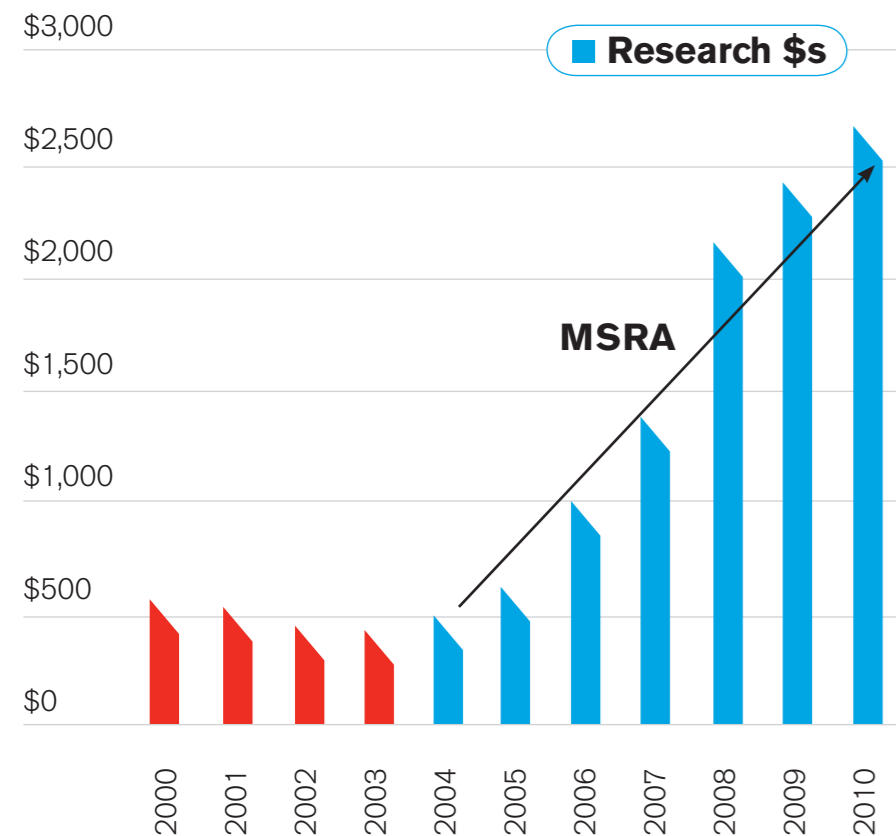


## Achievements so far...

- A five-fold increase in research funding since 2004, with MSRA becoming a leader in supporting MS research in Australia
- Establishing a focal point for collaboration amongst MS researchers
- Eighteen new research scholarships and fellowships, all talented scientists focusing on MS outcomes
- Funding a pivotal study indicating the protective benefits of Vitamin D (Ausimmune Study) and the potential for prevention strategies
- Setting up the MSRA Brain Bank to provide human tissue for advanced neuropathology research
- The biggest Australasian MS genetics study ever with 2,000 DNA samples and 10 collaborating institutes, leading to the potential for better prediction and targeted treatments
- A new MSRA Clinical Trials Network to enable the co-ordination of trial activity in Australia and New Zealand
- Funding of over 30 current MS research projects

### MSA/MSRA Research Spend 2000 to 2010 in \$000's



## MSRA HAS CHANGED THE LANDSCAPE OF MS RESEARCH IN AUSTRALIA

Professor Trevor Kilpatrick, Director of Neurosciences, University of Melbourne



To make a donation, to pledge your brain for research, or to seek further information, contact us via:

Phone: **1300 356 467** or  
**[www.msra.org.au](http://www.msra.org.au)**

## Governance and Review

### Board of Directors

#### Simon McKeon – Chairman

Executive Chairman – Macquarie Group Limited, Melbourne office

#### Dr Bill Carroll

Head of Neurology, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Perth

#### Gabrielle Dalmau

Consultant to MS Australia

#### Dr James Fox

Director, Futuris Corporation

#### Chris Gillies

Chairman MS Limited, Director MS Australia

#### Paul A Murnane

Chairman & Senior Adviser, O'Sullivan Partners

#### Susan Nixon

Former General Manager, Consumer Marketing, Westpac Banking Corporation

#### Prof Graeme Stewart AM

Director of the Institute for Immunology and Allergy Research, Westmead Hospital

#### Graham Tribe

Former Chairman, Nacco Materials Handling Group Pty Ltd, President MS Australia, Director MS Limited

### Research Review Board

Develops MSRA's research strategy.

#### Dr Bill Carroll – Chairman

Head of Neurology, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Perth. Past President, Australian Association of Neurologists

#### Prof Tony Basten

Chair of Immunology, The University of Sydney

#### Prof Alistair Compston

Prof of Neurology, Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, UK

#### Prof Marc Feldman

Director of Immunology, The Kennedy Institute of Rheumatology, London, UK

#### Prof Trevor Kilpatrick

Director of Neuroscience, The University of Melbourne

#### Prof John Noseworthy

Prof of Neurology Mayo Clinic, Minnesota, USA

### Research Management Council

Reviews proposals for MS research investment.

#### Dr Bill Carroll – Chairman

Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Perth

#### Prof David Adams

The University of Queensland

#### A/Prof Simon Broadley

Griffith University, QLD

#### Dr Roger Garsia

Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney

#### Prof Tom Gordon

Flinders Medical Centre, Adelaide

#### Dr Peter Hollingsworth

The University of Western Australia

#### Dr Elizabeth McDonald

MS Limited

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The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne

#### Dr Garry Pearce

Private practice

#### Prof Michael Pender

Royal Brisbane Hospital, QLD

#### Prof John Pollard AO

Brain and Mind Institute, NSW

#### Dr Ron Sharpe

PwMS Representative

#### Dr Lindsay Vowels

Private practice

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ABN: 34 008 581 431



# Accelerating Research to achieve Freedom from MS



# A defining issue

multiple sclerosis, *n*: MS or 'multiple scarring' is an incurable, chronic, often disabling disease that randomly attacks and scars the protective insulation that surrounds nerve fibres (myelin) in the brain and spinal cord. The progress, severity and symptoms are different for everyone. Symptoms range from tingling and numbness to paralysis and blindness. MS is particularly devastating as the physical and emotional effects are so unpredictable.

multiple sclerosis research australia, (MSRA), *n & v*: an innovative organisation accelerating and steering research into MS – facilitating projects aiming to establish the environmental, genetic and neurological origins of MS by encouraging collaboration between Australia's best medical researchers. MSRA seeks financial support for this research via donations, grants, corporate partnerships, bequests and general fundraising.

MS is on the increase, affecting close to 20,000 Australians and 2.5 million globally. The impact on individuals and families is severe and on the nation's economy is \$2 billion pa. Without a cure or advanced treatments, this will continue. However, with your help there is great potential for research breakthroughs.

“RESEARCH WILL ONE DAY PROVIDE A CURE FOR MS – IT IS JUST A MATTER OF WHEN”

Professor Graeme Stewart



Dr Fiona McKay, Westmead Millennium Institute

# MSRA strives for breakthroughs in prevention, better treatments and a cure for MS

## By Accelerating Research

MSRA is focused on Australia's acknowledged research strengths and its likely contribution to the worldwide effort.

This translates into five main areas of research:

1. Genetics and Epidemiology
2. Immunology and Virology
3. Neurobiology
4. Social and Applied Research
5. Clinical Trials

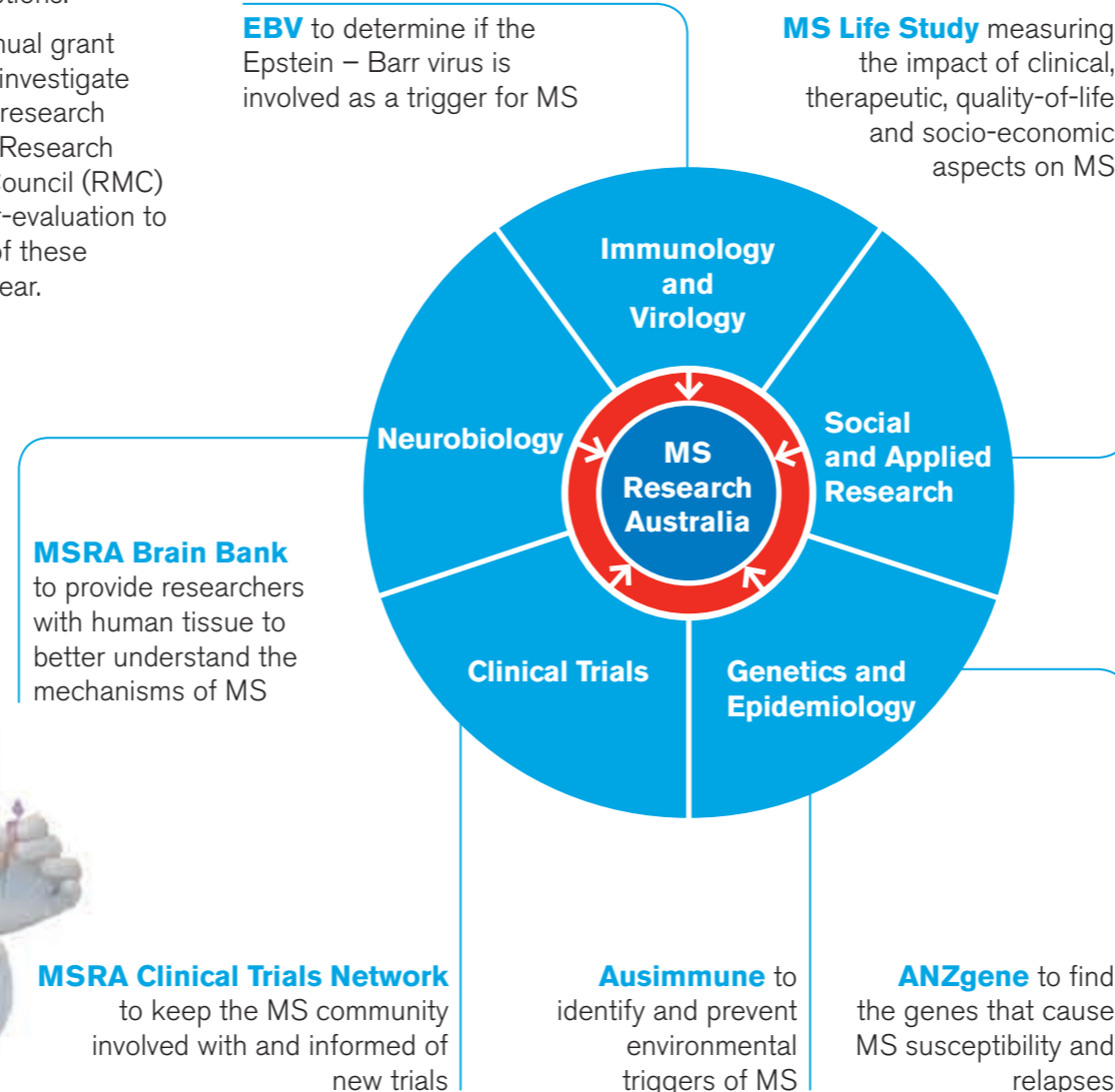
Research is funded in three ways:

- **Platforms** – major collaborative research initiatives that address significant questions.
- **Projects** – annual grant applications to investigate promising new research directions. Our Research Management Council (RMC) provides a peer-evaluation to back the best of these projects each year.

- **Career Development Awards** – to attract the best and brightest researchers to develop the skills and passion for MS research.

MSRA is also looking further afield where international collaboration or commercial partnerships can fast-track specific initiatives.

## Major research streams, platforms and projects:



## By Increasing Funding

100% of all project funding is allocated to the specific areas of MS research. Often it is matched by government and other sources.

For all funding received, **94 cents goes directly to MS research.**

MSRA has a partnership with the Commonwealth Government's NHMRC whereby every dollar we provide to Betty Cuthbert Scholarship and Fellowships is matched by the Government.

Our *Research Partner* program involves donors who:

- Provide general donations or bequests
- Contribute to particular projects from our Research Portfolio
- Directly support a young researcher with a Scholarship or Fellowship
- Match funding to double MSRA's capacity



Dr Toby Merson, an MSRA Betty Cuthbert Research Fellow.



The Patron of the MSRA Research Partners program is well-known musician, Jim Conway.

## Research Partners include:

Industry Round Table Members | Corporate Partners, Trusts and Foundations | State and Federal Governments | MS Societies and MS Australia | Generous Individuals

biogen idec | sanofi aventis | Macquarie Group Foundation | Bayer HealthCare | Bayer Schering Pharma | AFA

MERCK SERONO | Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing | Blake Dawson | Deloitte. | Trish | QANTAS