

New Zealand Health Research Strategy

September 2018



A discussion paper on setting New Zealand's first
health research priorities

Table of Contents

Section 1: The New Zealand Health Research Strategy	3
Why do we need to set health research priorities?	4
Who are the health research priorities for?	4
How will the health research priorities be funded?	5
Section 2: How are the health research priorities being set?	6
Section 3: The draft Strategic Investment Area framework	8
Statement from the Development Group	8
Why these five Strategic Investment Areas?	9
What is meant by ‘excellent research’?	10
What is meant by ‘innovation’?	10
What input is the Development Group seeking?	17
Notes on completing the online submission tool	20
Section 4: How to have your say	21
Submissions	21
Community meetings	21
Next steps	21
Personal information and confidentiality	22
Contact information	22
Appendix A: Summary of consultation questions	23



Section 1: The New Zealand Health Research Strategy

In June 2017, the New Zealand Health Research Strategy 2017 – 2027 (the NZHRS), was published. For the first time, Government is bringing together the health, science, research and innovation sectors to create a cohesive, collaborative and well-connected health research system, with the vision of improving the health and wellbeing of all New Zealanders.

By 2027, New Zealand will have a world-leading health research and innovation system that, through excellent research, improves the health and wellbeing of all New Zealanders

The Strategy is a partnership between the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) and the Health Research Council of New Zealand (HRC), who are working to implement a set of co-ordinated and complementary actions that will enhance the funding, conduct and uptake of health research.

The 10 actions that make up the Strategy are:



This consultation seeks your input on **Action 1: to Prioritise investment through an inclusive priority-setting process**. This action is being led by the HRC in line with its strategic role as the government's primary funder of health research, with support from the Ministry of Health and MBIE. The outcome of this process will be a set of health research priorities that ensures government funding of health research is targeted to address the big issues that New Zealand faces now, and in the future. It is important to note that these health research priorities are not just for the HRC, but all of government investment routes in health research (with variable related action in line with each agency's mandate).

Why do we need to set health research priorities?

New Zealand health researchers already focus on the issues and areas where they can make a difference. The purpose of setting priorities is to gain a shared understanding of where to focus effort and resources to get the greatest benefit and the best value for New Zealanders' investment in health research. This requires input from everyone involved and a concerted effort to come together and realise the vision set by the Strategy. This is as much about co-ordinating what funders and policy-makers are doing, as co-ordinating the health research community. Once Government has established the priorities, the next step is to ensure that the infrastructure, resources, capacity, and capability exist to address them, through Actions 2 to 10 of the Strategy.

This is not just about what the HRC does

The priorities identified need to serve the interests of all New Zealanders – as well as Government, funders, researchers, those responsible for healthcare delivery, communities, end-users, consumers, industry and the health, science, technology and innovation systems.

Who are the health research priorities for?

The priorities are for all of New Zealand. Everyone involved in the health research, science, technology and innovation sectors will be asked to think about how they can deliver to them in what they do – Government, tertiary institutions, Crown Research Institutes, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), independent research organisations, and contract researchers.



Stakeholders across the sector will be asked to find ways to work together and implement the priorities.

How will the health research priorities be funded?

The priorities will be published in 2019 and this is when funders will make decisions, in line with their goals, about how they will fund and implement them. In particular, the priorities will inform the investment strategies of the HRC, the Ministry of Health and MBIE. The priorities will also guide other areas of Government-funded, mission-led research such as the National Science Challenges, health sector agency research and health research commissioned by other government agencies. The Government will develop new approaches for co-investment with the not-for-profit sector on the agreed priorities. Government agencies will also decide what special initiatives may need to be initiated if more rapid progress is needed, and what changes to funding mechanisms might be necessary.

Other funding mechanisms in New Zealand's health research and innovation system, such as academic institutional funding, the Centres of Research Excellence and the Marsden Fund, will continue to support curiosity-driven health research that may or may not fit with these priorities.



Section 2: How are the health research priorities being set?

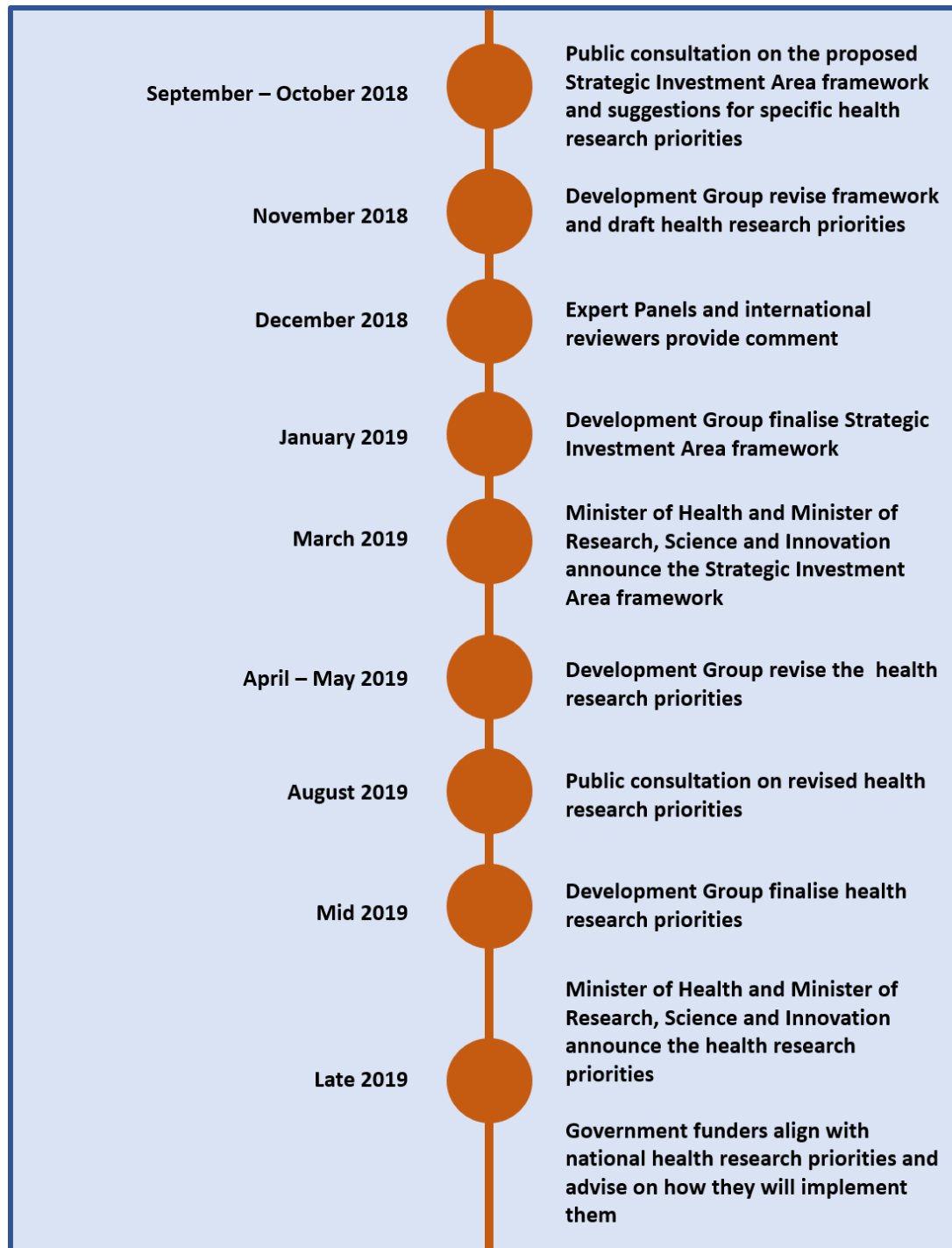
The framework for health research priorities identified by this process, termed Strategic Investment Areas, will endure for the 10-year duration of the Strategy, to 2027. Within each Strategic Investment Area, areas of research activity and capability are defined as 'Dimensions'. Each 'Dimension' will contain a set of research priorities, where there are specific gaps in knowledge. To ensure the health research priorities are responsive to dynamic factors such as the burden of disease, research opportunities, and the evidence needs of New Zealand's health system, the Dimensions and research priorities will be reviewed every 3 – 5 years.

An independent Development Group has been formed who will oversee the priority-setting process and have drafted the proposed Strategic Investment Area framework being consulted on. The Development Group represents some of New Zealand's leading health researchers, innovators, advisors and health delivery experts, with members selected for their mana, knowledge, expertise in health services or research, different world views and experience, and their ability to think strategically for the benefit of all New Zealanders. The Development Group is made up of 13 members:

- Fepulea'i Margie Apa
- Professor Michael Baker
- Emeritus Professor Richard Bedford (Co-Chair)
- Dr Dale Bramley
- Professor Vicky Cameron
- Dr Kyle Eggleton
- Dr James Hutchinson
- Professor Margaret Hyland
- Ms Rose Kahaki (Co-Chair)
- Mr Philip Patston
- Professor John Potter
- Professor Stephen Robertson
- Professor Linda Tuhiwai Smith



As outlined in the timeline below, over the next 12 months, the independent Development Group is assessing input from stakeholders across the health, science and innovation sectors, to help ensure the process of setting priorities is inclusive and serves the needs of New Zealand's diverse population and communities.



Section 3: The draft Strategic Investment Area framework

Section 3 of this document outlines the draft framework, or Strategic Investment Areas, that feedback is being sought on. The independent Development Group responsible for drafting the framework have included a statement outlining the rationale for the five areas that have been chosen as the basis for the proposed framework.

Statement from the Development Group

The first point to make is that this is a **draft** framework. We have proposed what we think is a reasonable starting point for you to comment on. There are five Strategic Investment Areas, and each has six 'Dimensions' of research activity, which is where specific priorities will sit. **No specific research priorities are suggested in the current draft**, instead there are 'thought provokers' or questions, to prompt considerations of the scope that is currently envisaged for each Dimension and to signal the Development Group's thinking. You will see that the 'thought provokers' are framed to get your input on the overall framework, as well as what research and infrastructure priorities should sit within it.

This is a framework for the whole of New Zealand, and every funder that invests Government money in health research and related activities (such as the translation of research into practice, policy and commercialisation). Therefore, a broad and holistic view of health is needed and consideration of the issues and challenges New Zealand is currently facing and will face in the future. The framework should encompass excellent, impactful research that needs to be done here in New Zealand and builds on international research efforts without unnecessarily duplicating them. The Strategic Investment Areas will be in place until 2027, although the specific Dimensions and research priorities will be refreshed every 3 to 5 years. New Zealand needs a framework that promotes collaborative, inter-disciplinary research and brings the skills and expertise of all our best researchers to bear on the biggest issues for our country, across sectors and research fields. To do this well, the wider health research sector needs to



think about priorities for health research but also priorities for the infrastructure, networks and resources needed to support these endeavours.

The framework is predicated on the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and developed in partnership between Māori and the Crown. All health research undertaken as a part of this framework will be conducted in line with those principles.

Why these five Strategic Investment Areas?

The five Strategic Investment Areas encompass the Government's strong commitment to partnership with Māori and equity, with five areas proposed aiming to:

1. improve health and wellbeing for children and young people,
2. promote healthy ageing in our population,
3. foster an innovative and future-focused health system that meets the needs of our population,
4. develop and realise innovation in ways that benefit our country,
5. ensure the research system identifies what lies ahead for New Zealand and is not focused solely on the current challenges for health and wellbeing.

The importance of partnership with Māori and equity are fundamental principles for this framework. These are reflected by the creation of the Dimensions of Rangatiratanga and Equity in each strategic area, as an interim measure. The Development Group will be guided by the consultation process on how best to incorporate these core values in the final framework.

The overarching approach to the draft framework can best be described through the analogy of the kete Mātauranga (knowledge basket). The five Strategic Investment Areas and their Dimensions form the weaving of the baskets and the two cross-cutting Dimensions – Rangatiratanga and Equity – form the whiri (plait) that binds the weaving together. An attempt has also been made to weave a strong focus on knowledge



mobilisation and people-centred approaches into all five of the Strategic Investment Areas.

Thought was also given to the relative size of each strategic area, in terms of the amount of research it is likely to encompass – for the sake of comparability and potential future resource allocation. We are also keen to hear where you think facilitation of interdisciplinary linkages might advance progress in any one Strategic Investment Area and how that might be best achieved.

What is meant by ‘excellent research’?

It is important to define what is meant by ‘excellent’ research. The HRC’s definition of excellent research has been adopted from the Statement of Intent 2017-2021,¹ with minor adaptation:

Excellent research occurs across the entire spectrum of innovation, from very basic to very applied and practical research – and across the full range of research disciplines: biomedical, clinical, health services, public health and information systems. It is performed in a wide variety of settings, including laboratories, hospitals and communities. We see excellent research as being ethical, scientifically sound, original, relevant, purposeful and impactful.

What is meant by ‘innovation’?

Innovation can be defined as the implementation of new or significantly improved products, services, processes or organisational methods.² This includes clinical tests or

¹ <http://www.hrc.govt.nz/sites/default/files/Final%20HRC%20SoI%202017-20.pdf>

² This definition is based on: OECD and Eurostat (2005). *Oslo Manual: Guidelines for Collecting and Interpreting Innovation Data*, 3rd Edition. OECD Publishing. ISBN 978-92-64-01308-3. Available at: <http://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/oslo-manual-guidelines-for-collecting-and-interpreting-innovation-data.htm> (pp.46-47).



interventions (e.g. drugs, devices, medical or surgical procedures); public health interventions (e.g. immunisation or screening programmes); service delivery models (e.g. clinical pathways, models of care, patient safety systems, management systems); technology, information or other support systems (e.g. electronic records systems, telemedicine, biobanks).

Innovation activities include all scientific, technological, organisational, financial and commercial steps which are intended to lead to the implementation of innovations. This encompasses research and development that is not directly related to the development of a specific innovation.³ 'Innovation' is not a synonym for 'research' – but innovation may encompass research, and arguably may benefit from doing so in different ways at stages of the innovation cycle.

³ OECD and Eurostat (2005).



Draft Strategic Investment Areas for Implementation of the New Zealand Health Research Strategy

1. Strong foundations of health & wellbeing in children & youth

The importance of intervening early and taking a life-course approach to prevention and good health



2. Sustaining health & wellbeing throughout adulthood & ageing

3. Fostering the health & disability system NZ needs

4. Innovating for health and wealth

5. Meeting the challenges of our changing world

Rationale

Ensuring that our youngest New Zealanders grow and develop well depends on more than simply the absence of disease, it means understanding how we can intervene early, even across generations, to set healthy patterns. It means addressing all determinants of physical and mental health and wellbeing – bridging government sectors - and drawing on all research disciplines. We must understand the complex and varied needs of children and young people from every group that makes up our unique New Zealand population to promote an equitable start to life. Finally, we need to understand how each stage in the life-course impacts on future health and bring that understanding to the way we design interventions and services.

Dimensions

and 'thought provokers' for what this Strategic Investment Area might encompass...



Bridging all Strategic Investment Areas

Rangatiratanga

What are the priorities for kaupapa Māori research to **improve outcomes for tamariki and rangatahi**?

Equity

How do the dimensions below differ according to ethnicity, socio-economic status, disability and geographic location?

How do we **promote health equity in New Zealand's children and youth** and recognise and celebrate diversity?

How do we **reduce intergenerational** harm?

Intervention before birth



How are our bodies modified by our environment to influence our health and wellbeing prospects, even before we are born?

What can we apply or develop from **existing knowledge** to **improve maternal and fetal health**?

How can we **better support prospective parents and pregnant mothers** to improve outcomes?

The first 1000 days of life from conception



How can we **apply what we already know** about the crucial factors in the first 1000 days of life?

What will work to **combat high rates of infectious disease, injury and maltreatment** in New Zealand's children?

Where do the **greatest opportunities to intervene early** for better outcomes lie?

Healthy, happy & resilient children & young people



What are the priorities for research to address **health and social issues** for New Zealand children and youth?

How do we **better utilise the knowledge we have** to design, target, refine and implement interventions and policies?

What is the impact of **the digital world** on our children and youth?

How do we address New Zealand's high rate of **youth suicide**?

A life-course approach to health & wellbeing



Why do **improvements in health and wellbeing for children and youth lag behind** adults in New Zealand?

How do we set and maintain **healthy habits for life**?

How can a **life-course approach** to health and wellbeing help us to better understand and manage life's transitions?



Links to SIA 2: Sustaining health and wellbeing throughout adulthood and ageing

Note: The word health embraces both the physical and mental states

Research characteristics

Novel approaches will be needed that go beyond describing the problems to devising, trialing and evaluating solutions. Projects will be needed that build upon advances and effectively implement our wealth of existing knowledge. Different models, conceptualisations and methodological approaches to understanding health and wellbeing will be needed, including those that build on linked datasets and longitudinal data. Engaging with stakeholders, communities and end-users, and across disciplines and sectors, will be key to meeting the aspiration of this Strategic Investment Area.

Draft Strategic Investment Areas for Implementation of the New Zealand Health Research Strategy

2. Sustaining health & wellbeing throughout adulthood & ageing

Drawing on international knowledge & generating research that addresses the greatest issues for New Zealand adults

1. Strong foundations of health & wellbeing in children & youth

4. Innovating for health & wealth

3. Fostering the health & disability system New Zealand needs

5. Meeting the challenges of our changing world

Rationale

All New Zealanders aspire to live a healthy, happy and independent life, free from acute and chronic diseases. This strategic area is about focusing on the issues that unnecessarily compromise this aspiration for some, and reducing the impact of illness, injury and adverse determinants of physical and mental health. A strong focus on prevention and understanding what contributes to ageing well will be core to this. Most of us will experience illness, injury and disability at some stage in adult life, but research gives us the hope that much can be prevented and optimal, increasingly individualised treatment will be available for that which cannot. Better understanding of where the greatest gains can be made for adult health is key, to ensure that we make the best use of resources. Improvements in adult health and wellbeing have meant that many more of us will live to old age, making ageing well and quality of life in advancing years a major focus of health research around the globe. Much of this research can inform what we do in New Zealand, but there are specific questions for our people that need to be answered by research that is done here.

Dimensions

and 'thought provokers' for what this Strategic Investment Area might encompass...

Rangatiratanga

What are the key health and wellbeing priorities to **promote positive ageing for Māori**?

Are there opportunities to **adapt existing public health interventions to align with Te Ao Māori** for use in Maori communities?

Equity

What are the most pressing **research priorities for Māori, Pacific people, older people and disabled people**?

How do we use existing priorities across the health sector for **Māori and Pacific health outcomes as a driver for alignment between health and social agencies**?

Addressing the greatest burden of disease

What are the **most pressing research priorities** to improve adult health and wellbeing in New Zealand - for young, middle-aged and older adults?

What **international research findings could be adopted and adapted in New Zealand** to improve outcomes in acute and chronic diseases?

What **have we learned already that can be applied now** to improve prevention, diagnosis and treatment?

Stratified medicine*

What are the **greatest opportunities to utilise large datasets** to improve precision of diagnosis, prognosis and treatment in New Zealand?

How do we **enhance the capability to use large datasets** at both population and individualised levels?

Links to SIA 1: Strong foundations of health and wellbeing in children and youth - when children and youth benefit from precision-treatment approaches

Determinants of health

What **existing knowledge could be used** to inform interventions to prevent illness and injury?

What **successful public health interventions** exist that could be scaled up and implemented nationally?

What are the **priorities for new knowledge** on factors that affect health and wellbeing?

What can we do to promote **ageing well** in all New Zealand populations and what questions need to be answered here?

Links to SIA 1: Strong foundations of health and wellbeing in children and youth - when longitudinal approaches across the life-course are the focus

Shifting treatment horizons

What are the **opportunities to make major advances** in the treatment of and rehabilitation from adult diseases and injury?

How can **linked data** be used to gain insights into adult care and design better interventions?

Where does New Zealand have **key strengths and a critical mass** of capacity to address adult health and wellbeing and make a strong contribution to global research efforts?

Links to SIA 1: Strong foundations of health and wellbeing in children and youth - for advances related specifically to early life

Note: The word health embraces both the physical and mental state

* Often called 'personalised medicine', stratified medicine refers to treatment that is optimised for groups of patients that share the same characteristics

Research characteristics

This strategic area covers all determinants of health and acute and chronic mental and physical illness. Meeting the aspiration will require input from all health research disciplines - working together - to address the complex needs of our unique New Zealand adult and ageing population. Capacity and capability needs to be built to better understand and utilise advances in treatment approaches, such as the use of big data and linked datasets, and training will be an important expectation where new techniques and technologies are employed. The prime focus on addressing health equity will also require involvement of Māori and Pacific researchers and the need to work with communities to ensure that we develop 'citizen scientists' in New Zealand whose input is wanted and valued by health researchers and funders.

Draft Strategic Investment Areas for Implementation of the New Zealand Health Research Strategy

3. Fostering the health & disability system New Zealand needs

Research that will deliver better more agile, personal, efficient and cost-effective health services and empower New Zealanders to manage their own health



1. Strong foundations for health & wellbeing in children & youth

2. Sustaining health & wellbeing throughout adulthood & ageing

4. Innovating for health & wealth

5. Meeting the challenges of our changing world

Rationale

Uptake of research findings is highly dependent on the culture that underpins the health system, and the institutions and individuals working within it. A culture where support for, and responsiveness to, research is embedded (e.g. formal arrangements to drive collaboration with end-users) alongside continuous quality improvement practices is a prerequisite for maximising the results of health research. We need effective and efficient services, underpinned by the strongest and most current evidence. A focus on people-centred care highlights the importance of connecting with communities, recognising and respecting diversity, and the interconnectedness of both health service users and the people who work within the health system.

Dimensions

and 'thought provokers' for what this Strategic Investment Area might encompass...

Rangatiratanga



Bridging all Strategic Investment Areas

How can we increase understanding of and **adherence to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi** and cultural safety at all levels of our health system?

How do we foster **stronger linkages and co-ordination between Māori PHOs and DHBs**?

What is working and not working for Māori in our health and disability services?

Equity

How do we ensure **equal access to health and disability services** for all New Zealanders?

How do we ensure that **all New Zealanders enjoy the same standards** of intervention and care?

How do we promote understanding and acceptance of **diversity** and gender choices in decisions on care?

People-centred care



How do we increase **community owned and driven services**?

How can we promote connections between community service providers, PHOs and DHBs to **design services that are well-integrated** in the communities they serve?

How do we make sure that **aged-care and disability services** are meeting increasing need and empowering users to live independently and make their own choices about care?

How can we better use technology and other tools to **assist people to take control of and manage their own health**?

Continuous cycle of improvement



How do we **build evaluation into all research** designed for implementation in our health system?

Where do we need more **evidence of effectiveness** for current practices?

How can we systematically identify what's not working and **disinvest early** to save money for more effective interventions?

What are the **priorities for health systems** research?

Knowledge translation & mobilisation



What are the **key knowledge needs of health practitioners** that should be answered through new research?

How do we create a **research system that continuously identifies and delivers on knowledge needs** identified at the front-line of care?

What have we learned already that can be applied now to increase efficiency, cost-effectiveness and standards of care?

How do we increase the **pace of knowledge translation** in the health system?

Launching innovations



What innovations currently exist that could be utilised in our health system to improve treatment, cost-effectiveness, patient safety or standards of care?

How do we **facilitate the uptake of new technologies** and innovations and establish utility, cost-effectiveness and benefit?

How can we build capability, safety and efficacy in healthcare systems as they become increasingly reliant on **advanced informatics**?



Links to SIA 4: Innovating for health & wealth

Note: The word health embraces both the physical and mental state

Research characteristics

This strategic area focuses on putting people right at the heart of services, using existing knowledge well and mobilising new discoveries for rapid impact. Research should be designed so that evaluation is built in and services providers can have confidence that resulting solutions will make a positive difference. A strong focus on partnership with communities will be important, early involvement of anticipated research users, and a continuous focus on outcomes for patients and the wider community. Research users include clinicians, industry, policy-makers, health service staff, the public and other researchers.

Draft Strategic Investment Areas for Implementation of the New Zealand Health Research Strategy

4. Innovating for health & wealth

Harnessing our great ideas and potential for innovation to deliver better health outcomes, a world-class, future-fit health system and a prospering society

1. Strong foundations of health & wellbeing in children & youth

3. Fostering the health & disability system NZ needs

2. Sustaining health & wellbeing throughout adulthood & ageing

5. Meeting the challenges of our changing world

Rationale

Globally, health technologies and practices are changing at a rapid pace. To realise the potential for these to improve health outcomes and increase prosperity for New Zealanders, we need to prepare our people and systems to identify, adapt and accept those innovations that will serve us best. We need research that will fuel the innovation pipeline with important discoveries, novel interventions and technological developments that keep our healthcare and population health services agile, responsive and future-focused and contribute to New Zealand's commercial success in the global health market. We need to develop a dynamic research and innovation system that supports the generation, development and testing of innovative ideas created in New Zealand, including those based on cutting-edge technologies and those that emerge from the health sector. We also need the ability to future-scan and identify promising new developments from other countries or sectors; and the expertise to transfer or adapt those innovations for our local populations and health settings. We need agile people and processes to support the implementation of innovations, and to use evidence from evaluation to either scale up what works across the health system, or rapidly disinvest.

Dimensions

and 'thought provokers' for what this Strategic Investment Area might encompass ...



Bridging all Strategic Investment Areas

Rangatiratanga

How do we realise the potential for unique ideas that originate from **te Ao Māori and Rongoā Māori**, to improve health outcomes?

How should **Māori data sovereignty** be addressed and what processes should be followed by all researchers compiling Māori data?

Equity

What are the issues around access to new technologies for lower socio-economic and marginalised groups and how do we **avoid compromising health equity as we drive innovation**?

Feeding the innovation pipeline



How do we best identify and support **discovery research** that will underpin biological, chemical & technological innovation?

What is the role of **high-risk, high-impact science**?

How can we **adapt innovation from other sectors** to advance health and wellbeing, such as veterinary science and engineering?

Developing & applying innovations



How can we identify and adapt **innovations developed internationally** to improve effectiveness, efficiency or cost-effectiveness of care in New Zealand?

How can we **harness the potential for novel or disruptive ideas** that emerge from the New Zealand science and health sectors?

How do we build capacity for participation in local or international **randomised controlled trials**?

How do we build on New Zealand's strengths to develop **innovations for the global health market**?

Innovating with data and methods



How can we utilise new **datasets** or linked, existing datasets to gain new insights or knowledge?

How can New Zealand best contribute to, and benefit from, advances in **'big data' science**, such as 'omics' research, physiological modelling, and biobanks?

What areas require the development of **new health research methodologies**, or adaptation of methods used in other research sectors?

Culture and ethics of innovation



What new approaches are needed to successfully **embed innovation in the health system**?

How do we **prepare New Zealand society for rapid innovation**?

How do we address the **ethical issues around collection & use of big data & linked datasets**?

What are the **ethical implications of innovations that eliminate disabilities** or substantially change the lived experience of disabled people?

Note: The word health embraces the mental and physical state

Research characteristics

This strategic area is about transforming New Zealand through excellent research building on ambitious and visionary ideas. All research disciplines can contribute to the innovation pipeline. 'Blue skies' science is essential to drive new ideas, and research that crosses disciplines or sectors is encouraged to capitalise on existing technological advances. Health providers should help to drive the research agenda, by partnering directly with researchers to develop innovative solutions for identified needs. Engagement with the commercial sector is critical to developing the thinking and priorities that lead to more effective health outcomes. Ethical considerations are paramount as the way in which research is conducted and used, continues to evolve. If these issues are not addressed in tandem, they will constitute major barriers to the uptake of innovation.

Draft Strategic Investment Areas for Implementation of the New Zealand Health Research Strategy

5. Meeting the challenges of our changing world

Preparing New Zealand for the health impacts of future events



- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Strong foundations of health & wellbeing in children & youth | 3. Fostering the health & disability system NZ needs |
| 2. Sustaining health & wellbeing throughout adulthood & ageing | 4. Innovation for health & wealth |

Rationale

Our world is rapidly changing and with those changes come an altered environment, population, burden of disease and new risks that we must prepare for to minimise or negate adverse health impacts as much as possible. As a nation, we must be prepared for changes that we are not driving - unlike those we are seeking to initiate under Strategic Investment Area 4: Innovation for Health and Wealth. We need to be part of the international conversations and research endeavours on issues such as strengthening resiliency in the face of natural disasters, preparing for pandemics and dealing with resistance to drugs used to treat bacterial, viral and fungal infections. Diseases that have been controlled are re-emerging and infections will continue to cross the boundary between species and pose a threat to humans. This Strategic Investment Area is about preparing for what may lie ahead and linking with global initiatives wherever New Zealand will benefit or can make a strong contribution.

Dimensions

and 'thought provokers' for what this Strategic Investment Area might encompass...



Bridging all Strategic Investment Areas

Rangatiratanga

What will be the **impact of climate change on traditional Māori food sources** and collection practices?

What does a **flourishing and robust society** look like for Māori in the future?

How can Māori researchers use their expertise in international efforts to make a **better future for indigenous peoples**?

Equity

How can we learn from and contribute to international programmes relating to a more equitable future, such as the **UN Sustainable Development Goals of Reducing Inequalities, No Poverty and Zero Hunger**?

How can we apply knowledge gleaned nationally and internationally to ensure **more equitable health and social systems in the future**?

Responding to climate change



How do we prepare for **changes in disease patterns** resulting from insect or human carriers?

What are the implications for **food safety and security in New Zealand**, e.g. toxins from mould, algae blooms, pesticides and pollutants?

How do we prepare for **exposure to more extreme weather** events and their health and social impact?

How do we prepare for **migration due to climate change**?

What are the priorities for **environmental health** research?

Emerging & re-emerging diseases



What do we need to do and know to prepare for **global pandemics**?

How can we contribute to the global efforts to tackle **resistance to drugs used to treat infections**?

- link internationally, support public education, and retain knowledge over time?

How do we understand and act on factors driving **emerging & re-emerging infectious diseases**?

- What can we apply from what is already known?

How do we protect New Zealand from **infections transmitted by animals**?

Future-proofing New Zealand



How do we improve our ability to **predict the biggest health challenges** in the future?

How can we prepare for the long-term impact of **changes in the age and composition of the New Zealand population**?

How will **changing migration patterns** affect health and health service delivery?

What are the implications of **rapid technological change**?

What are the health and wellbeing implications of **changes to the way that we live and work** in the future?

How will **artificial intelligence** change New Zealand life and health service delivery?

Advancing research in the Pacific



How do we meet our commitment to **support the health and well-being** of our Pacific citizens living in the Pacific and our Pacific neighbours?

What are the **key health and social issues for Pacific peoples** related to our changing world?

How do we **link New Zealand researchers with those based in the Pacific Islands** to address health and disability issues and build research capacity?

Note: The word health embraces both the physical and the mental state

Research characteristics

All research disciplines will be needed to address the dimensions of this strategic area. A strong focus on international collaboration will be important, as well as inter-disciplinary approaches that bring together the diverse skills needed to tackle complex issues, such as climate change. Linking with international efforts, building on what is already known and improving our ability to future-scan and predict possible outcomes will all be crucial in preparing New Zealand for a changing world.

What input is the Development Group seeking?

The Development Group is seeking feedback on:

1. each Strategic Investment Area,
2. your comments or concerns about the overarching framework, and
3. your specific health research priorities.

The health research priorities you suggest may or may not fit with the draft framework being proposed in this document but are welcomed as they will assist revision of the framework.

When you enter the online tool to make a submission, Questions 1 and 2 seek ***your input on the overall framework***. The Development Group want to ensure that New Zealand's health research system targets issues that matter today, but also ready New Zealand for the issues of tomorrow. Your feedback is needed on whether the framework will achieve this, what might be missing from the framework or any areas that have been identified that you think do not need to be included. Your input is also sought on whether the proposed framework identifies ways to build the workforce, skills, knowledge, infrastructure, and the business activity New Zealand needs to ensure a healthy future for our people and our country. The Development Group also asks you to consider whether the framework and ***the priorities you suggest is research that must be done here in New Zealand***.

Q1	Is the overall framework clear and easy to understand? Yes/No <i>(If 'Yes', go to next question; If 'No', comment required)</i>
Q2	<i>This question asks you to rate your response to a series of questions about the framework.</i>



Questions 3 to 5 will be asked about *each Strategic Investment Area*. This consultation is aimed at understanding what **health research priorities** matter most to you and your organisation. There are two questions where you are able to submit your suggestions for health research priorities, **Questions 7 and 8**. If you endorse any of the five draft Strategic Investment Areas proposed in the framework presented in this document, at Question 7, you are able to suggest specific priorities to be included within it.

Q3	Do you endorse this Strategic Investment Area? Yes/No <i>(If 'Yes', comment optional; If 'No', comment required)</i>
Q4	Is there anything that you would like to change about this Strategic Investment Area? Yes/No <i>(If 'No', go to next question; If 'Yes', comment required)</i>
Q5	Do you agree with the proposed 'Dimensions' of this Strategic Investment Area? Yes/No <i>(If 'Yes', comment optional; If 'No', comment required)</i>
Q6	Do you want to suggest specific priorities for this Strategic Investment Area? Yes/No
Q7	<i>(Asked if 'Yes' to Question 6)</i> In order of importance, what specific priorities do you think should be included within this Strategic Investment Area? <i>(Please explain why you think this research needs to be done in New Zealand.)</i>

If you do not endorse any of the draft Strategic Investment Areas proposed in this consultation document **or** would like to suggest health research priorities that you feel do not fit within the proposed framework, **or** you are not sure where in the framework a given health research priority may fit, you are able to make additional suggestions for consideration at Question 8.



Q8

Are there any other priorities that you have not previously mentioned that you would like to see included in the overall framework? Please rank them in order of importance. Yes/No
(If 'No', go to next question; If 'Yes', comment required)

Questions 9 and 10 allow you to provide input on what you think may be missing or should be included in the **overall framework**. If suggesting new Strategic Investment Areas, these should be of comparable size in terms of their breadth and note that the more Strategic Investment Areas there are, the harder it may be for funders to allocate resources across them. If you do suggest additional Strategic Investment Areas, please consider if these are in addition to the proposed framework or would replace a Strategic Investment Area. At Question 11, the Development Group is also seeking your input on the 'Dimensions' that are so important that they should be included across the entire framework.

Q9

Are there any additional Strategic Investment Areas you would like to see included in the proposed framework? Yes/No
(If 'No', go to next question; if 'Yes', comment required.)

Q10

Are there any Strategic Investment Areas in the proposed framework that you think should be removed? Yes/No
(If 'No', go to next question; if 'Yes', comment required.)

Q11

Are there any cross-cutting 'Dimensions' that you think should be included within every Strategic Investment Area? Why?

Finally, there are some questions about you including:

- your name and contact email,
- the organisation you work for, or are affiliated with (if applicable),



- whether your submission is being made as an individual or is part of a group or institutional submission, and
- if your submission is a group or institutional submission, who it is being made on behalf of.

These questions are asked to help understand who is providing feedback and so that we are able to send through a copy of the summary of submissions from this consultation and notify you when the final framework and health research priorities are available for further comment in 2019.

You will also be given the option to have your submission included in the published summary of submissions, or not. ***All submissions in the published summary will be anonymised.*** If you do not wish for your anonymised submission to be included in the summary, your feedback will still be provided confidentially to the Development Group.

Notes on completing the online submission tool

Depending on how much feedback you wish to provide, the online submission process is expected to take 30 to 60 minutes. As a submitter you are welcome to provide as much or little feedback as you want. The proposed Strategic Investment Area you are being asked to comment on will appear above each question for you to refer to. It is recommended that you ***prepare your responses in advance***, especially if you are preparing a group submission.



Section 4: How to have your say

Submissions

Section 3 of this document outlines the draft Strategic Investment Area framework. We are seeking your input on both the ***draft framework*** or Strategic Investment Areas, and suggestions for health research priorities.

Submissions are to be made online via the [HRC's website](#) or by clicking on the live link: www.surveymonkey.com/r/NZHRSAction1. The full list of consultation questions is included in Appendix A of this document. The online submission tool will ask you the same consultation questions. Submissions may be made by individuals or groups.

Please make your online submission by 5:00pm on Friday, 12 October 2018.

Community meetings

A series of meetings will be held with the Māori, Pacific and disabled communities. Meetings will take place in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin. These meetings are being planned for the end of September and further information will be available on the HRC's website: <http://www.hrc.govt.nz/news-and-publications/publications/consultation> or Update newsletter in the coming weeks.

Next steps

Your input will lead to the final framework, or Strategic Investment Areas, being established and the drafting of the priorities themselves. Once consultation closes, the independent Development Group overseeing the process, will consider your views, to finalise the Strategic Investment Areas and develop the first set of draft priorities.

The first set of draft priorities will be sent to Expert Panels who have specific knowledge and expertise in each of the areas identified by this consultation. The Expert Panels will



be convened and asked to comment on each of the areas, which will be provided to the Development Group who will draft the final set of priorities. The priorities will be circulated for public feedback in 2019, before being announced by the Minister of Health and Minister of Research, Science and Innovation.

Personal information and confidentiality

Your submission will be shared with officials from the HRC, Ministry of Health and MBIE. Any personal information in your submission will be held in accordance with the Privacy Act 1993 by the HRC and not circulated. The HRC may publish the submissions and provide a summary on the website www.hrc.govt.nz. Please let us know if you do not want your name to be included in any submissions or summary of submissions that the HRC may publish. We will not publish your contact details (e.g., email address, phone number or postal address).

The HRC may be asked to release submissions under the Official Information Act 1982. This Act has provisions to protect sensitive information given in confidence but the HRC cannot guarantee that the information will be withheld. If you do not want any information contained in your submission to be released, you need to tell us which information in your submission you consider should be withheld and explain why. For example, some information may be commercially sensitive or personal.

Contact information

For further information see the HRC's website: <http://www.hrc.govt.nz/news-and-publications/publications/consultation>

You can also contact Dr Patricia Anderson, Chief Advisor, Policy and Strategy: panderson@hrc.govt.nz

If you are having difficulty using the online submission tool, please contact Dr Alexandra Boyle, Policy Analyst, Policy and Strategy: aboyle@hrc.govt.nz



Appendix A: Summary of consultation questions

Question 1: Is the overall framework clear and easy to understand?

Question 2: See over page.

Question 3: Do you endorse this Strategic Investment Area?

Question 4: Is there anything that you would like to change about this Strategic Investment Area?

Question 5: Do you agree with the proposed 'Dimensions' of this Strategic Investment Area?

Question 6: Do you want to suggest specific priorities for this Strategic Investment Area?

Question 7: In order of importance, what specific priorities do you think should be included within this Strategic Investment Area?

Question 8: Are there any other priorities that you have not previously mentioned that you would like to see included in the overall framework? Please rank them in order of importance.

Question 9: Are there any additional Strategic Investment Areas you would like to see included in the proposed framework? Why?

Question 10: Are there any Strategic Investment Areas in the proposed framework that you think should be removed? Why?

Question 11: Are there any cross-cutting 'Dimensions' that you think should be included within every Strategic Investment Area? Why?



Question 6: Overall the Strategic Investment Area framework...

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree
reflects the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.					
identifies areas that will make the greatest difference to the health and wellbeing of all New Zealanders.					
supports excellent science.					
supports high-impact research.					
could be successfully implemented across the sector.					
is clear and easy to understand.					
is aspirational.					
is applicable to all types of health and disability research.					
will identify research that must be done in New Zealand.					
will assist in delivering on the vision of the New Zealand Health Research Strategy that: <i>"By 2027, New Zealand will have a world-leading health research and innovation system that, through excellent research, improves the health and wellbeing of all New Zealanders".</i>					
will contribute to getting the best value from New Zealand's investment in health research.					
will contribute to sending stable signals about the priorities for health research in New Zealand.					
will be responsive to local and global challenges and opportunities.					
will help to identify the right balance of infrastructure and research priorities.					
reflects Government priorities.					
will encourage interdisciplinary research.					

