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Western Australian
Future Health Research
& Innovation Fund

Dear Minister

**RECOMMENDATION REGARDING FUTURE HEALTH RESEARCH AND INNOVATION
FUND PRIORITIES FOR 2020/21**

I, John Van Der Wielen, on behalf of the Future Health Research and Innovation Fund Advisory Council, of which I am the Chairperson, recommend the Priorities below for your approval, noting that they will initially apply to the 2020/21 financial year.

Yours sincerely



John Van Der Wielen
CHAIRPERSON

FUTURE HEALTH RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FUND ADVISORY COUNCIL

December 2020

Proposed RESEARCH Priorities

Number	Priority
1	Provide cash commitments for submission to major competitive co-funding programs, making Western Australian-led applications more competitive and, therefore, increasing the State's share of national and international competitive funding.
2	Support research translation to foster a vibrant research translation culture in the public health system, facilitate quantifiable buy-in from health system leadership and improve patient care and outcomes.
3	Build capacity in the collection, analysis and communication of health data to facilitate translational research projects aimed at producing health benefits for individuals and their families and improving the health system.
4	Provide opportunities for all clinicians to undertake research, helping them to build a long-term research career and provide opportunities to rapidly translate findings into better healthcare.
5	Determine a biobank model that meets WA research and innovation needs and that represents international best practice.
6	Enhance clinical trial capacity and expertise to improve the quality of clinical trials in Western Australia (WA) and make the state more attractive to funders of clinical trials (grant funding and commercial sponsors)

Proposed INNOVATION Priorities

Number	Priority
1	Establish an innovation seed fund to support early stage ideas, which will attract at least 1:1 co-funding from other partners and will enable these innovative ideas to secure follow-on funding from commercial/other funders.
2	Provide funding for innovation partnerships that include health system employees, to encourage projects focused at health system priorities and aid the quicker translation into clinical and diagnostic practice.
3	Target high-performing innovators in WA to secure the State's long-term prominence in strategically important areas.
4	Provide mentoring support for early- and mid-career innovators, helping them to achieve independence more quickly and improving the quality and capacity of innovation in WA.
5	Enhance skills in innovation (including commercialisation), which will advance the quality and capacity of innovation in WA and help WA innovators to obtain funding to support their work.