



13 October 2020

Mr Trent Zimmerman MP  
Chair  
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Health, Aged Care and Sport  
PO Box 6021  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA  
Canberra ACT 2600

[Health.Reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:Health.Reps@aph.gov.au)

**RE: Inquiry into approval processes for new drugs and novel medical technologies in Australia.**

Dear Mr Trent Zimmerman MP,

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the Inquiry into approval processes for new drugs and novel medical technologies in Australia.

A Queensland Government statutory authority established in 1945, the Queensland Institute of Medical Research, now known as QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute, is one of Australia's largest and most successful medical research institute. QIMR Berghofer four research programs: Cancer, Infectious Diseases, Mental Health and Chronic Disorders. In making this submission, the Institute draws on its expertise across the breadth of its four research programs.

In response to points 2 and 3 of the inquiry terms of reference, QIMR Berghofer submits:

- Mutual acceptance of ethical review should be implemented nationally (where research has been reviewed and approved by an NHMRC-certified Human Research Ethics committee)
- Standardised governance processes (site-specific assessment) should be implemented across public health hospitals and health services
- R&D tax incentives should be continued, with greater transparency and efficiencies
- Research funding and grants with a focus on unmet needs and/or neglected health conditions should be developed.

I trust this brief submission is of assistance to the committee. I would be more than happy to provide more information if that would be helpful.

Yours sincerely,



Professor David Whiteman  
**Deputy Director**

