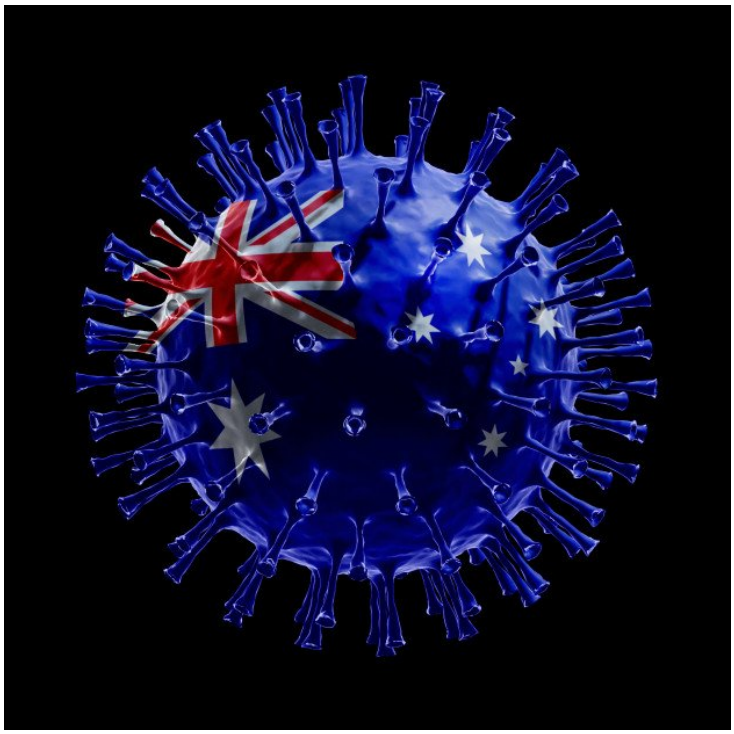
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ASIA EDITION

Australia invests $4 million for new COVID-19 research

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The Australian Government is supporting six new COVID-19 research projects across four institutions, allowing researchers continue to examine the virus and our response to the pandemic.

More than $4 million will be distributed from the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) through two grant rounds to institutions including Monash University, Deakin University and Macquarie University.

These grants aim to develop high priority digital health infrastructure, improving the speed and features of health system responses during acute crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

Each of these projects has the ability to assist and inform government responses to the pandemic and continue our improvements to health outcomes for all Australians.

Three projects will receive funding through the 2020 Rapid Response Digital Health Infrastructure Grant Opportunity, worth approximately $3.5 million.

This includes $1.9 million to support Monash University’s work to create a national data management platform and Learning Health System, alongside real-time monitoring of Australia's COVID-19 response.

A further three projects will also share in $600,000 through the 2020 Communication Strategies and Approaches during Outbreaks Grant Opportunity, focusing on understanding people's communication needs, in order to improve community engagement and responsiveness to information and advice about pandemics.

A project through Deakin University will identify communication priorities and effective support for people with an intellectual disability living in high risk specialist disability accommodation during disease outbreaks.

As part of the Government's Coronavirus Research response, over $96 million from the MRFF has been invested in COVID-19 research, including vaccine, anti-viral and respiratory medicine research.

The Australian Government's MRFF is a $20 billion endowment fund, allowing for long-term investment and support for Australia's best and brightest researchers. Further information about the MRFF is available at www.health.gov.au/mrff.

2020 Rapid Response Digital Health Infrastructure Grant Opportunity

Administering Institution	Project Title	Funding
Sydney Local Health District	Integrating remote monitoring technology into digital health infrastructure	$670,406.00
Monash University	Towards a national data management platform and Learning Health System	$1,922,584.00
Monash University	Real-time modelling of Australia's COVID-19 response	$810,300.00

2020 Communication Strategies and Approaches during Outbreaks Grant Opportunity

Administering Institution	Project Title	Funding
Monash University	Effectiveness of tailored COVID-19 message for vulnerable Australians	$315,961.00
Deakin University	Inclusive Health Communication in Specialist Disability Accommodation	$109,047.00
Macquarie University	Harnessing the health communication power of the early childhood sector	$174,992.00