Population Health Research Network (PHRN)

The PHRN project is creating and developing research infrastructure in the population health space, including information and communication technology, research equipment, data management and custodianship, analytical capacity and project management.

It will provide researchers in Australia with the capability to link de-identified data from a diverse and rich range of health data sets, across sectors and jurisdictions.

This will allow them to carry out nationally and internationally significant population-level research, to improve health and wellbeing and to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of health services.

Key facts

- State: QLD, NSW, ACT, SA, VIC, WA, NT, Tas
- Lead institute: The University of Western Australia
- Project status: In progress
- Australian Government contribution:
  - $20 million from the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS)
  - $10 million under the Super Science Initiative
  - $3.09 million under the Collaborative Research Infrastructure Scheme (CRIS)
  - $4.92 million under the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy 2013 program
- Key funding partners: host institutions and all state and territory governments

Project deliverables

The NCRIS investment in the PHRN will:

- build upon existing data linkage capacity and expertise in particular jurisdictions and in specific aspects of health data collection and management
- provide ICT support, workforce training and development, data management and custodianship, analytic capacity and coordination among data linkage centres, to support Australian researchers undertaking probabilistic linkage of datasets relevant to the health and wellbeing of the Australian population
- establish a new focus on data linkage capacity in all Australian jurisdictions
- facilitate research into health determinants, organisation and delivery of health services, health status and health outcomes in the population and non-health fields that impact upon health and vice versa
- enhance collaboration across health systems, public and private health services and agencies that run health systems and provide mainstream health information
- consolidate the collaborations that already exist among groups in Australia already engaged in health data linkage activities.
Participating organisations

• The University of Western Australia (lead agency)
• The Telethon Institute for Child Health Research
• The Sax Institute
• Curtin University
• Cancer Institute of NSW
• Victorian Government
• Western Australian Government
• The University of South Australia and a consortium of South Australian universities
• Tasmanian Government
• South Australian Government
• Queensland Government
• Northern Territory Government
• The University of Queensland and a consortium of Queensland universities
• University of Tasmania

More information
For more information, visit the Population Health Research Network website.