

Alzheimer's disease grant round now open

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# National Foundation for Medical Research and Innovation



## THE MASON FOUNDATION

Managed by Equity Trustees Limited

Together with [The Mason Foundation \(managed by Equity Trustees\)](#), NFMRI wishes to congratulate Dr. Dorothy Wai for her successful application. The project below is set to commence in October 2023:

**Dr. Dorothy Wai**, Monash University, \$186,677 (2023-2025)

***"Development of HsTX1[R14A], a novel therapeutic to reverse neuroinflammation in Alzheimer's disease"***

This project will advance the development of a novel drug candidate with the potential to reverse the memory deficits associated with Alzheimer's disease (AD). AD is a debilitating disorder predicted to affect up to 1 million Australians by 2050, yet a cure for this disease remains elusive.

Derived from a natural peptide from scorpion venom, HsTX1[R14A] targets a surface protein on brain immune cells that become overactive in AD. Blocking this protein reduces the activity of these cells and improves memory in a mouse model of AD. However, assessing the biodistribution and demonstrating that

this peptide accesses the brain and is effective in a second mouse model of AD are key steps in progressing this novel drug candidate towards the clinic.

Funding provided by The Mason Foundation (managed by Equity Trustees) and NFMRI will help support proof-of-concept studies for HsTX1[R14A] as a potential AD drug candidate and additional validation of the therapeutic value of targeting this specific pathway in AD.

More information about NFMRI's current grants is available on our website [here](#).

## **NFMRI Funding Opportunities:**

### **Alzheimer's disease grant round**

- Open year-round with set cut-off dates, next deadline is 13 October 2023
- Open nationally across all three portfolios
- Funding provided in partnership with The Mason Foundation (managed by Equity Trustees)

### **General grant round**

- Opens on 29 January 2024
- Open nationally across all diseases/conditions
- Portfolios 2 & 3 only

### **Childhood and youth diseases grant round**

- Opens on 29 January 2024
- Open nationally
- Portfolios 2 & 3 only

More information on our funding opportunities, including forms, can be found on our website [here](#).

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## **Partnering with NFMRI**

NFMRI is always happy to consider partnership opportunities with other foundations, trusts, organisations or individuals looking to support innovative medical research in Australia and achieve greater outcomes from their funding. We are able to work within the disease and geographic parameters of our

partners to collectively support new programs focussing on translation. This can better enable academic research outcomes, discoveries and innovations to move beyond academia and attract next stage partners including government, industry and venture capital. These partners have the expertise, capability and capacity to take research to the next stage, navigate the complex regulatory and approval systems and enable access to those in the community who are in need sooner.

**NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION**

## Partnering for success

NFMRI partners with funders of medical research to create impact

Supporting Medical Research  
Advancing Innovation  
Enabling Collaboration

**A focus on creating impact**

NFMRI partners with other funders, applying its strategy, systems, networks and expertise to achieve common goals.

Founded in 1977 and with DGR1 status the National Foundation for Medical Research and Innovation (NFMRI) has an established partnering program assisting other funders of medical research achieve better outcomes.

Supporting medical research that is important in the translation of discoveries leading to new innovations including; medicines, vaccines, diagnostics, devices, biologics and tools NFMRI has built specific expertise, capability and capacity that has enabled success.

Through our partnering program NFMRI is collaborating with other funders to achieve our missions.

[Contact us](#) to learn more and enquire about how we can work together.

**1 GOVERNANCE**  
Strong governance forms the foundation of what we do, our culture and our partnerships.

**2 STRATEGY**  
Our strategy focuses on targeted support that addresses gaps to enable translation.

**3 SYSTEMS**  
NFMRI has built bespoke scalable systems and capability specific to our strategy.

**4 TRACK RECORD**  
Proven track record of success with breath and depth across diseases and innovations.

[nfmri.org.au](#) [enquiries@nfmri.org.au](#)

NFMRI focuses strictly on supporting early stage biomedical innovations (drugs, vaccines, devices, diagnostics, biologicals and tools) advancements to cross the 'valley of death'. Our processes, systems capability and capacity have been purpose built to support a unique strategy and deliver impact by assisting publicly funded research organisations to attract next stage partners along the innovation pathway.

This strategy and support has already prevented a number of research projects from withering-on-the-vine. These projects have attracted next stage partners, secured investment and entered clinical trials across a number of diseases and innovations.

Based upon a framework of good governance, scalable systems and

Based upon a framework of good governance, scalable systems and reproducible evidence of success, NFMRI established a targeted partnering program to assist other well-governed funders of research access our capability and capacity. Every dollar put towards our partnerships is distributed to innovative projects that meet the objectives of both NFMRI and the partner.

If your organisation would like to discuss a potential partnership further, please don't hesitate to contact Dr Noel Chambers by emailing [enquiries@nfmri.org.au](mailto:enquiries@nfmri.org.au)

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## Recent blog posts

- [Research translation, the beginning starts with the end](#)
- [Considerations when applying for NFMRI support](#)
- [Research with purpose: thinking differently](#)



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