The Priority-driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme (PdCCRS)

What is the PdCCRS?

- The Priority-driven Collaborative Cancer Research Scheme (PdCCRS) is an annual national research grants scheme which funds:
  - Three-year project grants, or
  - One-two year project grants from young researchers.
- Cancer Australia developed the PdCCRS to provide a national approach to the funding of cancer research in identified priority areas.
- PdCCRS three-year project grants are designed to support research which will have a direct impact on clinical practice, policy and patient outcomes.
- The PdCCRS brings together Cancer Australia and other funders of cancer research in partnerships which help coordinate and maximise investment in cancer research across Australia.

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 aim to:
  - fund research in tumour areas that place a high burden of disease on the Australian community;
  - fund applied research projects that directly relate to the identified priorities of Cancer Australia and/or its Funding Partners; and
  - fund research that can directly improve cancer outcomes by influencing clinical practice, policy and/or care.

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 has joined with the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) to facilitate registration and assessment of PdCCRS applications.
- Grants are assessed in a two-step process:
  - Step 1 – NHMRC assesses grant applications for scientific quality, significance / innovation, and team quality and capability.
  - Step 2 – Grant Review Committees constituted by Cancer Australia and its Funding Partners review applications for outcomes and impact, translation, collaboration, and consumer involvement.
- NHMRC endorses grant applications funded through this scheme in recognition of scientific merit.

Awarded grants 2007 - 2014

- 265 grants awarded - $92.00 million
- Cancer Australia has funded or co-funded 80% of these grants
- $53.35 million has been contributed by Cancer Australia
- $38.65 million has been contributed by Funding Partners.