



Emergency Medicine Foundation

Funding prospectus

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





Boosting road crash 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.

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.

There is a high worker fatality rate in the transport industry, especially land transport, with 15.6 fatalities per 100,000 workers

Trauma rates are high: vehicle incidents account for 79% of land transport worker fatalities, followed by being hit by moving objects (6%)

Workplace injury sustained by Australian machinery operators and drivers cost \$4.6 billion in 2012-13

Safe Work Australia



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 and community

Why you need to invest in research

The transport industry workforce experiences high rates of workplace fatalities and injuries. Such is the extent of the issue, that reducing the high rate of fatalities and serious claims in the road transport industry was identified as a national priority in Safe Work Australia's *Australian Work Health and Safety Strategy 2012-2022*.

According to Safe Work Australia, the road transport industry on average has "the highest fatality rate and accounted for the second highest number of fatalities over the last five years. The industry also recorded the highest frequency rate of serious claims."

An investment in research that delivers the transport industry tailored emergency healthcare solutions could potentially lead to the development of trial interventions to reduce fatalities and injuries, and improvements in work health and safety.

Increasing survival rates and health outcomes, along with faster time to recovery for the transport workforce requires rapidly translated, evidence-based solutions.



2nd highest no. fatalities
39 per year (20% of total)

1st highest fatality rate

15.6 deaths per 100,000 workers



No. serious claims
4410 per year (4% of total)

1st highest frequency rate

11.0 per million hours worked

How you can partner with EMF

With EMF, you can drive research focused on helping your injured workers receive the right care at the right time; reducing the human and economic cost of workplace injuries.

i. **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**—give employees a smarter, tax-effective way to give through voluntary, automatic donations from pre-tax pay. Companies can enhance the impact of this 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, especially when the cause has personal meaning. Your staff and customers will play a direct role in finding better ways to save lives in an emergency.

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.



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.

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
transport workers

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