



**Medical Research Future Fund Genomics Health Futures Mission:
National Consultation on the refreshed Roadmap and Implementation Plan**

1. Are the priority areas for investment identified in the refreshed Implementation Plan the most effective way for delivering on the Genomics Health Futures Mission’s goal and aims?

Funding allocations should reflect research type, impact, capacity in Australia and progress to date. \$5M for rare disease from remaining \$266M represents disinvestment in a foundational area with demonstrated impact.

Development/maintenance of coordinated infrastructure requires >\$8M. Significant overinvestment proposed for other areas, particularly pharmacogenomics and polygenic risk, is not commensurate with Australia’s research capacity.

Invest in infrastructure for data sharing, interoperability, and secondary research to maximise impacts.

Include consumer involvement and infrastructure across priorities, and build industry partnerships via co-funding opportunities.

Change grant guidelines to embed ELSI, consumer involvement and Indigenous priorities across all projects (e.g. same CIs on multiple projects). Health economics should be a key consideration to support research translation potential. Impactful ELSI research should be eligible for funding (e.g. A-GLIMMER).

2. Are there existing research activities which could be utilised to contribute to the Genomics Health Futures Mission refreshed Roadmap and/or Implementation Plan aims and priority areas for investment? How can these be leveraged?

To align with the GHFM Review findings, there must be a stronger focus on maximising complementarity and minimising duplication in Australia’s genomic research funding landscape. Direct investment to develop and maintain genomic information management infrastructure is critical to help build Australian genomic research capacity. This will enable



data from GHFM-funded projects to be consolidated and leveraged for secondary research, and facilitate steps towards research translation (e.g. health technology assessment applications).

Some programs funded in earlier GHFM rounds have built active national networks facilitating vibrant, nationally coordinated research collaborations. Opportunities for re-investment to maintain these networks should be considered.

Further guidance needs to be provided on how collaborations with other MRFF initiatives/missions, partnerships with stakeholders (e.g. industry, patient advocacy) and international relationships will be established.

3. Are the ‘Evaluation approach and measures’ appropriate for assessing and monitoring progress towards the Genomics Health Futures Mission’s goal and aims?

Further detail is required on how progress will be assessed against the proposed measures, including ‘The community trusts, accepts and adopts new technologies and treatments’, as this is currently unclear.

Measures could be added to:

- Embed consumer involvement with remuneration and patient advocacy partnerships in research projects under Aim 3.
- Focus on infrastructure for interoperability, and data collection to maximise project impacts and build long-term capacity for genomics research in Australia under Aim 2.
- Assess readiness for translation of project outcomes once GHFM grant funding has ended under Aim 2.
- Evaluate stakeholder engagement, partnership building (regionally, nationally, and internationally) and increased capacity for Indigenous-led research under all aims.
- Highlight evidence (health economics, diagnostic rates etc.) required to measure progress.