



# hmri research register

**From cancer to cardiovascular disease, asthma to premature birth, immunity to mental health, health behaviour to stroke – Hunter Medical Research Institute (HMRI) researchers are making significant discoveries in areas that affect our physical and emotional wellbeing.**

### What is the HMRI Research Register?

The HMRI Research Register, proudly partnered by Prime, is a database of people from all over the Hunter Region who are interested in participating in research projects conducted by HMRI affiliated researchers. This will ensure that researchers have access to the type of people they require in their efforts to improve the health of the community.

### Why is the Register important?

Without human participants, many aspects of health and medical research simply cannot happen. The HMRI Research Register helps researchers by making recruitment of research participants faster and more economical. Even more importantly, it can improve the quality of research by providing access to a wider cross-section of the population.

### What's involved?

Participating in health and medical research can take many forms – from answering a series of brief questions in a telephone interview, undertaking memory and concentration tests, blood pressure test, participating in a clinical trial, donating blood samples for genetic research to providing images of the brain at work using

MRI and scanning technology.

Researchers can approach the HMRI Research Register to recruit participants to their projects. As a member of the HMRI Research Register you may be invited to participate in one or more studies. Each study will be explained in detail at the time you are invited to participate. You will then have a choice. You select whether you want to participate or not. All participation is completely voluntary and you may refuse or withdraw your consent at any stage without having to provide a reason.

It's also important for you to know that all projects must first have ethical approval granted by the Hunter New England Human Research Ethics Committee and have satisfied the requirements of the HMRI Research Panel.

### Who can join the HMRI Research Register?

Our researchers need all types of people. Although most research focuses on understanding why we get sick, it's just as important to understand the way healthy organisms work. The information collected from these healthy people helps researchers establish what is normal, so they can investigate the effects of illness.

The Register is aiming to include a wide

range of people aged 18 years and above, irrespective of medical condition.

### What about confidentiality?

All information provided by Register members is kept strictly confidential. Only the HMRI Research Register Co-ordinator has access to information that identifies you or your participation in any research project. HMRI will only provide researchers with your contact details after you have decided to participate in their specific project. Researchers are also bound by confidentiality and will not identify you personally in any publications arising from their research.

For further information please contact the HMRI Research Register Co-ordinator

P 02 4985 5333

E [info@hmri.net.au](mailto:info@hmri.net.au)

*This project has been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee of the University of Newcastle, approval number H-666-0903, and by the Hunter Research Ethics Committee of Hunter Health, approval number 03/06/11/3.16. If you have any concerns about your rights as a participant on this Register, the way the Register operates, or the manner in which a research project was conducted, you may express your concerns directly to the Co-ordinator. Alternatively, if an independent person is preferred, you may contact the Human Research Ethics Officer, Research Office, University of Newcastle, Callaghan NSW 2308, Tel. 02 4921 6333, Email [Human-Ethics@newcastle.edu.au](mailto:Human-Ethics@newcastle.edu.au).*

HMRI has established research partnerships in six key areas of Brain and Mental Health, Cancer, Cardiovascular Health, Public Health, Reproduction and VIVA (Vaccines, Immunity, Viruses & Asthma). If you would like more information about HMRI please visit [www.hmri.net.au](http://www.hmri.net.au) or phone 02 4921 4030.

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In partnership with our community



The UNIVERSITY of NEWCASTLE AUSTRALIA

HUNTER NEW ENGLAND NSW HEALTH

Locked Bag 1  
HRMC NSW 2310  
P 02 4921 4030  
F 02 4985 5909  
E [info@hmri.net.au](mailto:info@hmri.net.au)  
W [www.hmri.net.au](http://www.hmri.net.au)

