of seed funded projects that go on to successfully gain external grant funding



RESEARCH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

A specialised leadership program to support the development of IHMRI early to mid-career researchers.

- Bespoke biennial IHMRI research leadership program
- IHMRI mentoring program
- Support for IHMRI affiliates to apply for external awards

Measuring success:

- Number of people completing the IHMRI programs
- Percentage of positive feedback
- Number of program participants taking up leadership positions
- Number of awards received by IHMRI affiliates

TRANSLATION AND COMMERCIALISATION

Inspire affiliates with a passion for change to make impact with their research.

- Provide regular training in knowledge translation
- Develop a roadmap of commercialisation support
- Facilitate participation in industry engagement opportunities
- Create an environment to foster innovation

Measuring success:

- Number of affiliates completing knowledge translation training
- Number of affiliates accessing commercial expertise
- Number of projects with translational/commercial outcomes

CLINICAL RESEARCH

Support to drive clinical translation, including population health initiatives.

- Work strategically with the LHD to create opportunities for clinician*-academic connection
- Provide a conduit to link clinicians* and academics
- Support commercial and investigator initiated clinical trials
- Establish a collaborative relationship between IHMRI clinical trials and LHD clinical trials that is mutually beneficial

Measuring success:

- Number of collaborative projects
- Number of trials supported by Clinical Research and Trials Unit

HEALTH SERVICES/ANALYTICS

Empower affiliates to gain meaning from big data and to deliver policy and practise change.

- Prioritise support to health services projects
- Provide opportunity to access big data analytics expertise, utilising local expertise

Measuring success:

- Number of health services projects receiving external funding
- Number of projects receiving big data analytics support
- Number of projects leading to policy and practise change

* 'Clinician' is an inclusive term defined as: medical doctors, nursing, dentistry, pharmacy or allied health staff or LHD/private employees working in population health or health promotion.



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