

## Roche Australia launches 125-Year Anniversary Health Charity Grants

- **Applications open to eligible Australian registered health charities working in Oncology, Haematology, Diabetes, Neuroscience, Ophthalmology, Cardiology, Infectious Diseases or Women's Health.**
- **Two Grants, totalling \$125,000 AUD, to be awarded to projects that demonstrate a significant and measurable improvement to the health outcomes of Australians.**
- **Grant submissions open from Monday 11 July to Friday 29 July 2022.**

SYDNEY, 11 July 2022 – Roche Australia today announced the launch of its *125-Year Anniversary Health Charity Grants*, an initiative aimed at making a meaningful difference to the health outcomes of Australians. Through the new program, Roche will award two grants totalling \$125,000 AUD, for local projects aimed at delivering health benefits for specific patient communities.

Roche Pharma Australia General Manager Stuart Knight said: “To coincide with the company’s global 125th Anniversary Year, we are proud to launch our *Roche 125-Year Anniversary Health Charity Grants*.

“This initiative is a collaboration of our pharmaceuticals, diagnostics and diabetes care businesses. Collaboration and knowledge sharing are key to driving healthcare innovation, at both a scientific and broader societal level. We know that solutions for the future of healthcare will only be found by working together, and we are excited to see the innovative ideas that will come through this grants process.”

Roche’s 125th Anniversary year has been an opportunity for the company to celebrate its rich history and culture, while also recognising its lasting legacy and looking ahead at the next 125 years towards a sustainable, healthy future.

The Roche 125-Year Anniversary Health Charity Grants are open to Australian Health Consumer Organisations (HCOs) and other local registered charities whose core purpose is to improve the health outcomes of the patient communities they serve – in the areas of Oncology, Haematology, Diabetes, Neuroscience, Ophthalmology, Cardiology, Infectious Diseases or Women’s Health.

Roche Diagnostics Australia Managing Director Allison Rossiter said: “At Roche, our purpose – *Doing now what patients need next* – is what drives us every day. The perseverance and diligence of the founding family have shaped our company’s vision and inspired our scientists to push the boundaries of innovation to deliver healthcare solutions for patients.

“These values have lived on over five generations of being a family-led company, and have built a company that is committed to having a positive and lasting impact on society. Through our bold science, breakthrough medicines and innovative diagnostic solutions, we are working to improve the lives of people both here in Australia, and worldwide. This is not only our legacy, it is also our promise for the future.”

Through the new grants program, registered Australian health charities are invited to submit a proposal for a new project designed to improve patient health outcomes. Projects should align with one or more of the following themes:

- Informing patients of their rights to access their healthcare information and be involved in their own healthcare decisions;
- Increasing participation in healthcare decision-making processes;
- Contributing to improving the quality of life of patients and their carers;
- Promoting health gains for Australians;
- Elevating the health literacy of Australians; or
- Increasing equity of access to healthcare for Australians.

All grant submissions will be evaluated by an independent panel of judges from the healthcare sector, bringing a range of perspectives to the decision-making process to select the two winning projects.

The judging panel for the Roche 125-Year Anniversary Health Charity Grants includes:

1. **Deidre Mackechnie** Executive Director, Australian Patient Advocacy Alliance;
2. **Professor Sanchia Aranda AM** Professor of Health Services Research, Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre;
3. **Glenys Beauchamp PSM** Former Secretary of the Commonwealth Department of Health;
4. **Marcus Godinho** Executive Director, FareShare;
5. **Professor Lyn Griffiths** Director, Centre for Genomics and Personalised Health, QUT & Director, Bridge Program and BridgeTech Program.

Roche Diabetes Care Australia Managing Director John Wright said: “Like Roche, health charities are committed to improving the lives of the patient communities they serve. By bringing the right people together and working to achieve the best outcomes, we hope these new Grants will lead to more Australians benefiting from the pioneering ideas of local health charities and patient groups.”

Grant submissions open from **Monday 11 July 2022**, until **11.59pm AEST on 29 July 2022**. For further information about the Roche 125-Year Health Charity Grants, please visit

[https://www.roche-australia.com/en\\_au/sustainability/125-anniversary-grants.htm](https://www.roche-australia.com/en_au/sustainability/125-anniversary-grants.htm)

- Ends -

**For all media enquiries, please contact Roche Australia:**

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### **About the Roche 125-Year Anniversary Health Charity Grants**

**Grant details:** Two separate grants totalling \$125,000 AUD (1 x \$75,000 & 1 x \$50,000) will be awarded respectively to two chosen HCOs or other local registered health charities, whose applications are deemed by the independent panel of judges to have the greatest merit, and meet the established program criteria.

**Timing:** Submissions open on Monday 11 July 2022, and will close at 11.59pm AEST on Friday 29 July 2022, with the winners to be announced in September 2022.

**Eligibility criteria:** Applicants to the Roche 125-Year Anniversary Health Charity Grants must,

1. Be an HCO or NGO that is registered as a charity under Australian law.
2. Work in one (or more) of the following disease areas: Oncology, Haematology, Diabetes, Neuroscience, Ophthalmology, Cardiology, Infectious Diseases or Women's Health.
3. Have a primary purpose or mission that relates to improving the health outcomes of Australians.
4. Have an annual turnover whereby the value of the 125-Year Anniversary Grant provided will not exceed 25 per cent of that turnover.

**Evaluation criteria:** All Grant submissions will be assessed by the independent panel of judges against the following evaluation criteria,

1. Demonstrate an innovative and pioneering spirit – the project being proposed may be a pilot, but cannot be a continuation of an existing initiative;
2. Number of people likely to benefit from the project;
3. Magnitude of benefit expected & ability to measure and demonstrate that benefit;
4. Alignment to the following themes,
  - a. Inform patients of their rights to access their healthcare information and be involved in their own healthcare decisions;
  - b. Increase participation in healthcare decision-making processes;
  - c. Contribute to improving the quality of life of patients and their carers;
  - d. Promote health gains for Australians;
  - e. Elevate the health literacy of Australians; or
  - f. Increase equity of access to healthcare for Australians.
5. The project must be linked to one of the following disease areas: Oncology, Haematology, Diabetes, Neuroscience, Ophthalmology, Cardiology, Infectious Diseases or Women's Health.
6. The project must adhere to the Medicines Australia Code of Conduct (MA Code), not provide any direct or indirect commercial benefit to Roche, nor encourage, directly or indirectly, the use of any Roche product or service, nor any prescription medicine.

**Further information:** For full details of the Grants application process and copies of relevant documentation, please visit

[https://www.roche-australia.com/en\\_au/sustainability/125-anniversary-grants.html](https://www.roche-australia.com/en_au/sustainability/125-anniversary-grants.html)



## About Roche

Roche is a global pioneer in pharmaceuticals and diagnostics focused on advancing science to improve people's lives. The combined strengths of pharmaceuticals and diagnostics, as well as growing capabilities in the area of data-driven medical insights help Roche deliver truly personalised healthcare. Roche is working with partners across the healthcare sector to provide the best care for each person.

Roche is one of the world's largest biotech companies, with truly differentiated medicines in oncology, immunology, infectious diseases, ophthalmology and diseases of the central nervous system. Roche is also a world leader of in vitro diagnostics and tissue-based cancer diagnostics, and a frontrunner in diabetes management. In recent years, Roche has invested in genomic profiling and real-world data partnerships and has become an industry-leading partner for medical insights.

Founded in 1896, Roche has a robust 125-year legacy, focused on the search for better ways to prevent, diagnose and treat diseases and make a sustainable contribution to society. The company also aims to improve patient access to medical innovations by working with all relevant stakeholders. More than thirty medicines developed by Roche are included in the World Health Organization Model Lists of Essential Medicines, among them life-saving antibiotics, antimalarials and cancer medicines. Moreover, for the 13th consecutive year, Roche has been recognised as one of the most sustainable companies in the Pharmaceuticals Industry by the Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI).

The Roche Group, headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, is active in over 100 countries and in 2021 employed more than 100,000 people worldwide. In 2021, Roche invested around CHF 13.7 billion in research and development worldwide, including over AUD 56 million in local pharmaceutical research in Australia. Genentech, in the United States, is a wholly owned member of the Roche Group. Roche is the majority shareholder in Chugai Pharmaceutical, Japan.

Roche's pharmaceutical division in Australia employs over 300 people who are dedicated to pioneering life-changing healthcare for every Australian via the clinical development, registration, sales, marketing and distribution of innovative pharmaceutical medicines. Australian patients have access to around 35 Roche medicines. For more information, please visit [www.roche-australia.com](http://www.roche-australia.com).