BioSpectrum
the business of Bio & Health Sciences
ASIA EDITION

Australia injects $90 M to accelerate genomics and cardiovascular research

September 28, 2021 | News

Both of these research grants will accelerate Australian-led research and help improve the lives of all Australians



The Australian government is opening two medical research grant rounds, worth $90 million to help accelerate Australian-led genomics and cardiovascular research, which will improve and save lives.

The grants are available through the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) and focus on two of the Fund's key initiatives – the Genomics Health Futures Mission ($56 million), available over two years from 2021–22, and the Cardiovascular Health Mission ($34 million), available over three years from 2021–22.

The priority areas identified in the implementation plan of the Cardiovascular Health Mission include- to improve understanding of cardiovascular disease risk, including biological mechanisms; to help patients to adopt and maintain health interventions; to give patients more equitable access to best care, including new technologies, devices, and biomarkers; personalised, lifelong care approaches for patients who have had a stroke or heart event, to prevent further attacks; and understanding the biology of recovery.

On the other hand, priority areas identified in the implementation plan of the Genomics Health Futures Mission include- develop disease-agnostic, high throughput and scalable functional genomics platforms; develop new models of genomic newborn screening; conduct research addressing emerging ethical, legal and social issues associated with the governance of clinical and genomic datasets; conduct research to develop effective approaches for responsible, culturally appropriate and nationally consistent involvement of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people in genomics research and clinical practice; conduct research to enrich genomics databases; and conduct small-scale development projects.