This annual report describes achievements by the Office of Health and Medical Research as at 30 June 2010 for the implementation of the Research for a healthier future: 2010 Health and Medical Research Strategy (PDF) (R & D Strategy) from late 2008.

The Queensland Government R & D Strategy comprises of the following key initiatives:

- support our people – recruit, develop and retain a skilled health research workforce
- promote the transfer of knowledge into improved health and wealth
- provide clear leadership and promote collaboration.

The information in this document illustrates the achievements to date by the Office of Health and Medical Research and is therefore not comprehensive of all the actions outlined in the R & D Strategy.
Office of Health and Medical Research Annual Report 2008–2010

It is with much pleasure that I present the first annual report from the Office of Health and Medical Research, a branch of the Centre for Healthcare Improvement. The report covers the achievements from the office's establishment in late 2008 until 30 June 2010 and the future activities planned.

The role of the Centre for Healthcare Improvement is to lead improvement in the overall quality of healthcare in Queensland Health, targeting major leaps in quality of care through changes to processes, practices, policies, culture, research, training and development. This involves improving all aspects of quality, clinical outcomes care and safety, access, patient experience, appropriateness of therapy, efficiency and effectiveness. This task also involves improving organisational culture, promoting innovation and research and maintaining and improving staff skills.

The Office of Health and Medical Research has worked towards the goals of the Centre for Healthcare Improvement through:

• establishment and administration of the $20.55 million fellowship program — increasing the amount of research in Queensland Health facilities.

• development and organisation of the Bridging the Gap breakfast series — providing multiple opportunities for research collaboration including but not limited to Queensland Health facilities, universities, institutes, industry and research foundations.

• improving the management of Queensland Health intellectual property — providing education opportunities and improved internal processes to reduce the gap between discovery and clinical practice.

• streamlining of administrative and regulatory process for research ethics and governance — making the ethics process quicker and easier to reduce the impact on health and medical research while maintaining quality and safety for patients.

We face many challenges in delivering healthcare efficiently but given the enthusiasm and energy of the dedicated people within the Office of Health and Medical Research I believe we meet those challenges head on – giving us the best chance of improving patient outcomes through health and medical research.

Foreword: Chief Executive Officer, Centre for Healthcare Improvement

Dr Tony O’Connell, Chief Executive Officer Centre for Healthcare Improvement
The Office of Health and Medical Research was established in mid-2008 to:

- help recruit, develop and retain a skilled health research workforce
- promote the transfer of knowledge into health and wealth
- provide leadership and promote collaboration.

The Office has many roles. A major component of our work has been the establishment and administration of the $20.55 million Health Research Fellowship Program. This program supports a wide range of clinician-researchers in Queensland Health funded facilities, with the highest award providing up to $850,000 per year for five years.

We have also been very active in the development of online tools that assist researchers applying for ethical approval and the Human Research Ethics Committees. Furthermore, a new single ethical review process for research undertaken across multiple sites has been established, and the Office has taken on a central coordination role for this research that has and will continue to reduce ethics committee workloads.

We are also active in promoting research in Queensland hospitals and work closely with the universities, medical research institutes and hospital foundations to promote collaboration. In addition, the Office coordinates operational support funding for the Queensland Institute of Medical Research.

We are also working closely with other Government departments and the Queensland Health Districts to improve identification, protection and commercialisation of intellectual property generated in Queensland Health.

The National Health Reform process is certain to make 2011 an interesting year for research in the hospital environment. We are awaiting clarification from the Commonwealth regarding the commitment to fund 60 per cent of jurisdictional costs of research completed in hospitals.

The Office of Health and Medical Research has developed strong alliances in Queensland and across Australia and is playing a key role in ensuring that the views and interests of the hospital research community are cared for.

The Office of Health and Medical Research has developed strong alliances in Queensland and across Australia and is playing a key role in ensuring that the views and interests of the hospital research community are cared for.

"Professor Robin Mortimer AO, Executive Director
Office of Health and Medical Research"
The last two years has seen a number of new initiatives developed and released post 30 June 2010 from the Research Ethics and Governance Unit in preparation for the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) sponsored national system to streamline ethical review for multi-centre research.

The single ethical review process for research being conducted at Queensland Health sites, incorporating a Queensland Health Central Coordinating Service (CCS), is due to commence on 1 July 2010. This service utilises eight Queensland Health Human Research Ethics Committees (HREC) that have been certified by the NHMRC to conduct single ethical review. A significant reduction in the number of HREC submissions and use of resources is expected. The date for the commencement of the national scheme in 2011 has yet to be finalised.

The Clinical Research Coordinators network has assisted in the development of the ‘fee schedule and site information for commercially sponsored research’ (PDF). The schedule will provide guidance on fees in relation to the conduct of industry sponsored clinical trials, including review fees for human research ethics and research governance as well as a range of fees for services such as Cardiology, Clinical and Statewide Services (CaSS) including pathology, pharmacy and imaging services. The guidance meets Queensland Health’s requirements under the Financial and Performance Management Standard 2009, to have in place revenue, expenses and financial information system, but more importantly it assists trial coordinators in developing and negotiating appropriate trial budgets. The schedule was released in July 2010.

A panel of external expert reviewers, to provide advice in specific areas of research expertise to Queensland Health Human Research Ethics Committees, has also been established. More than 130 specialist clinicians and advisors, throughout Australia, have registered an interest and been assessed as suitable to be included on the panel.

The focus of the last year has been delivering the commitments we made in our Research for a Healthier Future strategy, and working closely with the hospitals, universities and medical research institutes to build collaborations across the sector.

To support our health research workforce, the Office of Health and Medical Research has been busy embedding the Health Research Fellowship Program and promoting opportunities for research funding. A new funding opportunities database providing access to over 200 funding opportunities has been launched.

In the last year we awarded 21 fellowships across our Health Research Fellowship Program. This has meant retaining two internationally regarded researchers in Queensland through our Senior Clinical Research Fellowships, and supporting six new joint Queensland Health - university academic appointments through the Clinical Academic Fellowships.

A major role of the Office has been improving collaboration and researcher-clinician networks across Queensland. One of our most visible activities in the area has been the highly regarded Bridging the Gap breakfast series. This series allowed focused discussion and debate on research and clinical issues, and we hope it has started many discussions about possible collaborative research bids.

The next year will see us delivering our Knowledge Transfer Initiative with skilled intellectual property and commercialisation managers at our biggest hospitals, providing more support for junior and emerging researchers through our researcher support program, and releasing our Research Capability Document for health and medical research in Queensland.
In November 2007, the Smart State Council prepared a report, Medical Research: Queensland’s Future Health and Wealth: Solving Tomorrow’s Health Problems Today, to advance Queensland’s health and medical research and development outcomes.

The report proposed a number of solutions:

- to position Queensland as a national leader in health and medical research and development
- to be better positioned to translate local discoveries into improved patient outcomes
- to improve systems that streamline and strengthen regulatory processes to reduce the impact on health and medical research while maintaining quality and safety for patients.

To achieve this, the Queensland Government has provided $25.65 million for the Research for a healthier future: 2020 Health and Medical Research and Development Strategy (PDF) (R & D Strategy) with the following three key initiatives:

- support our people – recruit, develop and retain a skilled health research workforce
- promote the transfer of knowledge in to improved health and wealth
- provide clear leadership and promote collaboration

This 2009 R & D Strategy which is part of the Smart State Strategy 2008-12, highlights the shift from ‘bricks to brains’ by supporting exceptional researchers in Queensland and maximising the opportunities provided by the $3.4 billion investment under the Smart State Strategy. As a result of this report the Office of Health and Medical Research was established.

The Office of Health and Medical Research (OHMR) was established in July 2008 as part of the R & D Strategy in response to the 2007 Smart State Council report which highlighted the need for increased Queensland Government support in health and medical research.

Responsibilities

The Office of Health and Medical Research (OHMR) overall responsibilities include:

- promotion and coordination of research
- research governance and ethics
- research funding
- knowledge transfer
- increasing capability and productivity
- intellectual property guidance
- improving linkages between Queensland Health, research institutes, academia and industry.

In summary, the OHMR aims to be the bridge between research and clinical practice — ‘bench to bedside’ — to ensure the health and medical research sector in Queensland delivers on the promise of future health and wealth for all Queenslanders.
Mission

Creating dependable healthcare and better health for all Queenslanders.

Philosophy

The Office of Health and Medical Research:
- fosters a culture that supports research and innovation
- facilitates collaboration between clinicians, academia and industry
- assists in translating research into practice and products
- promotes to the community, the importance of health research and development to improved healthcare, and showcases Queensland's expertise and success stories in health and medical research.

Values
- Caring for people
- Respect
- Leadership
- Integrity

The Office of Health and Medical Research (OHMR) comprises the following three units.

Research coordination and promotion

The Research Coordination and Promotion Unit (RCPU) is responsible for:
- stakeholder engagement and liaison
- promotion of the OHMR programs and grants
- promotion of Queensland health and medical research and development expertise to national and international markets
- support for the translation of research into health (e.g. patient outcomes and improved health service delivery) and wealth (e.g. innovative products and increased employment opportunities).

RCPU is the central point of contact for:
- health and medical research capacity in Queensland
- collaborative research with Queensland Health
- commercialisation opportunities
- management of Queensland Health intellectual property
- distribution of research to research and academic peers.

Research ethics and governance

The Research Ethics and Governance Unit (REGU) is responsible for consultation, development and review of state-wide policy for research ethics and research governance review.

REGU is the central point of contact for:
- multi-centre research ethics review (Central Coordination Service)
- fee schedule and site information for commercially sponsored research
- ethics and governance training.
REGU also provides advice and direction on ethical and governance issues associated with the conduct of research in Queensland Health for:

- researchers
- district human research ethics committee chairs
- members and coordinators
- research governance offices/rs
- study sponsors.

Research programs

The Research Programs Unit (RPU) is responsible for the design, administration and evaluation of the health and medical research and development support programs coordinated by the Office of Health and Medical Research:

- Senior Clinical Research Fellowships
- Health Research Fellowships
- Clinical Academic Fellowships.

RPU is the central point of contact for:

- the OHMR fellowship program
- general research funding enquiries
- mentor program.

RPU coordinates the OHMR fellowship program expressions of interest, applications and selection process and administers a range of other funding programs. RPU also liaises with researchers to provide information of other funding sources for health and medical researchers.

Initiative summary

1. Support our people – recruit, develop and retain a skilled workforce
   - Health Research Fellowship Program:
     - Senior Clinical Research Fellowships
     - Health Research Fellowships
     - Clinical Academic Fellowships

2. Promote the transfer of knowledge into improved health and wealth
   - Knowledge Transfer Initiative
   - Medical Research Commercialisation Fund

3. Provide clear leadership and promote collaboration
   - Establishment and operation of Office of Health and Medical Research
   - Streamline administrative and regulatory process
   - Queensland Health and Medical Research Directory
Initiative one aims to attract and retain the brightest minds in health and medical research to and in Queensland. Increased support for clinical researchers is a key factor in Queensland’s ability to develop and grow capabilities in translational research, deliver better health outcomes and expand the health and medical sector.

The Queensland Government has provided $20.55 million for a Health Research Fellowship Program, administered by the Office of Health and Medical Research. These fellowships provide incentives for researchers to conduct their research within Queensland Health hospitals and health care facilities.

The Health Research Fellowship Program expands on existing Queensland Health programs to support health and medical researchers. These programs build research capacity in the health workforce, facilitate the implementation of evidence-based clinical services, and contribute to multidisciplinary partnerships to develop new interventions and practice.

Key achievements

Senior Clinical Research Fellowships

The Office of Health and Medical Research (OHMR) has awarded two Senior Clinical Research Fellowships in round one totaling $6.375 million over five years. The successful applicants are at the forefront of research, development and innovation, and bring new clinical and intellectual resources to increase Queensland’s research potential to Queensland Health.

Round one recipients:

- **Professor David Paterson**
  - Consultant Infectious Diseases Physician, Royal Brisbane Women’s Hospital and Consultant Clinical Microbiologist, Pathology Queensland.

- **Professor Peter Sly**
  - Deputy Director, Queensland Children’s Medical Research Institute and Respiratory Physician, Royal Children’s Hospital.
Health Research Fellowships

OHMR has awarded 13 Health Research Fellowships providing funding totaling $1.375 million per annum over five years — an additional 261 hours of research in Queensland Health facilities. These fellowships enable clinicians, to quarantine time to undertake health and medical research.

The successful fellows include:

- Associate Professor Michael Breakspear, Chair, Division of Mental Health Research, Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital
- Dr Katrina Campbell, Research and Development Dietician, Princess Alexandra Hospital
- Mr Satyan Chari, Program Coordinator, Falls Risk, Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital
- Ms Shoni Colquist, Manager, Queensland Cancer Control Analysis Team, Princess Alexandra Hospital
- Dr Pamela Dodrill, Senior Speech Pathologist, Royal Children’s Hospital
- Dr Robyn Grote, Director, Queensland Children’s Gait Laboratory Royal Children’s Hospital
- Professor David Johnson, Director of Nephrology, Princess Alexandra Hospital
- Professor James McCarthy, Senior Consultant Infectious Diseases Physician, Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital
- Ms Kathryn Plonka, Senior Oral Health Therapist, Kingston Oral Health Care, Metro South Health Service District
- Associate Professor Elizabeth Powell, Director of Clinical Training and Hepatologist, Princess Alexandra Hospital
- Dr Maria Scarcia, Director of Psychology Services, Townsville Hospital
- Dr Lata Vadlamudi, Consultant Neurologist, Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital
- Associate Professor Claire Wainwright, Respiratory Physician, Royal Children’s Hospital.

Clinical Academic Fellowships

Six Clinical Academic Fellowships totaling $2.25 million over five years have been awarded by the OHMR. These fellowships enable a Queensland publicly funded health facility and a Queensland university to create a new position focused on both clinical and academic work.

The six new positions are:

- Professor of Midwifery – Gold Coast Health Service District and Griffith University
- Clinical Academic Fellow in Social Work – Children’s Health Service District and Queensland University of Technology
- Senior Clinical Academic Fellow in Neurology – Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital and the University of Queensland
- Dietician Research (Advanced) (Clinical Academic Fellow) – Princess Alexandra Hospital and the University of Queensland
- Senior Clinical Academic Fellow in Oncology – Royal Brisbane and Women’s Hospital and the University of Queensland
- Senior Staff Specialist in Geriatric Medicine – Princess Alexandra Hospital and the University of Queensland.

Queensland Clinical Research Fellowships

The Queensland Clinical Research Fellowships (QCRF) provided $400,000 in research funding. The QCRF’s were developed to retain and attract talented clinical researchers to Queensland similar to the Health Research Fellowship program now administered by the OHMR. The last round of QCRF closed in 2008 and was previously administered by the Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry. No further funding is available for the QCRF.
Smart Health Research Grants

Provided $1.2 million in research funding for the Smart Health Research Grants (SHRG). The Queensland Health Smart State Research Program provides discretionary funding for research proposals prepared by public sector employees, which were assessed as fundable, but unable to secure funding under the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Project Grant Scheme. Applications were assessed based upon information received from NHMRC on an annual basis. No further funding is available for the SHRG.

Funding opportunities database

A reference tool for researchers seeking funding opportunities, including grants and fellowships titled the funding opportunities database has been established. It is a downloadable and searchable spreadsheet, which contains more than 100 health and medical research funding opportunities.

Spotlight on researchers

Developed a ‘spotlight on researchers’ website, which showcases the exciting Queensland Government funded health and medical research being conducted in Queensland Health. The spotlights focus on researchers who have received competitive funding from awards and grants offered by the Queensland Government.

Future directions

Mentor Program

Launch the Mentor Program for Queensland Health researchers seeking support in the health and medical research community. The program is intended for those researchers who do not have an avenue of support for their research due to location, research interest, research expertise and/or contact with other researchers in a similar field.

Health Research Fellowship Program

Continue to provide funding for Fellowships through the Health Research Fellowship Program. Round three of each of the Fellowships will open in late 2010 and early 2011.

Funding opportunities database

Continue to update and expand the funding opportunities database.

Spotlight on researchers

Continue to update and expand the spotlight on researchers resource.
Initiative two — promoting the transfer of knowledge into improved health and wealth

This initiative outlines activities designed to assist health researchers in overcoming the two key 'translational blocks' that can hinder the transfer of basic science to tangible health benefits:

- basic science research to clinical trials
- clinical trials results into new practice.

Key achievements

Knowledge Transfer Initiative

The Knowledge Transfer Initiative aims to improve Queensland Health’s ability to translate research into improved health benefits and economic opportunities with the appointment of experienced knowledge transfer and intellectual property commercialisation managers.

UniQuest were selected as the preferred provider for Queensland Health intellectual property identification, protection, management and commercialisation services from an open tender process in 2009–2010.

As a result, Queensland Health will become more proactive in identifying medical research projects that are suitable for further commercial investment in order to more rapidly translate promising medical discoveries to the patient.

Medical Research Commercialisation Fund

The Medical Research Commercialisation Fund (MRCF) is a $30 million investment fund founded through collaboration between Australia’s leading medical research institutes and Superannuation funds, with support from the state governments of Victoria, New South Wales, Western Australia and Queensland. The MRCF provides early stage investment funding to opportunities for member medical research institutes and research hospitals.

During 2009–2010, the Office of Health and Medical Research led the negotiation and agreement approval process to enable Queensland Health and several Queensland medical research institutes to become members of the MRCF, enabling them to access funding for proof-of-concept projects or start-up companies.

As a result, Queensland Health employees and Queensland medical research institutes now have access to MRCF support ranging from assistance with questions relating to commercial potential, identification of commercial partners, patentability of inventions, through to funding up to $2 million for proof-of-concept studies and start-up companies — all aimed at creating and delivering improved patient outcomes.

Improved intellectual property policy and procedures

During 2009–10, the OHMR drafted and obtained approval for version two of the Queensland Health intellectual property policy including the addition of new procedures for the protection of copyright works.

As a result, the intellectual property policy now provides up to date guidance to Queensland Health employees on their roles and responsibilities in regards to intellectual property created, purchased and used within Queensland Health.

The OHMR also publishes an Intellectual Property eNewsletter to better educate the Queensland health and medical research sector on current intellectual property issues and provide policy and procedural updates.
Commercialisation Bootcamp

Sponsorship of 13 Queensland Health researchers to attend two day Life Sciences Commercialisation Bootcamp facilitated by the Australian Institute of Commercialisation.

Topics covered include:
- commercialisation pathways
- intellectual property
- life sciences case studies
- how to tailor a research program for commercial gain and
- research and development partnering.

Future directions

Intellectual property management

The OHMR will assist local hospital health networks to implement intellectual property management policies and systems as part of the National Health Reform agenda.

Furthermore, OHMR will continue to implement the Queensland Health Intellectual Property Policy, develop additional intellectual property procedures and provide assistance to Queensland Health employees with intellectual property management issues as required.

The knowledge transfer initiative and Medical Research Commercialisation Fund will also be monitored and reviewed to ensure effective uptake and efficiencies of use by Queensland Health employees.

Translation blocks diagram
In this initiative the Office of Health and Medical Research achieves this by providing leadership and fostering collaboration as a single point of contact to the sector, by:

- streamlining and strengthening human research ethics administrative approvals and governance regulatory processes
- consolidating the Government’s health and medical research and development programs and responsibilities
- facilitating training and education opportunities for health and medical researchers
- fostering linkages in existence amongst the health and medical research sector to facilitate the translation of basic health and medical research into public health benefits
- undertake policy and planning initiatives to capitalise on geographic linkages and opportunities for collaborations – intrastate, interstate and internationally
- improving and facilitating intergovernmental relations to aid in building partnership between research and health service delivery.

Key achievements

Collaborative partnerships

Facilitated 43 collaborative partnerships between Queensland publicly funded health facility/Queensland universities by creating a joint application process for the Clinical Academic Fellowships. Six of the 43 were successfully funded, however most of the partnerships are still collaborating and some have applied in round two.

Queensland health and medical research philanthropy

The Queensland health and medical research philanthropy working group was established to provide a collaborative forum for groups (i.e. Queensland Hospital Foundations) with an interest in health and medical research philanthropy to undertake projects of common interest and opportunity. The working group meets quarterly with strategic objectives as determined by the members.

Bridging the gap events

Commencement of the bridging the gap event series hosted by the Office of Health and Medical Research. The series aims to provide a forum to link researchers, clinicians, industry partners and other Government stakeholders in a bid to improve research collaboration across Queensland. Topics to date have included:

- the future of cancer research in Queensland
- promoting Queensland’s health precincts
- biobanking for research – where to next
- future directions of spinal cord research
- matching health technologies and medical devices to clinical need.

Queensland health and medical research facilities directory

A dossier of Queensland health and medical research facilities is currently being developed and compiled as a suite of documents. This resource is intended for use by the wider health and medical research community as well as the general public, including the community, as a reference tool, for developing collaborations, reducing duplication of research activities, fostering engagement and raising awareness of health and medical research in Queensland.

Example directory documents
Components of the project include:

- health and medical research in Queensland Hospital Foundations (as established under the Queensland Hospital Foundations Act (1982))
- health and medical research in Queensland universities
- health and medical research in Queensland independent research institutes
- health and medical research in Queensland Health hospitals
- health and medical research by Queensland geographic precincts.

The first phase of the directory is due to be made available in 2011.

Office of Health and Medical Research roadshow

Conducted over twenty knowledge sharing sessions around the state, as part of the OHMR roadshow to assist in educating and informing stakeholders about the office and its programs and services.

Sponsorship

OHMR supported its internal and external stakeholders by means of sponsorship, based on the event focus of general health and medical research and its alignment with national and state government health priorities. The OHMR has supported the following events:

- ClinEDQ Innovate and Educate conference (2010)
- Australian Society for Medical Research (ASMR) awards (2009–10)
- Translational Research Excellence conference (2009)
- Queensland Institutes of Health (QIH) conference (2009)
- Queensland University of Technology’s Institute of Health and Biomedical Innovation postgraduate conference (2008–09).

Communication strategy

A communication strategy to provide an overarching strategic framework for communication related to the Office of Health and Medical Research (OHMR) activities and that assists to define a central point of contact, information and advice for external stakeholders involved in health and medical research, was developed in 2009.

OHMR views stakeholder communication as a key component and integral part to improving the quality and accountability of health services and health and medical research. The Office of Health and Medical Research utilises the principles of inclusiveness, reaching out, mutual respect, integrity and affirming diversity to ensure there are better outcomes for stakeholder communication.

One method OHMR undertakes to ensure this success is to publish monthly eBulletins and quarterly eNewsletters via its active mailing list.

Streamlining administrative and regulatory processes for research ethics

- Multi-centre research ethics review:
  - From July 2010, Queensland Health will streamline its ethical review process for multi-centre research through a single ethics review process. This will be achieved with the commencement of the Central Coordinating Service (CCS) which is situated in the Research Ethics and Governance Unit. The service will triage multi-centre projects and allocated projects to a suitably certified ethics committee for single review.
  - The system is expected to save numerous hours of researcher and administration time.

- Fee schedule and site information:
  - Queensland Health have developed a fee schedule and site information for commercially sponsored research, due to be released in July 2010. The schedule provides guidance on fees in relation to the conduct of industry sponsored clinical trials, including human research ethics and research governance review fees, as well as a range of fees for services such as Cardiology, Clinical and Statewide Services (CaSS) including pathology, pharmacy and imaging services.
  - The schedule aims to assist researchers and coordinators in the negotiation and preparation of clinical trial budgets.
**Initiative three — providing clear leadership and promoting collaboration**

- **Single ethics review**
  - Eight Queensland Health Human Research Ethics Committees (HRECs) were assessed, under the National Health and Medical Research national scheme certification scheme, for the ability to conduct single ethical review of multi-centre research studies. Official notification of the successful certified HRECs will be announced in early September 2010.

- **Ethics and governance training**
  - Twenty-four stakeholder meetings were held with attendance by Human Research Ethics Committee Administrators, Research Governance Officers, Human Research Ethics Committee Chairs, Human Research Ethics Committee members and Clinical Research Coordinators.
  - In addition, two Australian Research Ethics Database refresher training courses were held in 2009 and a two day Clinical Research Coordinators forum was held in 2010.
  - These networks play a critical role in the development and implementation of the new process for streamlining ethics review in Queensland Health.

**Future directions**

**Multi-centre research ethics review**

Implementation of multi-centre research though a single ethics review process from July 2010 with the commencement of the **Central Coordinating Service** (CCS).

**Fee schedule and site information**

The release of Queensland Health's **Fee Schedule and Site Information for Commerially Sponsored Research** (PDF) in July 2010.

- **Single ethics review**
  - Official notification of the successful certified HRECs will be announced in early September 2010.

- **Queensland health and medical research facilities directory**
  - Publish and launch the Queensland health and medical research facilities dossier as an online resource to the public. Continue to expand the resource with research priority specific information.

- **Bridging the gap series**
  - Continue to conduct the bridging the gap breakfast series.

- **Queensland research website portal**
  - Develop Queensland health and medical research directory online searchable database containing information on research facilities in Queensland.

- **Queensland Health database of research activity**
  - Launch Queensland Health **Database of Research Activity** (DoRA) in early 2011. DORA will be a searchable database that provides a summary of research activity currently being undertaken in Queensland Health facilities.

- **Guidelines for the management of commercially sponsored multi-centre research**
  - Queensland Health guidelines to be launched in late 2010 on completion of industry and stakeholder consultation. This document aims to assist research coordinators to undertake the complex role of coordinating multicentre clinical trials and includes a number of tools and guidelines to assist in the process.
Outlook summary

Initiative one
Launch Mentor Program
To provide a mentor program for Queensland Health researchers seeking support in the health and medical research community.

Health Research Fellowship Program
Continue to provide funding for Fellowships through the Health Research Fellowship Program. Round three of each of the Fellowships will open in late 2010 and early 2011.

Funding Opportunities Database
Continue to update and expand funding opportunities database.

Spotlight on Researchers
Continue to update and expand the Spotlight on Researchers resource.

Initiative two
Intellectual Property Management
Assist Local Hospital Health Networks to implement intellectual property management policies and systems as part of the National Health Reform agenda.
Continue to implement the Queensland Health Intellectual Property Policy, develop additional intellectual property procedures and provide assistance to Queensland Health employees with intellectual property management issues as they arise.

Monitor and review:
- Knowledge Transfer Initiative
- Medical Research Commercialisation Fund

Initiative three
Multi-centre research ethics review
National system of single ethics review to comment
Implementation of multi-centre research though a single ethics review process from July 2010 with the commencement of the Central Coordination Service (CCS).

Fee schedule and site information
The release of Queensland Health’s developed Fee Schedule and Site Information for Commercially Sponsored Research in July 2010.

Single ethics review
Eight QH Human Research Ethics Committees have been assessed by certified by for national scheme as having capabilities for of single ethics review by October 2010. The certification process was conducted by the National Health and Medical Research Council.

Queensland health and medical research facilities directory
Publish and launch the Queensland health and medical research facilities dossier as an online resource to the public. Continue to expand the resource with research priority specific information.

Bridging the gap series
Continue to conduct the bridging the gap breakfast series.

Queensland research website portal
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Feedback

We welcome your feedback

Queensland Health welcomes your feedback as a valuable tool to improve our delivery of quality and relevant information to readers.

You can provide feedback on this annual report by e-mailing the department at ohmr@health.qld.gov.au or contact the Office of Health and Medical Research on Phone: 07 3405 6121 Fax: 07 3405 6121
