

Network News

FEBRUARY 2020

IMPROVING REGIONAL PATIENT ACCESS AND RECRUITMENT TO HIGH QUALITY CANCER CLINICAL TRIALS

Grant Funding Opportunity:

Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF)

The 2019 Rural, Regional and Remote Clinical Trial Enabling Infrastructure grant opportunity provides between \$5 million and \$100 million for new and innovative approaches to enhance and improve clinical trial infrastructure, to extend existing clinical trials into rural, regional and remote areas of Australia.

The RTN is submitting an application for funding from this grant and the team is working hard to complete all necessary documents by the **3rd March 2020** closing date.

The RTN Project Team has approached a number of collaborators to join the network and contribute to the goal of bridging the gap between metro and regional trial participation by 2025.

Recipients of this grant funding will be notified by **June 2020**.



SAVE THE DATE

The next Face-to-Face meeting for RTN Members is scheduled for **Thursday 23rd April 2020** at Bellizona Resort in Hepburn Springs.

[Click here for link to Resort](#)

This meeting will be held the day prior to the Regional Cancer Centre Forum and will be a great opportunity to meet and discuss regional specific issues.

Additional information will be sent to RTN members in the coming weeks.

REGIONAL MEMBERS:

Ballarat Regional Integrated Cancer Centre (BRICC)

Barwon Health

Bendigo Cancer Centre

Border Medical Oncology

Goulburn Valley Health

South West Regional Cancer Centre (SWRCC)

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



The RTN In Action
Connection Marketing
Capability and
Capacity Building
Research Focus and Direction
Strategic Planning

WORKING
TOWARDS
SAVING

10,000

LIVES BY 2025

VICTORIAN CANCER PLAN

“

Teamwork gives you the best opportunity to turn vision into reality”

John C Maxwell



RTN Site Profile

Bendigo Cancer Centre

Bendigo Health



- **Purpose-built facility** for the people of Loddon Mallee region of Victoria
- Phase Capabilities - Phase **Ib, II, III, IV**
- Research Team - **6** Investigators, **2** Study Coordinators, **1** Clinical Trials Manager
- Reviewing approx **1,050** new cancer patients each year



- Over **50** years combined Investigator experience on clinical trials
- **Dedicated** patient facilities - 18 treatment chairs
- On-site Pharmacy and Local Pathology
- Radiotherapy facilities and access to **PET, CT, MRI, US, nuclear imaging and DEXA**



NATIONAL CLINICAL TRIALS GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

AN UPDATE

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care has finalised the draft National Clinical Trials Governance Framework following national consultation.

The Governance Framework, Literature Review and Mapping Exercise Report are now available on the Commission's website or via the link below:

[Governance Framework](#)

The Commission is now accepting expressions of interest to participate in the Pilot Program either by providing feedback on the Framework and its supporting tools and resources (Level 1) or as one of the 12 pilot sites (Level 2).

Expressions of interest must be lodged by **13 March 2020** with successful applicants notified by the Commission. This is a great opportunity for regional representation.

[Register your interest here](#)

Site Metrics

Data from the Cancer Council Victoria (CCV) has indicated a **7%** increase in the number of recruiting trials at RTN sites and a **31%** increase in the number of patients recruited to trials for the 2017-2018 reporting period.

Sponsors are actively considering the regional sites for their studies with feasibilities increasing by **22%** during 2019.

(Data current as at January 2020)

TELETRIALS

The ANZUP UNICAB trial is currently being considered as a Teletial with Border Medical Oncology to act as the primary site and Goulburn Valley Health as the satellite site.

The feasibility is underway with assistance from the VCCC Teletrials Project Team

and supervision plans will be completed soon.

The Target-TP Teletrial continues its successful recruitment. As at January 2020 this trial has recruited over 55 patients at Border Medical Oncology and Bendigo Health.