



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

[CLICK TO DOWNLOAD PHOTOS](#)

### **Prostate cancer research to receive \$12 million funding boost**

**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 6, 2018** – Three national Prostate Cancer Research Alliance (PCRA) teams are set to be established over the next three years – thanks to a \$12 million funding boost from the Australian Government and the Movember Foundation.

The Australian Government and leading men's health charity, the Movember Foundation, will each contribute \$6 million to establish the research teams, which will bring together the best scientists and clinicians from around the world to contribute to life-saving prostate cancer research.

Movember Foundation CEO Owen Sharp said that with significant findings from the alliance set to be incorporated into clinical practice as early as 2023, the multi-million dollar commitment would allow researchers to accelerate the adoption of breakthrough research to benefit those with prostate cancer within a remarkably short timeframe.

"This is an incredibly exciting investment that is set to fast-track discoveries in prostate cancer research and ensure that these innovations make their way from the lab to the clinic faster, which will have a huge impact on the lives of men around the world diagnosed with the disease," he said.

"Bringing together top researchers and clinicians allows them to build upon each other's learnings to improve clinical tests and treatments. This game-changing collaborative approach will ensure that in the near future, men with prostate cancer will live longer, happier and healthier lives."

Federal Health Minister Greg Hunt said: "This funding will save lives and protect lives. Prostate cancer is amongst our most deadly cancers' and we must do everything we can to reverse the loss of life caused by this terrible disease. Finding better treatments, diagnosis and ultimately a cure for prostate cancer is what we are all striving for."

Prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among Australian men, with more than 16,000 men diagnosed each year. One in 8 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer before the age of 75.

As a leading global funder of prostate cancer research, the Movember Foundation has invested more than \$92 million in Australia across biomedical research, treatment quality and supporting men and their families better manage the side effects of treatment since 2004.

Biomedical research conducted by the Prostate Cancer Research Alliance teams will focus on addressing critical gaps in prostate cancer research, as identified by the Movember Foundation, which consulted an international team of 45 leading prostate cancer experts, as well as a range of men living with prostate cancer.

Key priorities over the next three years will include optimizing personalised treatments for men via cutting-edge imaging and genetic profiling in an effort to reduce the number of men developing advanced prostate cancer.

The Prostate Cancer Research Alliance will ensure Australia attracts and retains top prostate cancer research talent as well as providing a world-class training ground for young researchers.



“Australia has outstanding strengths across biomedical research, clinical quality and survivorship that are poised to benefit all men diagnosed and living with prostate cancer. The Prostate Cancer Research Alliance will play a crucial role in bringing key breakthroughs into the clinic,” said Mr Sharp.

The three PCRA teams will complement other major research initiatives the foundation has established across Canada, the United Kingdom and USA.

A Request for Application process to establish the best PCRA teams will be launched in coming months, with leading cancer research institutes, hospitals and universities across Australia encouraged to apply. Successful applicants will be announced in early 2019 following a robust peer-review process.

The research program will be managed by the Movember Foundation and co-governed by the foundation and Cancer Australia.

**ENDS**

**Press contact**

Sam Mills, Movember Foundation / sam.mills@movember.com / 0411 241 475

**About the Movember Foundation**

The Movember Foundation is the leading charity dedicated to changing the face of men's health around the world. With a singular goal to stop men dying too young, the foundation supports the following causes: prostate cancer, testicular cancer, mental health and suicide prevention. By funding projects like the Centres of Excellence, the Movember Foundation is working towards its goal to halve the number of deaths from prostate cancer by 2030. Since 2003, the support of more than 5 million participants has funded over 1,200 innovative projects across more than 20 countries. To donate or learn more, please visit [movember.com](http://movember.com).