



Australian Government

NHMRC National Institute for Dementia Research

## STRATEGIC ROADMAP FOR DEMENTIA RESEARCH AND TRANSLATION Outcomes Statement

The Strategic Roadmap for Dementia Research and Translation guides the dementia research sector in meeting the urgent challenge that dementia presents to Australia's health, economy and society. This accompanying Outcomes Statement outlines the following goals for the dementia research sector in adopting the recommendations of the Roadmap.

Goal 1. Achieving earlier diagnosis to reduce risk and prevent dementia through:

- Introducing new and less invasive diagnostic approaches, including identifying new biomarkers and improving current and developing improved memory assessment tools suitable for Australians of all cultural backgrounds
- Strengthening the evidence-base for dementia risk reduction and prevention interventions
- A personalised approach introduced across the health system through the sensitive deployment of diagnostic tools, evidence-based guidelines, and algorithms that combine genetic, lifestyle, medical and/or environmental factors
- Partnerships with chronic disease foundations to disseminate dementia risk reduction and prevention strategies

Goal 2. Identifying new targets, developing new technologies, and validating new drug candidates through:

- Pursuing a deeper understanding of the molecular and cellular mechanisms underlying neurodegeneration, identifying new targets, technologies and drug candidates for treatment, and linking with major international drug development programs
- New national and international collaborations and industry partnerships
- Ensuring the necessary research infrastructure is in place for internationally competitive dementia research
- Identifying measures to ensure health system readiness for delivery of a disease-modifying treatment or cure

Goal 3. Informing health system change that will deliver improved quality of life and care through:

- Research that guides affordable, sustainable and integrated health care and services across the disease course
- Developing new tools, technologies, methods, and guidelines that are for adoption, at scale, to improve quality of life in home, community and formal care settings

- Improved care protocols and pathways that address the needs, strengths, preferences and values of people with dementia, their families and those who are supporting them in the community

Goal 4. Addressing the high rates of dementia experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians through:

- Developing improved diagnostic tools that can enable timely, culturally safe and high quality diagnosis, treatment and care
- Producing community development programs that provide greater dementia awareness, literacy and respect for elders with dementia
- Working across sectors, providers and government agencies to address emerging evidence relating to dementia risk
- Identifying the current barriers to dementia health service provision for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and developing and trialling improved, feasible models of care, tailored to the needs of particular communities
- Advancing an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Strategic Roadmap for Dementia Research and Translation that ensures a strengths-based and healing-centred approach is founded on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge systems, and allows for community leadership to ensure effective implementation

Goal 5. Retaining and building research capacity through:

- Fostering growth in Australia's dementia research workforce, strengthening skills and addressing all priority areas
- Provision and monitoring of comprehensive dementia research infrastructure
- Delivery of internationally-linked forums and meetings, shaping dementia research strategy and implementation
- Negotiation and establishment of novel support arrangements across government, industry and philanthropy in support of robust interdisciplinary programs and approaches

NHMRC National Institute for Dementia Research: Accelerating Research – Enhancing Collaboration – Creating Change

- Galvanising the sector through a virtual membership program
- Involving people with dementia and their families and carers in all aspects and stages of research
  - Delivering research strategy
- Coordinating the research effort with a focus on maximising the impact of major funded programs
  - Growing research capacity, collaborations and partnerships
    - Connecting government, industry and philanthropy
    - Communicating outcomes and impact