

## Australia invests \$264 M in 258 novel health and medicine research projects

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**The delivery of NHMRC grant schemes depends on the assessment of applications by independent expert reviewers**



The Australian Government has announced \$264 million in funding to support 258 exceptional health and medical research projects through the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), across three funding streams.

232 research teams with a focus on discovery and innovation will share in \$241 million in funding through the NHMRC Ideas Grant scheme, where teams work at the frontiers of knowledge to advance their field for the improvement of health.

For instance, Professor Dale Nyholt from the Queensland University of Technology will use his \$1.9 million Ideas Grant to lead a team of researchers to investigate new therapeutic targets for epilepsy, while Associate Professor Susan Woods and team from the University of Adelaide will investigate using probiotics to deliver chemotherapy directly to tumours with a view to developing a new approach to the treatment of bowel cancer.

Dr Lipin Loo and team from the University of Sydney have uncovered drivers of neuropathic pain in the spine and will now explore the use of cell therapy and functional genomic technologies to deliver safe and effective ways to manage chronic pain.

The Australian Government has also announced a further \$15 million in funding for 16 projects to translate proof-of-concept research into commercial outcomes under the NHMRC Development Grant Scheme and an additional \$8 million investment to support 10 international collaborative grants with partners in Canada and the European Union, Japan, the Philippines, Thailand and the United States.

NHMRC funding will support the Australian component of the partnerships, while the international research partners will be funded by their respective funding agencies.

