



Australian
Academy of Health and
Medical Sciences

Strategic Plan 2019—2022



The Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences is the impartial, authoritative, cross-sector voice of health and medical science in Australia. We are an independent, interdisciplinary body of Fellows elected by their peers for their distinguished achievements and exceptional contributions to health and medical science in Australia.

The diversity of our Fellowship means we are a representative and independent voice, in which potential conflicts of interest are collectively minimised. Through them we engage with the community, industry and governments.

The Academy is uniquely positioned to convene cross-sector stakeholders from across Australia to address the most pressing health challenges facing society.

Purpose

To advance health and medical research in Australia and its translation into benefits for all, by fostering leadership within our sector, providing expert advice to decision makers, and engaging patients and the public.

Vision

A future in which health and medical science, with the Academy as its champion, drives sustained improvement in the health of the Australian and global community.



Strategic Objectives

Influence Policy

Provide independent and research-based expert advice on challenges and opportunities in health, enabling decisions informed by the best available evidence.



- Use our expertise and convening power to develop trusted policy advice to governments, industry, and healthcare on issues in health and medicine that demand an authoritative voice.
- Influence relevant policy to foster a strong environment for research and innovation in Australia, built on a healthy pipeline across discovery, translation, clinical research and prevention.
- Provide a forum for cross-sector dialogue and consultation with patients and the public, so that more Australians play a role in the nation's health and medical research future.



Celebrate Excellence

Promote excellence in all we do, underpinned by an active Fellowship of Australia's best and brightest researchers, which can reflect the full diversity of health and medical sciences.



- Elect Australia's best and brightest as Fellows and take proactive measures to deliver diversity and inclusion across our Fellowship, throughout our programs and in the external presentation of the Academy.
- Maximise engagement in our work across the breadth of our community of Fellows and Associate Members, supporting their participation within the Academy and across the health and medical science landscape.
- Assist and coordinate promotion of world-class Australian medical research and its implications and impacts, including the achievements of our Fellows and the work of the Academy.



Nurture Talented Research Leaders

Cultivate an environment in Australia in which future health and medical science leaders can thrive – where they can represent the community in which we work.



- Grow the size of our mentorship scheme and develop further opportunities for its participants, to bring greater benefit to more of Australia's future health and medical research leaders – clinical and non-clinical.
- Build and broaden our events portfolio, including our Life as a Clinician Scientist program, to inspire, encourage and support more early- and mid-career researchers in all States and Territories.
- Develop new initiatives, where there is a demonstrated need to better support the next generation of research leaders.



Support Indigenous Health & Wellbeing

Strengthen our contribution to improving Indigenous health and wellbeing and the representation of researchers of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent.



- Introduce methods to monitor representation within our Fellowship, mentorship scheme, and in any new programs, and use this data to identify actions to deliver improvement.
- Promote better representation of Indigenous researchers within the health and medical sciences more broadly – through our advocacy work and by profiling individuals within our own activities, including our online presence and events.
- In all our policy projects, take opportunities wherever possible to address issues and impacts on Indigenous researchers and/or health challenges, drawing particular attention to the urgent need to address health inequities.

Achieving our objectives

Over the course of the strategy period, we will build our capacity and reputation as a modern learned Academy, underpinned by financial sustainability, transparency and good governance. We will:

- Secure the financial resources needed to deliver the strategy and achieve financial sustainability by 2022.
- Implement a communications plan to underpin delivery of the strategy.
- Develop partnerships and collaborations with key organisations to increase the influence and impact of our activities, including ACOLA and the other learned Academies.
- Engage with key stakeholders who have a role in setting the agenda for the research and innovation environment – particularly those in health and medicine, including the MRFF, NHMRC and ARC.



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