

Response ID ANON-QZ7X-DD3D-S

Submitted to **Medical Research Future Fund consultation to inform the third Australian Medical Research and Innovation Priorities 2020-2022**
Submitted on **2020-10-07 16:26:26**

Introduction

1 Full name

Full Name:

Jillian Fay Smith, ASCIA CEO

2 Submission type

Organisation affiliated

3 Organisation type

Non-government

4 Organisation sub-type

Medical Professional

5 Residential state or territory

Victoria, New South Wales, Australian Capital Territory, Queensland, Northern Territory, Western Australia, South Australia, Tasmania, International

6 Do the current Priorities remain relevant in the contemporary environment for continuation for a further 12 months?

250 word limit:

Yes. The following themes are relevant, except that Allergy and Immunology Research should be included as an initiative in Research Missions.

- Patients - Funding innovative treatments, supporting clinical trials, and delivering more advanced health care and medical technology to improve the health of all Australians.
- Researchers - Supporting our researchers to make breakthrough discoveries, develop their skills and progress their careers in Australia.
- Research missions - Helping researchers think big to tackle significant health challenges through investment, leadership and collaboration.
- Research translation - Moving research ideas from the lab to the clinic, so that medical discoveries become part of clinical practice for GPs, specialists and hospitals.

7 Should any of the Priorities be emphasised or de-emphasised for the next 12 month period?

If you answered YES, please indicate what specific priorities and why? (max 250 words):

Yes. Research missions should be expanded by adding an Allergy and Immunology Research Mission, to include:

- Allergy and anaphylaxis to foods, drugs (medications) and insects.
- Respiratory allergy
- Primary immunodeficiency
- Transplantation immunology (e.g. haematopoietic stem cell transplantation)
- Autoimmunity (e.g. vasculitis, lupus)
- Immunological treatments for other diseases (e.g. cancer immunotherapy, and immunisation)

If you answered NO, please indicate what specific priorities and why? (max 250):

Not applicable

8 Are there any unaddressed gaps in knowledge, capacity and effort across the healthcare continuum and research pipeline that would warrant changes to the Priorities?

If you identified a gap, please explain how it should be addressed in the 2020-2022 MRFF Priorities (max 250 words):

There are currently no cures for allergies and anaphylaxis, which affect around one in five Australians. This high prevalence and lack of a cure makes allergies and anaphylaxis major public health issues.

Significant health and economic gains can therefore be made by investing in more research to improve prevention, diagnosis, treatment and management of allergies and anaphylaxis.

Research missions should therefore be expanded with an Allergy and Immunology Research Mission that includes allergies and anaphylaxis to foods, drugs (medications), insects and respiratory allergy.

If you identified a second gap please explain how it needs to be addressed in the 2020-2022 MRFF Priorities (max 250 words):

Primary Immunodeficiencies (PIDs) are relatively rare and complex diseases. There is an urgent need to measure the prevalence, diagnosis and outcomes of

patients with PID using genomic testing for genetic diagnoses alongside conventional diagnostics to enable the delivery of appropriate care and to estimate resource utilisation. The application of genomic technologies is changing this field and the benefits of this diagnostic advances will only be achieved in clinical and research centres with expertise in PID and translational genomics.

It is also important that we understand more about the natural history and prognosis of PIDs, which requires support for registries to track the clinical course of PID, and collaborations between clinical immunology specialists and nurses with other health professionals and research collaborators.

Research missions should therefore be expanded to include an Allergy and Immunology Research Mission, to include primary immunodeficiency research.

9 Is there an opportunity to consolidate the Priorities for the remaining twelve months of the Strategy?

Max 250 words:

Research Translation could possibly be consolidated into Research Missions, to ensure that research missions are relevant for clinical translation.

10 Do you have any additional comments in regards to the Priorities for 2020-2022?

Max 250 words:

11 Do you consent to components of your submission being made publicly available?

Yes