

The Priority-driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme (PdCCRS)

What is the PdCCRS?

The Priority-driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme (PdCCRS) is an annual, national, priority-driven research grants scheme which brings together Cancer Australia and other Government and non-Government funders of cancer research (Funding Partners) to coordinate and maximise investment in cancer research across Australia.

The PdCCRS grants fund:

- Three-year projects, or
- One- or two-year projects led by early career researchers.

PdCCRS three-year project grants are designed to support cancer research which will have a direct impact on clinical practice, policy and patient outcomes.

Purpose

The PdCCRS funds research which can help reduce the impact of cancer in the community and improve outcomes for all Australians affected by cancer.

The PdCCRS funds priority-driven cancer research projects which are:

- Outcomes and impact focused;
- Translatable into clinical practice, policy and/or further research,
- Collaborative; and
- Foster consumer participation in cancer research, from design to implementation.

PdCCRS Research priorities

Each Funding Partner identifies its own research priority areas.

Cancer Australia's research priorities are evidence-based, and were developed in consultation with advisory groups and approved by the Minister for Health.

How the scheme operates

Cancer Australia uses the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) grants program processes to facilitate submission and assessment of PdCCRS applications.

Applications are assessed in a two-step process:

Step 1 – NHMRC assesses applications for scientific quality, significance / innovation and team quality and capability relevant to the application.

Step 2 – Grant Review Committees (GRCs) constituted by Cancer Australia and its Funding Partners review applications for outcomes and impact, translation, collaboration, and consumer involvement.

Scores from the NHMRC and GRC assessment steps are weighted and combined to provide a single assessment score for each application. Applications are funded in merit order taking into account alignment with research priorities of Cancer Australia and its Funding Partners.

NHMRC endorses applications funded through this scheme in recognition of scientific merit.

Awarded grants 2007 - 2018

388 grants awarded over \$137 million

17 Funding Partners have invested \$54 million, funding or co-funding 270 (70%) grants

Cancer Australia has invested \$83 million, funding or co-funding 302 (78%) grants