SA Health’s mission

to deliver high quality health care to all South Australians > best care, first time, every time

South Australia has an ageing, predominantly urban population. Injury, domestic violence, cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, asthma, renal disease, arthritis and musculoskeletal disease account for over 60% of South Australian’s burden of disease.

High quality research is an essential component of SA Health’s mission, as it provides the evidence to inform improvements in illness prevention and health promotion, clinical care, service delivery and health system policy and decision making. High quality health and medical research delivers real benefits to our consumers and wider population.

An active research culture across our health system is vital to supporting innovation, attracting high quality clinical and medical staff, and delivering strong population health, social and economic benefits for South Australia.

Research activity in SA Health is dynamic, diverse and far reaching, and there is a significant amount of research that happens across the South Australian public health system. SA Health provides support for research through salaries, infrastructure and governance.

We aim to support high quality health and medical research that will deliver strong population health, social and economic benefits for South Australia.

* Estimated, based on approved research governance applications, SA Health.
Key initiatives

the SA Academic Health Science and Translation Centre

The NHMRC accredited SA Academic Health Science and Translation Centre is a whole of state collaborative network comprising the state’s academic, research and health care delivery agencies. SA Health is one of the key partners supporting the Centre. The Centre has a strong focus on research, clinical services, education and training. The core research priorities of the Centre for 2016/17 are: Aboriginal Health; Colorectal Cancer; Cardiac Rehabilitation; Mental Health; the First 1000 Days of Life; Stroke; and Diabetes. The vision is to continuously enhance the rate of translation of research into illness prevention, health promotion and health care in order to create a self-improving and high-quality health system, which is also sustainable.

the Centre for Cancer Biology

The Centre for Cancer Biology (CCB) is a leading, cancer-focussed Medical Research Institute in South Australia. Cancer remains a leading cause of death in Australia, costing the community more than $4.5 billion annually in direct health system costs. By working closely with SA Health and the University of South Australia the CCB integrates cancer research, pathology and clinical services for the benefit of SA cancer patients. They will be moving in March 2018 to the new Health Innovation Building in Adelaide Biomed City, setting the scene to build on their outstanding track record of research outcomes.
Our goals

To provide a coordinated, systems-wide approach to health and medical research, by streamlining research approval processes, promoting and enhancing health and medical research opportunities, positioning South Australia as the State of choice for national and international research partners and effectively coordinating research effort to provide maximum benefit to SA Health and South Australians. To do this we will embed health consumers as key partners in the design and delivery of health and medical research. We will:

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<th>Our goals</th>
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<tr>
<td>Streamline and standardise research ethics and governance forms and processes across SA Health to support faster approvals</td>
<td>Ensure timely access to SA Health data in line with appropriate privacy and consent guidelines</td>
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<td>Build research capacity across SA Health, including supporting early career researchers and clinician researchers</td>
<td>Exploit the competitive potential of SA as a centre for health and medical research</td>
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<td>Support staff to more effectively utilise evidence from a range of research to support decision making, policy and practice</td>
<td>Support the translation of research into improved health care, service delivery and policy development</td>
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<td>Ensure research conducted across SA Health is in line with the SA Health and the Premier’s strategic priorities</td>
<td>Build on existing partnerships with research organisations and develop new ones locally and internationally</td>
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<td>Provide guidance on standards, practices and resourcing for research and promote equity across sites</td>
<td>Develop systems for effective knowledge management and reporting on research activity</td>
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We will report on:

- Number of health and medical projects undertaken across SA Health by specialty/discipline
- High impact publications derived from research undertaken across SA Health
- Approval timeframes for SA public health sector research ethics and governance applications
- Research funding won by SA Health researchers and distribution of funding
- Clinical trial activity across SA Health hospitals, including numbers of new clinical trials commenced
- Clinical trial participation rates across SA Health
- Significant outcomes of research, including successful translation of research into illness prevention, health promotion, clinical service delivery, health policy and health systems management as well as commercialisation of intellectual property by SA Health researchers.

It is estimated that every dollar invested in health and medical research and development in Australia returns $2.17 in health benefits**

Summary

SA Health commits to the implementation of these strategic priorities in partnership with stakeholders in South Australia and nationally. We will be accountable for supporting high quality research that improves the lives of patients in South Australia and beyond. We will report back on progress annually.

Prof. Paddy Phillips
Chief Medical Officer and
Chief Public Health Officer