



Emergency Medicine Foundation

Funding prospectus

Harnessing research to improve outcomes for injured workers in the agricultural, forestry & fisheries industries





Better aeromedical retrievals

This year, more than 21,000 Queenslanders will be airlifted to hospital for emergency healthcare treatment.

Finding ways to treat patients closer to home and improve aeromedical retrieval services are paramount for EMF. That's why we have invested more than \$600,000 into this area of healthcare.

Pictured above is CareFlight nurse and EMF grant recipient, Jodie Mills and her team. They are looking at better ways to sedate patients with mental health issues.

Who we are

The Emergency Medicine Foundation (EMF) is a non-profit organisation funding innovative Australian research that improves the way people are cared for in a medical emergency.

We are driving better emergency care to ensure patients receive quick and effective treatment.

Launched by Queensland doctors in 2007, EMF has invested more than \$17 million in research grants and capacity building initiatives.

We award research grants to emergency healthcare clinicians – doctors, nurses, paramedics and allied health professionals – to lead high-quality, innovative studies aimed at improving patient outcomes.

As a non-profit, we rely on funding from governments, industry and the community.

Our impact on patient care

Excitingly, our impact-driven grants programs are delivering significant improvements to patient care in Australian emergency departments, ambulance service and retrieval services.

Critically, we have sped up the time from diagnosis to treatment for trauma patients in Queensland. Our projects have also seen the introduction of new diagnostics and protocols

for the faster diagnosis of chest pain; a new internationally recognised treatment for babies with bronchiolitis; and new models of emergency healthcare for older patients, one of the most vulnerable groups in our society.

In short, our programs have directly led to improved, patient-centric emergency healthcare, with more patients receiving the right treatment, at the right time, and in many cases going home and back to work sooner.

Our financial impact

In 2018, we commissioned KPMG to evaluate the economic value of EMF's grant programs. KPMG evaluated eight research projects funded by EMF and found they were associated with an estimated \$44 million in economic health benefits each year across Queensland and the Northern Territory. In separate evaluations, two additional projects co-funded by EMF were estimated to be returning a further \$15.7 million to the Queensland healthcare system.

If the outcomes from these research projects are adopted by emergency departments across Australia, they will lead to more than \$3.8 billion in gross benefits over the next five years in better patient care and improved emergency healthcare services.



- Farm, forestry and garden workers had the highest rate of 14.9 fatalities per 100,000 workers in 2017 (Safe Work Australia)
- In 2016, half (50%) of worker fatalities occurred within the transport, postal and warehousing and agriculture, forestry and fishing industries (Safe Work Australia)
- This year, 1.5 million Queenslanders will require emergency healthcare



Improving trauma patient survival

Clinicians from the Gold Coast University Hospital are leading an international project to save the lives of trauma patients with major bleeding.

The research team has shown that by giving patients a new fibrinogen concentrate, they can reduce haemorrhage and improve patient outcomes.

The Fibrinogen Early In Severe Trauma study (FEISTY) program, which has received \$500,000 in research grants from EMF, is now looking at the use of the treatment for both adults and children in separate clinical trials.

An investment in your workforce

Why you need to invest in research

With a combination of hazards, including remote and isolated worksites, the emergency healthcare challenges facing the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector require unique solutions.

Tragically, 41 agriculture workers died each year between 2005 -2014 with 85% of those fatalities occurring on a farm. Each year, Australian agriculture industry employees are making more than 3000 claims for serious injury.

Every seriously injured or sick worker in the agriculture, forestry and fishing sector receives potentially life-saving medical care from emergency healthcare doctors, nurses and paramedics.

Improving emergency healthcare for these workers is paramount. Increasing survival rates and health outcomes for the agricultural workforce requires rapidly translated, evidence-based solutions. An investment in emergency healthcare research that delivers industry tailored solutions is an investment towards future-proofing the health and wealth of this sector.

By partnering with EMF, we can help injured workers receive the right care at the right time, allowing them to return to work sooner. We are a critical part of the solution: whether it is a focus on prevention or treatment, innovations in emergency healthcare can assist in reducing the high human and economic cost of workplace fatalities and injuries.

How you can partner with EMF

EMF can work alongside your organisation to:

- i. Facilitate a specific, **sponsored research** project—assembling the best possible research team and managing the project through to completion.
- ii. Allocate a donation to a **target research** area—grants can be created to honour a worker or ensure an organisation is publically recognised for their donation.
- iii. **Create a scholarship** for an emergency healthcare clinician to engage in a nominated research area—EMF would promote the scholarship and select the foremost recipient through a competitive, peer-reviewed process.
- iv. **Workplace Giving**—provide your employees with a smarter, tax-effective way to give through voluntary, automatic donations from pre-tax pay. Companies can enhance the impact of their workplace giving program by matching employees' donations and demonstrating their commitment to this important cause.
- v. **Staff Fundraising**—working on a common cause is a positive, team-building experience. Your staff and customers will have had direct involvement in finding better ways to save lives.
- vi. **Enforceable Undertakings** – through this program we can work alongside you to facilitate a specific research project, allocate a donation to a target research area or create a scholarship for an emergency healthcare clinician to engage in a nominated research area.



Rapid, accurate diagnostic for brown snake bite

In collaboration with James Cook University, emergency medicine specialists at The Townsville Hospital are assessing a point of care diagnostic device to analyse brown snake venom in human blood. Ultimately, the team hope to use the device to work out the right dose of antivenom to give to a patient.

Emergency medicine specialist, Dr Adam Holyoak says brown snakes are the commonest cause of snake bite, particularly when you are looking at deaths from snake bite in Australia.

“Our research is working to optimising our dose so that we can give better patient care.

“Being able to get the right dose means that people are exposed to less potentially harmful substances, we don’t need to keep as many stocks, and it keeps the whole system working smoothly.”

Your trusted partner

Operating for more than a decade, **EMF is a trusted, logical partner** for industry and government.

In Australia, EMF is the only organisation dedicated to funding emergency healthcare research. We are **highly respected** and our grants carry significant kudos for clinician-researchers

Our **world-class, innovative grants programs** are governed in line with Australia's NHMRC and ARC grant programs. They are rigorous and highly transparent, ensuring only the most scientifically robust projects are awarded funding.

Not only do we have the proven ability to operate highly-successful grants programs, **our operations are an open book**. We are audited annually and required to provide an annual report and six-monthly reports to the Queensland Government.

You can be assured that more than 80% of your investment is going to fund and managing research thanks to our **lean operations**.

Your investment is tax deductible. EMF is a non-profit organisation with charitable, health promotion and deductible gift recipient (DGR) status.





Emergency Medicine Foundation


Your investment in research will lead to rapid changes in clinical care for injured workers in the agricultural, forestry and fisheries sectors.


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