

The Hon. Ben Carroll

Minister for Medical Research

Medical Research Portfolio

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

17 May 2024

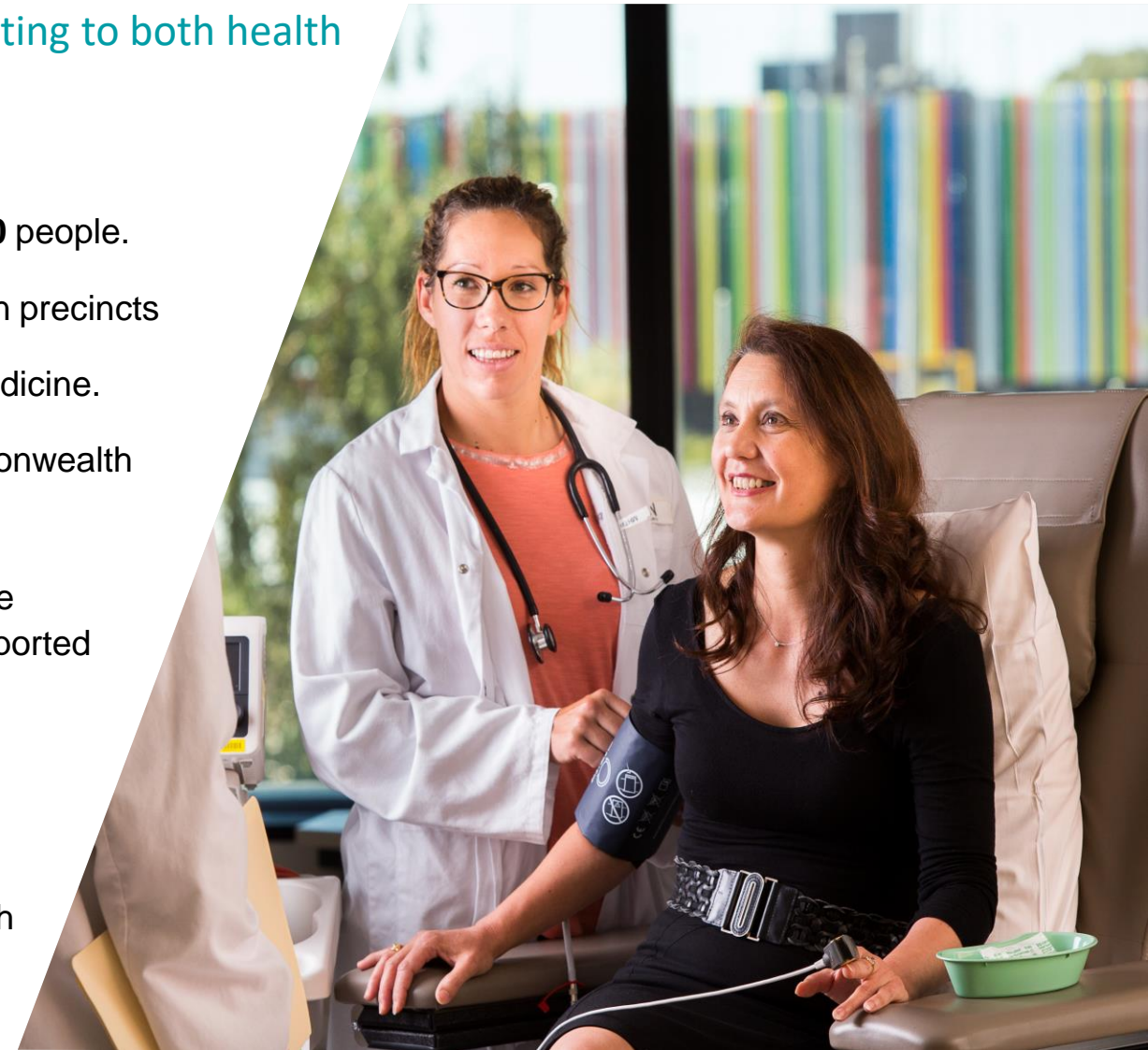


Jobs, Skills,
Industry
and Regions

State of the Portfolio

Victoria is home to a thriving medical research sector, contributing to both health and economic outcomes

- ▶ Victoria is home to:
 - ▶ **18** world-class medical research institutes, employing over **6,000** people.
 - ▶ Melbourne Biomedical (Parkville) and Monash Health Translation precincts
 - ▶ **2** universities in the top 40 QS World University Rankings for medicine.
- ▶ Victorian organisations attract more than **40%** of competitive Commonwealth medical research grant funding.
- ▶ The Victorian Government invests over **\$40 million** per annum in the medical research sector, with **113** early-stage research projects supported by **\$20.4 million** of funding since 2017.
- ▶ **30%** of Australian clinical trials have sites in Victoria, more than any other state.
- ▶ There are **81** ASX listed health technology companies in Victoria with a combined market capitalisation of approximately **\$164 billion**.



Our Achievements



- ➔ The annual Victorian Medical Research Acceleration Fund fast-tracks research to real-world impact through at least **\$3 million** per annum in funding to the sector. An additional **\$2 million** has supported **8** projects that are addressing health inequities.
- ➔ The Operational Infrastructure Support Program provides over **\$36 million** in annual funding to **12** Victorian independent medical research institutes to help fund their indirect research costs. This investment enables services and infrastructure to support development of therapies, medicines and devices.
- ➔ **\$35 million** for additional research and clinical trials programs for our youngest cancer sufferers, focussing on finding new therapies for cancers with the greatest unmet need through the Victorian Paediatric Cancer Consortium (VPCC).
- ➔ Building on Victoria's ability to tackle infectious disease threats through a **\$400 million** commitment to establish the Australian Institute for Infectious Diseases and up to **\$75 million** toward the Cumming Global Centre for Pandemic Therapeutics.

Our Achievements



- ➔ Launch of the Paula Fox Melanoma and Cancer Centre in April 2024, following **\$50 million** in Victorian Government investment. This purpose-built facility will ensure Victorian patients can get the comprehensive skin cancer services they need.
- ➔ **\$30 million** in Generation Victoria (GenV), one of the world's largest birth and parent cohort studies and the largest of its kind in Australia that will unlock new discoveries that will improve the health and quality of life for families across Victoria.
- ➔ Embedding genomic capabilities in our health system to enable quicker, more accurate diagnoses and personalised care, with **\$60 million** for the Melbourne Genomics Health Alliance.
- ➔ Launch of the Victorian Aboriginal Health, Medical and Wellbeing Research Accord, *marra ngarrgoo, marra goorri* in October 2023, in partnership with the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO).

Budget Initiatives

Embedding culturally safe practices in medical research

- ▶ **\$4.5 million** over four years to support implementation of *marra ngarrgoo, marra goorri*: the Victorian Aboriginal Health, Medical and Wellbeing Research Accord.
- ▶ This funding will support VACCHO to embed the Accord in our thriving health and medical research sector.
- ▶ The Accord aims to improve the ethical standards of health, medical and wellbeing research in this state, with a focus on self-determination.
- ▶ We look forward to working closely with VACCHO to deliver on these aims.



'Origin: Victoria, Australia (2021)'