

National Foundation for Medical Research and Innovation



[2022 Grants](#) | [NFMRI Conference](#) | [Available Funding](#) | [Partnerships](#)

More than \$1.1 million of medical research innovations funded by NFMRI and partners

The National Foundation for Medical Research and Innovation (NFMRI) announced its new 2022 grant recipients today. Successful researchers from across Australia received funding to support the advancement of their innovations ranging from diagnostics, to vaccines and gene therapy – across a number of diseases or conditions affecting the health of humans.

- **NFMRI announces the third recipient of *the Dr John Raftos AM Award for Advancing Innovation*: Professor Nicholas Opie**
- **NFMRI announces \$608,000 for new grants commencing in 2022**
- **New and ongoing research support for 2022 is over \$1.1 million.**

New projects to commence in 2022 include:

- [Prof Nicholas Opie](#), The University of Melbourne, \$50,000 prize grant
- [A/Prof Vivien Chen](#), ANZAC Research Institute Cancer research, \$193,000, "*Novel biomarker to predict thrombotic risk in myeloproliferative neoplasms*" *

- [Prof Merlin Thomas](#), Monash University, Coronavirus research \$175,000, *"Development of an inhaled RNA therapy for the prevention and treatment of coronavirus infections"*
- [Prof Jake Shortt](#), Monash University, Cancer research, \$190,000, *"Dual-targeted inhibitors of BET bromodomains and PI3-kinase for cancer therapy"*

**Grant funded via NFMRI & Equity Trustees partnership – funders include The NSW Community Foundation, the Vernon Sinclair Fund and the NSW Community Foundation – Nicholas & Phyllis Pinter Trust.*

NFMRI CEO, Dr Noel Chambers, noted that the Foundation was excited to be able to provide over \$1.1 million in existing and new funding to advance some of Australia's most promising innovations.

Prof Nicholas Opie was awarded the Dr John Raftos AM Medal for Advancing Innovation, which is awarded every two years to an existing or past NFMRI grant recipient for an outstanding contribution towards the development and advancement of a biomedical innovation.

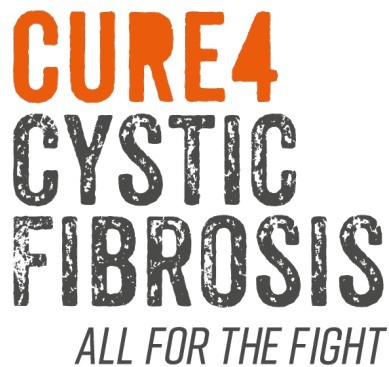
"The grant from the NFMRI helped us at a critical time in the development of the Stentrode and led to an increased understanding about the way Brain-Computer Interfaces (BCIs) can assist patients regain functional independence in their lives. We have a brilliant team of researchers and clinicians working with us to develop this technology which will truly help people with neurological disease. I am honored to receive the Dr John Raftos AM Award for Advancing Innovation on behalf of Synchron" Prof Opie said.

Dr Chambers thanked NFMRI's funding partners, including The Mason Foundation, The NSW Community Foundation, The Vernon Sinclair Fund, and The NSW Community Foundation – Nicholas and Phyllis Pinter Trust (all managed by Equity Trustees), State Trustees Australia Foundation as well as the Cure4 Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Dr Chambers emphasised that "support from our partners enables us to scale our ability to advance research and innovations towards potential future treatments and options for those in need that would otherwise be left unfunded. Our recent Strategy Impact Report outlined a success rate of 62% for NFMRI-

funded projects securing next-step partners, leveraging a total of over \$45m in external support.”

[Read more about our research projects by visiting our website here.](#)



[BACK](#)

NFMRI Conference "Research with Purpose 2022"





NFMRI's fifth conference, Research with Purpose, has been rescheduled due to COVID and will now be taking place on the 22nd-24th of November 2022 at [The Anchorage Hotel & Spa](#) in Port Stephens, New South Wales (approximately 30 minutes from Newcastle).

To make it easier for delegates travelling from interstate and to suit various travel itineraries, the conference will commence later in the afternoon on the 22nd of November 2022 and will conclude mid-afternoon on the 24th of November 2022. Our draft program and early bird registrations will be available early next year.

[BACK](#)

NFMRI's 2022 Funding Opportunities

The National Foundation for Medical Research and Innovation (NFMRI), together with The Mason Foundation, are pleased to announce the following 2022 funding opportunities below.

NFMRI seeks to strategically support biomedical research into potential new drugs, medicines, tools, diagnostics, vaccines and devices. Our targeted support enables research to cross what is often referred to as the 'valley of death' and advance towards attracting the next-step partner on the translation pathway.

Those interested in applying for funding should read more about

our [strategy](#) and [portfolios](#) or attend one of our [online Q&A sessions](#) prior to making a submission. Our [success stories](#) and [current research](#) also provide a good indication as to the types of projects we normally support and most common questions are addressed in our [FAQs](#) section.

Should applicants have any additional questions, NFMRI is holding [online grant round Q&A sessions](#) in the new year.

NFMRI 2022 Funding Opportunities

1. Alzheimer's Disease Grant Round - now open

As part of our partnership with The Mason Foundation (managed by Equity Trustees), NFMRI is seeking EOIs for Alzheimer's disease research.

We strongly encourage women to apply and for the researcher leading the project day-to-day to be listed as the chief investigator, including mid-career researchers.

Focus: Alzheimer's disease applications that fall within portfolios 1, 2 & 3 (preference for 2 & 3), open nationally. More information about this grant round, including the expression of interest form, can be found [here](#).

Closing date: 6pm AEST on Monday, 21 March 2022

2. NFMRI General Grant Round - opening soon: 27 January 2022

Expressions of interest for our general grant round will soon open. Applications for innovations across all diseases and conditions are sought from Australian publicly funded research organisations.

Focus: Open nationally across all diseases and conditions affecting humans. Applications that fall within portfolios 2 & 3 only. More information about this grant round can be found [here](#).

Closing date: 6pm AEST on Monday, 21 March 2022

3. Nominations for Dr John Dixon Hughes OAM Medal

NFMRI is pleased to offer the Dr John Dixon Hughes Medal for Medical Research Innovation every two years to a researcher under the age of 45 for

outstanding contribution towards the development and advancement of a biomedical innovation related to the nature, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and incidence of disease and other health problems that have a significant impact on the health of humans.

The Medal will be awarded with a prize of \$50,000. The prize will be in the form of a grant to support the research activities of the recipient. Nominations are now open and are treated as commercial-in-confidence.

The Medal will be awarded to the researcher judged to be responsible for the best biomedical innovation and development paper published, patent taken out, or commercial-in-confidence report in the previous two calendar years. Innovations will include Australian research and discoveries into new medicines, vaccines, biologicals, devices, tools or diagnostics.

Self nominations are not accepted. More information on the nomination process can be found [here](#).

Nominations will close at 6pm AEST on Friday, 20 May 2022.

[BACK](#)

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.



**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 breadth and depth across diseases and innovations

nfmri.org.au enquiries@nfmri.org.au

Professor Janet Davies
"NFMRI can foster a culture that enhances commercial uptake of our biomedical innovations, mentor academic inventors and facilitate connections between academia, philanthropy and commercial sectors"

A. Prof Bernard Flynn
"NFMRI provides critical assistance to researchers in bridging the 'valley of death' that separates basic science from viable therapies"

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 reproducible evidence of success, NFMRI established a targeted partnering program to assist other well-governed funders of research access to 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

[BACK](#)

Recent blog posts

- [Impact review finds 62% of supported projects attracted next-step partners leveraging over \\$45m](#)
- [Measuring for success](#)
- [More than \\$1.6m in research funding announced](#)
- [From evidence to practice: exploring translational pathways for clinical medical science and public health research](#)
- [Increasing capacity and expanding capabilities using technology](#)



*Copyright © *2021 National Foundation for Medical Research and Innovation, All rights reserved.*

Our mailing address is:

PO Box 6247, Highton VIC 3216
Level 12, 20 Martin Place, Sydney 2000

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

www.nfmri.org.au | enquiries@nfmri.org.au