



UNIVERSITY of TASMANIA

MENZIES 

Institute for Medical Research

STRATEGIC PLAN OVERVIEW 2019 – 2024

Better health and better lives for Tasmanians is the vision that drives our research at Menzies.

The Menzies Institute for Medical Research, at the University of Tasmania, is one of Australia's leading health and medical research institutes.

We strive for a world where the diseases that currently touch every Tasmanian – such as multiple sclerosis, dementia, arthritis, heart disease and cancer – are halted. How to prevent, treat and cure these diseases is known, and the benefits are available to everyone.

We work collaboratively with the community and consumers, other researchers, health services, government, industry and funders to achieve our purpose to enable healthier, longer and better lives for Tasmanians through internationally significant medical research.

We undertake excellent laboratory, clinical and population health research in themes that reflect the burden of disease in the Tasmanian community and our expertise in addressing these conditions. Our local research is of global significance.

Our commitment

We are committed to:

- › addressing health problems that are important to Tasmanians
- › working in collaborative ways
- › ensuring our research has impact
- › developing our people and skills
- › excellence in research training
- › engaging with our community.

Research themes

We aim to improve the health of Tasmanians through research that addresses our high rates of preventable chronic disease and the social factors that affect health, leveraging Tasmania's unique genealogical resources that support genetic research.



Public Health, Primary Care and Health Services

We work to improve the prevention and management of important health problems that affect large sections of our population. We focus on multiple sclerosis, lifestyle, obesity, environmental and mental health.



Brain Health and Disease

Brain diseases like multiple sclerosis and motor neuron disease affect many Australians and result in movement and memory disorders. Our research aims to guard the nervous system against these diseases, and discover causes and effective treatments.



Cardiovascular and Respiratory Health and Disease

We aim to improve the prevention and management of cardiovascular and respiratory disease in the community. We focus on the risk factors that contribute to heart attacks, stroke, and lung disease.



Genetics and Cancer

Our priorities are to understand the genetic and molecular cause of diseases important to Tasmanians, and translate this knowledge to prevent, diagnose and treat. Our focus is on cancer, blinding eye diseases and multiple sclerosis.



Musculoskeletal Health and Disease

Our research focuses on common bone and joint diseases, including osteoarthritis and osteoporosis. We work to improve pain and musculoskeletal health.

Strategic Goals

Menzies' Strategy is embedded in the College of Health and Medicine Strategic Plan 2019-2024.

This plan incorporates College-wide strategies and initiatives, with specific goals for Menzies.

These goals are to:

- work with our partners to build and translate research evidence for effective disease prevention and treatment
- promote and support consumer and community involvement in all stages of research to improve research focus, feasibility, outcomes and impact
- identify and foster discovery and intervention research with the highest potential impact through targeted investment and translation planning
- scale up our cross-disciplinary research to reduce the health burden associated with multiple sclerosis, cardiovascular disease and complex chronic disease (multimorbidity)
- develop our research capabilities in health economics, data linkage and personalised medicine to inform health policy and services
- build research capacity in the Tasmanian health sector
- ensure our research strengths are visible across curricula in the College of Health and Medicine
- engage with our communities and supporters to foster investment in Menzies.

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