

Funding Prospectus

Harnessing research to improve outcomes for injured workers in the telecommunications sector





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.”

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.

Impact on patient care

Excitingly, EMF's 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. 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.



This year, 1.5 million Queenslanders will require emergency healthcare

In the 14 years from 2003 to 2016, 3,414 workers lost their lives in work-related incidents (Safe Work Australia)



Identifying internal trauma fast

An Emergency Medicine Foundation research grant allowed the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) to better diagnose haemorrhaging trauma patients.

QAS showed their trauma response paramedics can use a portable ultrasound device to accurately and effectively diagnose patients with internal injuries or bleeding en route to hospital.

This means emergency departments can be alerted and clinicians ready to treat patients immediately on arrival—speeding up the time to treatment. Queensland is one of the first ambulance services in the world to use the device.

Investing in telecommunications emergency care solutions for injured workers

Why you need to invest in research

As industries increasingly move to digital, and the demand for superfast technology to operate these digital systems rises with that demand, so too do the broader electrical risks for the telecommunications workers installing and servicing those data networks. By partnering with EMF, we can help your injured workers receive the right care at the right time, allowing them to return to work sooner.

The emergency healthcare challenges facing the telecommunications industry require unique solutions. Despite workplace training, policies and procedures to minimise the risk of hazards, such as fire and electric shock, workplace incidents continue to occur.

In the four years between 2011 and 2015, electronics and telecommunications workers made 3070 serious injury claims. For many of these workers, these injuries mean up to a month away from the job and average compensation claims of \$12,000 (Safe Work Australia).

Each one of these seriously injured or sick workers received care from emergency healthcare doctors, nurses and paramedics. Improving the emergency healthcare outcomes for telecommunications workers, and helping them return to work sooner requires rapidly translated, evidence-based solutions.

EMF is 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. By partnering with EMF, we can also help the industry hit greater heights in reaching for its triple bottom line objectives.

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.
- v. **Staff Fundraising**—working on a common cause is a positive, team-building experience. Your staff and customers will have 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.



Boosting trauma victims' survival rates

A device previously reserved for heart and transplant surgery is helping to save the lives of road trauma victims as a direct result of research supported by EMF.

In an Australian first, Gold Coast Health clinicians are using the ROTEM (Rotational Thromboelastometry) device to make fast decisions about what blood transfusions are required for patients with life threatening injuries.

With the benefit of a rapid turnaround time compared to conventional testing, the quicker analysis and quicker blood clotting means there's a better chance of patient survival.

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 emergency health care research will lead to rapid changes in clinical care for seriously ill or injured workers.

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