



Health Translation SA

> RESEARCH > ACTION > IMPACT

Annual Review 2018



HEALTH SERVICE NEED	SUPPORTING EVIDENCE	COLLABORATORS	IMPACT	SCALA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> most team out building from engagement breakdown through "SB: Teams of mental illness care" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> specifically in hospitals challenges in reporting issues focus group & feedback session ↳ tried and tested with SA health staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SA Health - SAHNC or LHM SAHNC wellbeing centre Flinders University targeted professional groups Paediatrics / front-line staff Corrections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saving 3 ↑ emotional wellbeing Culture in workforce ↳ long-term change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pricked along "save"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> suicide 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SAHNC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ resilience change system structural primary care HE policies suicide rates psych 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Already SAHNC

Acknowledgement

Health Translation SA respectfully acknowledges Aboriginal people as the traditional owners and custodians of the land and waterways on which we meet and where our facilities are located. We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationship of Aboriginal people to their Country. We pay respect to the Elders past, present and future, community members and culture and continue to uphold their ongoing relationship to the land and waterways.



Our Vision

To continuously enhance the rate of translation of health and medical research into health care to create a self-improving, sustainable and high-quality health care system.



Our Mission

Health Translation SA aims to enable research findings to be translated into action, as quickly as possible and in a practical way, to ensure that health research can positively impact on the health of individuals and the community.



Our Work

Planning and identifying the key health priorities in South Australia by consulting with all partners and key stakeholders and harnessing the strengths of all our partners.

Fostering engagement and connectivity between the partner agencies.

Facilitating co-operation and collaboration between researchers, healthcare services and end users.

Promoting and supporting the use of evidence-based health care by providing education, training and professional development opportunities.

Building relationships with industry to accelerate new research findings and innovations to clinical application and patient benefit.

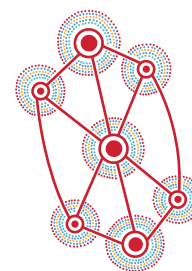
Leveraging and supporting new research by promoting, and in some cases, coordinating funding opportunities.

Providing a framework for the systematic participation of consumers in translational research.

Developing ways to effectively measure the impact of health and medical research on patient outcomes across our health system.

The Logo

The logo motif is derived from an original art piece painted by Professor Alex Brown, an Aboriginal man from the New South Wales south coast.



Alex is Deputy Director at the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI), SAHMRI Aboriginal Health Theme Leader, and a member of Health Translation SA Board of Partners. The artwork represents "collaboration" and highlights the importance of connecting the efforts of individuals, organisations and communities if we are to realise the potential of the partnership approach that underpins Health Translation SA. It acknowledges that a collaborative effort with a common vision is required to tackle the issues that currently undermine the health of South Australians.

Our Partners

University of Adelaide

University of South Australia

Flinders University

SAHMRI

Adelaide PHN

Country SA PHN

SA Health and Wellbeing

Health Consumer Alliance SA

Aboriginal Health Council of SA



From the Honorary Executive Director and Board Chair

This is my third year as Honorary Executive Director and Chair of the Board of Health Translation SA (HTSA), and I am very proud of its achievements since accreditation by the National Health and Medical Research Council in 2015. As one of four inaugural Advanced Health Research Translation Centres (AHRTCs), HTSA is unique in that it is a state-wide collaboration. This poses extra challenges in terms of ensuring all stakeholders in South Australia have an opportunity to engage and participate in the work of the Centre.

In 2018 we met this challenge by focussing intently on strengthening our existing partnerships as well as establishing many new connections. This success can be attributed to our new team working to coordinate the activities of HTSA led by the CEO, Wendy Keech. She has spent considerable hours meeting and facilitating co-operation and collaboration between researchers, healthcare services and end users.

Support for HTSA from our partners continues, evidenced through the establishment of a new Governance Agreement and commitment to financial contributions.

Building on the solid foundational work laid in the first two years, we have seen significant growth in HTSA in 2018. This is due in part to the new opportunities provided by the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF). In total HTSA has received \$4.22 million MRFF funding for 17 projects, with representation across all our partner agencies. 9 were implemented in 2018 and 8 are planned for 2019.

In July 2018 I was pleased to take on the role of Chair of the Australian Health Research Alliance (AHRA) which was formed in 2016, soon after the first four AHRTCS received accreditation from the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC). AHRA membership currently includes seven AHRTCS and two Centres for Innovation in Regional Health (CIRHs). Like HTSA, AHRA has benefitted from the disbursements from the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF). As a result, we have been able to collaborate on a whole new level and across states, sectors and entities. Having a platform for nationwide collaboration, with less focus on competition, has been transformative.

I would like to thank the HTSA board members for their time, expertise and support. HTSA would not exist without the support of our partners and their commitment to our mission to deliver practical benefits from medical research and medical innovation to as many Australians as possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Wesseling'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent 'S' and 'W'.

Professor Steve Wesseling



From the CEO

This has been a year of review and consolidation, as well as expansion and growth for Health Translation SA. Given this was my first year in the position it was a good opportunity to examine the role of the Centre and its achievements since accreditation in 2015, and consider if, and how, the role has changed, what has been achieved, and what new opportunities lie ahead.

In early 2018 we undertook a review of HTSA's governance and operations. Extensive consultation was undertaken with all partners that has led to a governance "refresh" and the creation of a Board of Partners. A new governance agreement has been progressed that includes financial contributions from all partners. By combining the expertise and strengths of our partners, Health Translation SA (HTSA) is well placed to address the major healthcare challenges in South Australia. We do this by focusing on three areas of work – Projects, People and Platforms.

Much of my time has been spent 'Joining the Dots' by facilitating co-operation and collaboration between researchers, health care services and end users. This included working with the nine state-based project teams who received funding from the first round of the Medical Research Future Fund's (MRFF) to deliver Rapid Impact Projects. Completed in December 2018 these projects addressed key health priorities in South Australia including Diabetes, Aboriginal Health, Ageing, First 1000 Days, Mental Health, Joint Registries, Bowel Cancer, Cardiac Rehabilitation and Stroke.

Another round of MRFF funding (2019 Round 2 - Rapid Impact Project Grants) was made available in mid-2018 for commencement in January 2019, requiring HTSA to coordinate an open grant process that resulted in 95 applications. Following an extensive and diverse review process involving over 45 researchers, healthcare providers and consumers from a range of organisations and institutions 8 projects were funded to deliver rapid impact projects by December 2019.

We were also very pleased to announce a name change from SA Academic Health Science and Translation Centre to Health Translation SA. Communication is a key component of effective translational research and consequently it is one of the key platforms of HTSA. A new website is being built and a communication strategy will be implemented.

Health Translation SA is progressing strategically and operationally with activity growth, promotion and increased coordination capacity to enable work with health services, clinicians and academics to drive evidence into practice and policy across the state.

I am very excited for the future of Health Translation SA. In 2019 we will review our current priorities to ensure we are addressing the needs in SA while also taking advantage of our research and academic strengths. These refreshed priorities will help guide our strategic directions for 2019 to 2021. There are also exciting opportunities emerging through our close links with the newly established Adelaide Biomed City (ABmC) and the soon-to-be built SAHMRI 2.

Finally, I would like to thank my Board of Partners whose expertise and guidance have assisted me greatly in my first year of CEO. In particular, I would like to thank Professor Steve Wesselingh, our Executive Director and Chair of the Board, whose support has been invaluable during this time of significant change and growth. I would also like to thank the HTSA staff for all their efforts.

Wendy Keech

Board of Partners



**Professor Steve Wesselingh
(Chair)**
South Australian Medical
Research Institute



Professor Alastair Burt
University of Adelaide



Professor Ian Olver
University of South
Australia



Shane Mohor
Aboriginal Health
Council of SA



Kim Hosking
Country SA Primary
Health Network



**Professor Jonathan Craig
(alternate meetings)**
Flinders University



**Professor Alison Kitson
(alternate meetings)**
Flinders University



Professor Alex Brown
South Australian Medical
Research Institute



Deb Lee
Adelaide Primary Health Network



Chris McGowan
SA Health and Wellbeing



Julia Overton
Health Consumers Alliance SA

Staff



Wendy Keech
CEO



Jenni Carr
Senior Project Officer



Nicole Sargent
Senior Project Officer



Alex Michelmore
Senior Project Officer
Consumer Engagement

Significant Achievements

Medical Research Future Fund

We received \$2.22 million through the Medical Research Future Fund in the 2017 Federal Budget to undertake high quality research projects in national health and medical research priority areas.

These 9 projects were successfully completed in December 2018.

We received 95 applications for a second round of Medical Research Future Fund funding to the value of \$2 million for Health Impact grants and we oversaw a review process which included the establishment and coordination of 7 panels of 7 reviewers within a 3-week turnaround. **8 projects were awarded grants for 2019.**

Bowel Cancer

Economic modelling conducted as part of the No Australians dying of Bowel Cancer Initiative (formerly Beat Bowel Cancer Project) confirms that **screening programs and patterns of care across the bowel cancer pathway reduce deaths** and contribute significant cost savings to the health system. This has been used to advocate for significant resource allocation into colonoscopy services.

Registry of Older South Australians

The Registry of Older South Australians (ROSA) which **monitors the health, service utilisation, medication use, mortality, and other outcomes** of people receiving aged care services, was rolled out across South Australia in 2018. The data was used to showcase the unique coverage and ability ROSA has to deliver evidence to guide future planning to meet the needs of older Australians accessing aged care and health care services.

Premature Birth Prevention

Professor Maria Makrides and her Healthy Mothers, Babies and Children team, with support from an MRFF Rapid Impact Grant, captured attention all over the globe with their Cochrane Review which demonstrated **omega 3 fish oil supplements are a cheap, easy and effective intervention to prevent premature birth**. This reduces the health and emotional burdens of preterm birth and saves the Australian public healthcare system at least \$50 million per year.

Cardiac Rehabilitation

The Cardiac Rehabilitation and Secondary Prevention project developed a set of **quality indicators to measure the effectiveness of Cardiac Rehabilitation programs**. The monitoring system is being integrated into the SA Health Acute Coronary Syndrome dashboard to ensure the continuous improvement of Cardiac Rehabilitation programs to better meet the needs of heart patients.

Aboriginal Chronic Disease Monitoring

Development of a Chronic Disease Monitoring and Evaluation Framework consisting of a suite of Aboriginal Health indicators is being developed into **an Aboriginal-specific dashboard** by SA Health providing accessible, up-to-date information on health outcomes.

Australian Health Research Alliance

HTSA played a very **active role in the Australian Health Research Alliance (AHRA)** with Professor Steve Wesselingh as Chair of the Alliance until July 2019, supported by Wendy Keech as Chair of the AHRA Operations Group.

Connecting with Community Forum

The first Connecting with Community Forum was held on the 12 December and **brought together over 60 consumers and researchers** currently undertaking consumer engagement activities across SAHMRI, HTSA and Adelaide Bio-Med City. The Forum provided an opportunity to update consumer representatives and researchers on state and national consumer engagement initiatives, showcase current local examples of consumer engagement and seek feedback on future activities.

Health Translation SA Refresh

Investment was made into streamlining and refreshing the governance and operations of Health Translation SA to **ensure transparent and robust strategic oversight and financial sustainability**. This included a name change from SA Academic Health Science and Translation Centre to Health Translation SA.

Stakeholder Forum

The purpose of the Stakeholder Forum is to inform, consult and involve key stakeholders in the development of priorities, projects, enabling platforms, people development and advocacy activities of HTSA. The Stakeholder Forum meets twice a year.

The inaugural Stakeholder Forum, chaired by Lincoln Size, CEO Cancer Council SA, was held on Monday 22 October 2018. A workshop component focused on gaining an understanding the 3 health-service or health system priorities for each stakeholder. The findings from the Forum will be used to inform the work of HTSA in setting the health research translation agenda in South Australia.

Projects

Flagship Program

Expert groups that have secured competitive grants under the auspices of HTSA. These projects collectively form our Flagship Program.

They bring together research teams across various themes and disciplines, to build on strengths and address areas of significant need in South Australia.

- The South Australian Aboriginal Chronic Disease Consortium
- The first 1000 days of life
- The Registry for Older South Australians (ROSA)
- No Australians Dying of Bowel Cancer
- Cardiac Rehabilitation and Secondary Prevention

2018 Round 1 Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) Rapid Translation Projects

Projects supported by one-year funding from the Medical Research Future Fund Rapid Applied Research Translation Impact Grant Program.

SA Aboriginal Chronic Disease Consortium: Improving Care across the Continuum (Lead: Professor Alex Brown)

Through extensive consultation and buy-in from the Consortium's governance bodies, partners and relevant healthcare services, this project saw the successful development of a Chronic Disease Monitoring and Evaluation Framework. Additionally, a suite of Aboriginal Health indicators is being developed into an Aboriginal-specific dashboard by SA Health.

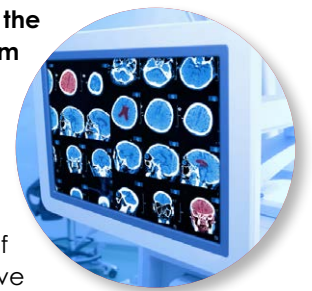
Together the framework and Aboriginal Health dashboard will help provide accessible, up-to-date information on health outcomes and identify opportunities to improve health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander in South Australia, as well as measure progress towards achieving these.



Stroke data linkage – tracking the implementation of stroke reform in SA (Lead: A/Professor Susan Hillier)

A new 'Hub and Spoke' model of care was previously rolled-out at the RAH as part of the Transforming Health initiative to address inequities in the quality and timeliness of stroke services in South Australia. By tracking and linking the patient outcome data with processes of care for people receiving stroke services via this model, this project provided evidence that this model is improving patient care.

Specifically, this project showed that more people are accessing these quality stroke interventions and are getting there faster after a stroke. The health of patients coming through this model is also modestly improved. Work is continuing to evaluate the model in rural and remote South Australia and to assess its cost-effectiveness.



Further MRFF funding will see this project extended into 2019/ 2020.

Reducing morbidity mortality and costs by initiation of in-hospital integrated care for patients with Type 2 Diabetes (The REMIT-2-D Project) (Lead: Professor Gary Wittert)



The aim was to develop an in-hospital intervention for all patients admitted to hospital (for any reason) who have Type II Diabetes. The intervention is designed to be culturally appropriate and tailored to improve disease-specific health literacy and foster self-management skills with support from family and carers.

These elements, together with a focus on psychosocial barriers and facilitators and the establishment of appropriate community linkages, create a responsive, person-centred system of care involving clinicians, primary care providers and community services working with each other, and with people with T2D to ensure coordinated, effective, efficient and culturally appropriate patient care that reflects the whole of a person's health needs. Further in-hospital testing, consultation and implementation will take place in 2019.

Further MRFF funding will see this project extended into 2019/ 2020.

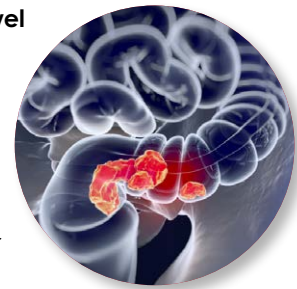
Reducing the Risk of Preterm Birth (Lead: Professor Maria Makrides)



SAHMRI Women and Kids have identified that omega-3 fatty acid (fish/ algal oil) supplementation for women expecting a single baby can reduce early preterm birth by about a third. This project attracted a national and international media storm when the Cochrane Review summarising the findings from the review of 70 clinical trials was released.

During extensive engagement with pregnant women and antenatal health professionals, the need to raise awareness around premature birth and its consequences was identified as a priority. To meet these needs, we have developed initial advice on dose and timing with informational materials (available at www.sahmriresearch.org/omega3) in collaboration with the project's Community Board and health professionals. The team is now working on identifying which women (e.g. those with low omega-3 levels) will benefit most from fish/algal oil supplementation and how to easily identify these women through dried blood spot technology.

No Australians Dying from Bowel Cancer Initiative (formerly the Beat Bowel Cancer Project) (Lead: A/Professor Caroline Miller)



Research demonstrated that realistic targets established for bowel screening participation (60%) and follow-up colonoscopy (90%) by 2020 almost halves the current age-standardised colorectal cancer (CRC) mortality rate, and from 2030-2040 is predicted to save the health system about \$450 million. These targets are being communicated to health service providers across the SA Health system and used to establish relevant indicators and prioritise interventions.

The project also established a cross-disciplinary network and plotted a course towards zero deaths from CRC. The mortality goal has helped to develop an appropriate goal-directed strategy towards zero deaths from CRC which has four steps:

1. Lifestyle targets to reduce CRC incidence,
2. Improve participation in the National Bowel Cancer Screening Program (NBCSP),
3. Achieve timely diagnostic colonoscopy, and
4. Improve survival in more advanced CRC, along with measurement and feedback.

Further MRFF funding will see this project extended into 2019/ 2020.

State-wide Healthy Ageing Registry in South Australia - Registry of Older South Australians (Lead: Professor Steve Wesselingh)



This project contributed to the successful establishment and roll-out of the Registry of Older South Australians (ROSA) across South Australia in 2018. ROSA is a resource that allows evidence-driven decision-making to improve the lives of all Australians accessing aged care services. Like other Australian Clinical Quality Registries, ROSA has been designed to monitor the effectiveness and appropriateness of care over time, to identify variance and advise on best practices.

Additionally, in 2018 the ROSA team undertook a number of projects using the Historical National ROSA dataset, providing evidence on the effect of wait time for home care services on the health of older Australians, the prevalence of dementia in the aged care population and its effect on mortality, and the increasing pervasiveness of pain in this population. These contributions showcase the unique coverage and ability ROSA has to deliver evidence to guide future planning.

Stakeholder Access to Real-time Patient Reported Outcome Measures (PROMs) Data for Joint Replacement (Lead: Ms Cindy Turner)



The Australian Orthopaedic Association National Joint Replacement Registry (AOANJRR) utilised MRFF funding to fast-track the design and delivery of multiple electronic dashboards to deliver real-time patient reported outcome (PROMs) data back to patients, surgeons, hospitals and other project stakeholders.

The collection of PROMs is currently being piloted by the AOANJRR at 50 sites across Australia with over 6,000 patients registered in the system thus far. The dashboards incorporate the patient's perspective about their pain, disability and recovery before and after joint replacement surgery. Whilst many surgeons and hospitals already collect PROMs on their patients the Registry is now able to provide comparisons for their patient cohort outcomes vs national averages.

The aim long term aim is to utilise PROMs to further improve patient outcomes after joint replacement by combining this data with other information already collected by the Registry. In 2019, data relating to post-operative outcomes will be collected, and patients will be able to access the dashboards to monitor their own progress and compare it with national averages.

Measure and inform cardiac rehabilitation services across South Australia (Lead: Professor Steve Nicholls)



Coronary rehabilitation (CR) clinicians, policy makers and researchers from primary and secondary care successfully developed a cardiac rehabilitation monitoring system. By mapping the outcomes of South Australian country and metropolitan patients attending CR, the group developed a set of quality indicators to measure the effectiveness of CR programs.

They also built a state-wide data linkage program to measure the outcomes of patients who are referred to cardiac rehabilitation programs across the state. The CR monitoring system is currently being integrated into the SA Health Acute Coronary Syndrome dashboard and will enable the continuous improvement of CR programs to better meet the needs of heart patients.

Establishment of a SA Mental Health Registry for improved outcomes in the SA Mental health care sector through better use of data. (Lead: Associate Professor Nirnanjan Bidargaddi)



This project focused on harnessing digital technology to improve the way that healthcare services are provided to people with a mental illness. The first tool developed was MINDtick- a smartphone application designed for the early detection of a relapse or decline in functioning associated with a variety of mental illnesses. The main aim of the pilot trial, conducted in the Southern Adelaide Local Health Network, was to collect smartphone sensor data from a sample of individuals currently experiencing mental illness. This data was used to develop machine-learning algorithms for identifying certain behavioural characteristics within phone use that could be used to alert a treating clinician to a patient's possible decline. This application is now poised for larger scale trials commencing in South Australia in 2019.

The Actionable Intime Insights (AI2) application was the second platform developed and explored whether the use of patient's Medicare and PBS data held in My Health Record could be a useful tool for clinicians and other healthcare professionals to provide optimal health care to patients with a serious mental illness. The AI2 trial assessed the feasibility and potential efficacy of using an innovative, digital data analytics application to support healthcare professionals to monitor, manage and treat patients with a serious mental illness. A large-scale intervention trial is planned for 2019.

Ultimately, both the AI2 and MINDtick platforms are part of a broader initiative to integrate multiple health data sets to create a unique mental health registry for South Australia.

Further MRFF funding will see this project extended into 2019/ 2020.

HTSA staff and MRFF 2018 Rapid Impact Project Teams



People

Staff Development Opportunities through Fellowships, Awards, and Exchanges

HTSA will continue to identify, promote and create opportunities for individual staff to be supported to develop research translation skills and experience through a range of opportunities.

Research in Action: Clinical Research Translation Fellowships

The CEO and Chair have presented at several events to promote the building of translation capacity of clinical staff.

HTSA has also been actively involved with AHRA in the development of models for the establishment of Clinical Research Translation Fellowships.

It has been a topic of discussion at HTSA Board level and with SA Health. Flinders University, a HTSA partner, recently held a 3-day Knowledge Translation Course.

HTSA promoted the course through its networks and the CEO participated in the training.

Research in Action: CareerTrackers

HTSA also participated in CareerTrackers, a national not-for-profit organisation that create pathways for Indigenous students by linking them with employers for paid, multi-year internships. During 2018 HTSA has supported an internship for a student who contributed to the following activities:

- Developing a toolkit of resources for both researchers and consumers to support consumer and community engagement activities across our partner organisations.
- Mapping out content/architecture and layout of the existing HTSA website in preparation for developing a new website which will be launched in early 2019.
- Mapping the availability of knowledge translation and implementation science courses and training across Australia.

Workforce Development and Training across the Research Translation Agenda

HTSA will create and support a range of opportunities including student events, short courses, and capacity building projects to build the understanding and skill sets across the work force to design, implement and evaluate research translation activities.

Research in Action: Student Open Night

On Monday 23 July 2018 HTSA and SAHMRI hosted a Student Open Night, which provided an opportunity for prospective students (primarily PHD and Honours Students) to meet with representatives from the three SA universities, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) and SAHMRI to explore their options to undertake research projects with a translational focus.

All our University Partners and several of the MRFF Project Groups were represented at the event.



Platforms

Data Access and Analytical Capacity

Improving access and improved analytic capacity is required in South Australia to strengthen opportunities to impact health care systems on many levels. It is a core platform for HTSA to grow our research translation potential. A Data Group coordinated by HTSA has been progressing a vision to create a one stop data repository with analytic capacity, to ensure that timely and comprehensively analysed population and health outcomes data is available to inform and underpin health services provision and reform in South Australia.

Key features of the vision for the future include:

- Data Repository - Consolidate access to all needed data in a secure and high functioning environment, including linked data, enabling existing mechanisms and client services.
- Analytic Capacity - Boost analytic expertise, building on existing strengths already in SA.
- Accelerate Processes - Invest in systems that will enable data to work efficiently and effectively learning from best practice activities being undertaken elsewhere.

System wide leadership is needed to provide accountability through the provision of analysed data, within government, in the private health system and at the interface where community members are moving between both the public and private health care systems, at both the acute and primary care levels. A highly capable data platform of this nature would allow South Australia to take advantage of our strengths, grow capacity within the state and put our data to work for health and economic benefit.

HTSA continues to work on improving data access and data analytics in SA as a priority. Investment in the data space is being considered with the next round of the MRFF funding.

The development of an indicative exemplar data set, demonstrated through the 'use cases' being produced by SA Health, will be a valuable resource to assist with influencing key decision makers in SA.

Implementation Evaluation and Health Economics

A group consisting of key implementation and evaluation researchers are investigating how we can support and advance implementation, evaluation and health economic activities across South Australia. There was agreement to develop a set of principles for future funding applications that provide clarity on translation research and how to conduct implementation projects.

Communications

- HTSA worked with all MRFF Project Teams to develop a one-page summary of each project for communication purposes.
- Following consultation with our partners and stakeholders HTSA was renamed Health Translation SA. This was endorsed by the Board of Partners on 15 August 2018.
- Circulation of a monthly Enewsletter - Joining the Dots – commenced in 2018
- A new HTSA website will be launched in early February 2019 to reflect new branding and to improve functionality. The new website will have the full functionality that we need to support the activities of the MRFF projects and the new requirements generated through our expanding community engagement program. A 12-month communication strategy for HTSA is being finalised to provide the framework to connect HTSA's vision and objectives with key messages, and support implementation and delivery.

Clinical Research

Through a Council of Australian Governments (COAG) initiative, SA Health has recently appointed a Project Officer to better support and streamline clinical trial processes in Australia. HTSA is working with SA Health and other key stakeholders, including Adelaide Biomed City, to develop this initiative further. The first activity will be to map all national and state clinical trials.



Consumer Engagement

HTSA works in partnership with South Australia's lead consumer advocacy agency Health Consumers Alliance of South Australia, and community members to ensure our research priorities and projects reflect the current and future health care needs of South Australians.

Community members play active roles within our Stakeholder Forum, grant planning and review processes, state and national research projects and other strategic planning activities. HTSA also contributes to national consumer and community engagement partnership activities through the Australian Health Research Alliance.

National Level

HTSA has been an active member of AHRA's Consumer and Community Involvement Project (CCI).

State Level

HTSA has established a Consumer and Community Engagement Action Group with representatives from each of the partner organisations. The Committee will focus on projects that build capacity amongst our partner organisations to involve consumers in health and medical research.

Activities will include:

- Training for researchers and consumers in how to undertake meaningful consumer and community engagement.
- Toolkit of resources for researchers and consumers. This is building on the work of the environmental scan recently completed by the AHRA CCI Sub-Committee.

Medical Research Future Fund Projects

- Worked with HTSA staff coordinating the Round 2 MRFF project review to recruit consumers for each grant review panel.
- Supported MRFF project staff to involve consumer and community members in their research projects.
- Recruited a consumer representative to be involved in the initial planning for the implementation of Round 3 MRFF project funding.

Capacity building across partner organisations

- HTSA is currently working to implement the SAHMRI Community Engagement Framework to help community members have a greater voice in research projects and activities.
- Partnered with Flinders Centre for Innovation in Cancer to run a seminar on consumer engagement in research, targeted at their basic researchers. Approximately 30 people attended this event and it has led to running a Partnering with Consumer Workshop in early 2019.
- Facilitated an Alzheimer's Disease 'Lunch & Learn' event on the 1 November 2018 with researchers from Adelaide University, Department of Molecular and Biomedical Science and SAHMRI, and 6 consumer representatives with a lived experience of the disease. Discussed how consumers and community members can be involved and help inform content in grant proposals being submitted by a SAHMRI researcher.
- In partnership with SAHMRI and Adelaide Bio-Med City, HTSA ran a 'Connecting with Community' Forum in December 2018. The Forum brought together over 60 consumers and researchers currently undertaking consumer engagement activities. The forum showcased current local examples of consumer engagement and sought feedback on future opportunities.



National Collaborations

HTSA is one of nine other NHMRC accredited Advanced Health Research Translation Centres across Australia that form AHRA, which works collaboratively at a national level to advocate for action to drive health research translation and research impact across Australia.

With HTSA's Honorary Chair Steve Wesselingh becoming Chair of the AHRA Council in July 2018 and Wendy Keech joining the AHRA operations team as Chair, HTSA has played a very significant role in AHRA successfully driving projects to advance national system level initiatives.

The AHRA Council meets monthly and there are ongoing interactions between staff sharing experiences, expertise and resources. Additionally, AHRA has been working closely with the MRFF to consider MRFF priorities, funding allocations, reporting requirements and reaccreditation activities for each Centre.

The AHRA Council are driving 4 national projects across the Alliance with MRFF funding support. National project steering committees are being led by various Centres.

1 Data Driven Healthcare Project

Led by Monash Partners Melbourne Academic Centre for Health and Sydney Health Partners. Gerry O'Callaghan and Professor David Roder represent HTSA

2 National Framework for Health Service Improvement and Sustainability Initiative

Led by the Sydney Partnership for Health, Education, Research and Enterprise (SPHERE), Brisbane Diamantina Health Partners and NSW Regional Health Partners. Professor Jonathon Karnon is the HTSA representative

3 Consumer Engagement

Led by Sydney Health Partners and the Western Australian Health Translation Network. Associate Professor Caroline Miller and Ellen Kerrins represent HTSA

4 The Indigenous Researcher and Capacity Building Initiative

Led by HTSA members Professor Alex Brown and Dr Kim O'Donnell



AHRA Meeting Nov 2018 Anne Kelso Chief Executive Officer NHMRC, Erica Kneipp Assistant Secretary Australian Department of Health, and Steve Wesselingh

Research in Action: Indigenous Researcher Capacity Building Network

Indigenous people remain under-represented in the health and medical research workforce. Yet the involvement of Indigenous researchers in designing, implementing and delivering the research to overcome inequalities experienced by this vulnerable population is critical. Building from the strengths of Indigenous researchers working to improve the health of Australia's First peoples is the aim of the Indigenous Research Network and Capacity Building Project.

Led by Professor Alex Brown, Theme Leader of Wardliparingga Aboriginal Research Unit and auspiced by the Australian Health Research Alliance (AHRA), the project takes a national approach to supporting and growing the next generation of Indigenous researchers working in Aboriginal health.

During 2018 the Indigenous Research Network and Capacity Building Project has been working with all AHRA partners to track and record existing Indigenous research strengths, expertise, projects, researchers and training opportunities to build a cohort of Indigenous researchers across the country. Using this knowledge, the network will create opportunities to develop and train of a cohort of Indigenous researchers with explicit skills in knowledge translation and exchange, targeted towards the implementation of timely research in the real-world context of Aboriginal communities and health services.



**Health
Translation SA**
RESEARCH > ACTION > IMPACT

For more information:

P +61 8 8128 4380

E enquiries@healthtranslationsa.org.au

Postal Address PO Box 11060 Adelaide SA 5001

Address SAHMRI, North Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000

healthtranslationsa.org.au