



CUMMING
GLOBAL CENTRE
FOR PANDEMIC
THERAPEUTICS

Foundation Grants Funding Round 2

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A centre of the Doherty Institute



Major supporting partner





Geoff Cumming is a Canadian philanthropist who recently announced a gift of \$250m to the Doherty Institute

The gift funds the establishment of the Cumming Global Centre for Pandemic Therapeutics

The Centre will provide long-term mission-based funding to researchers to develop novel platform technologies for therapeutics for pathogens of pandemic potential

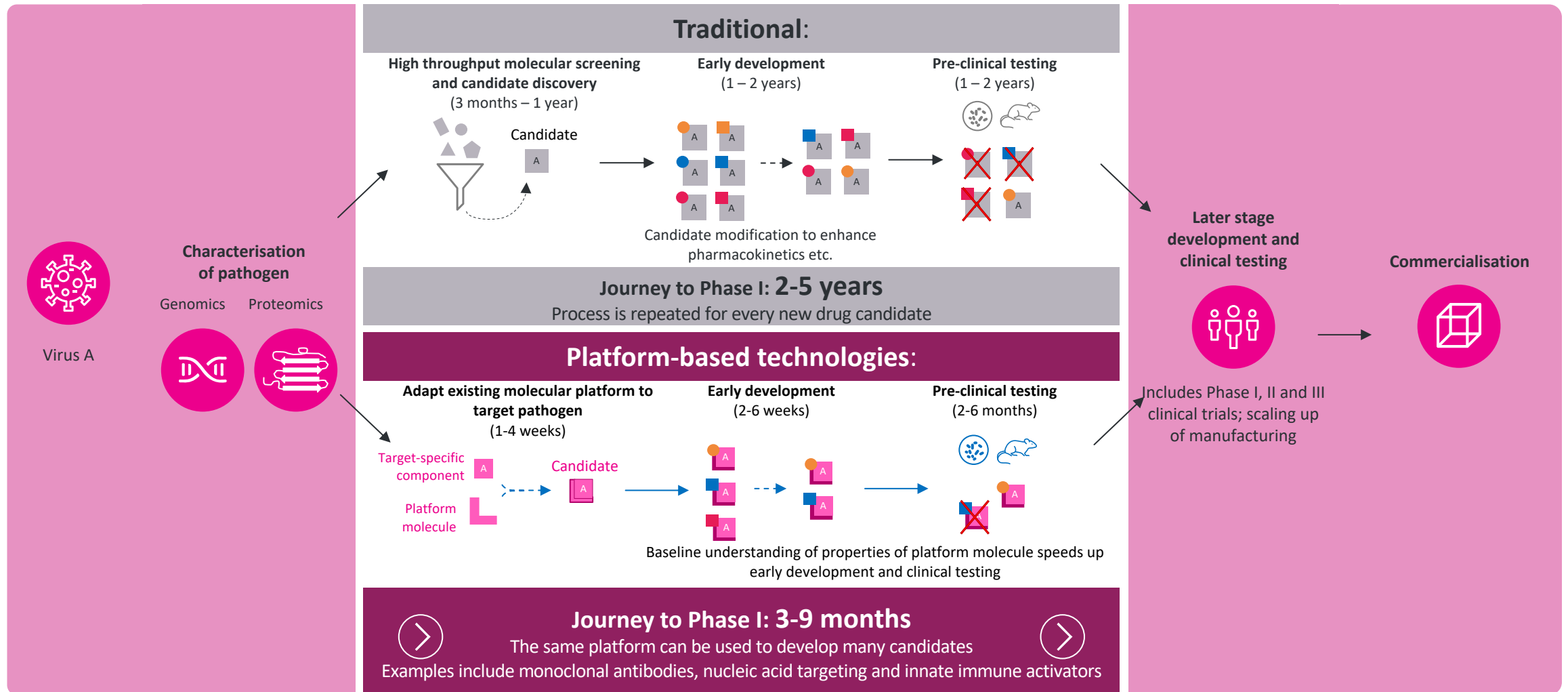
Our goal is to leverage this gift 5 fold over the next 10 years, ultimately to raise \$1.25 billion. The Victorian Government has also committed \$75m over 10 years



Guiding principals of the Cumming Global Centre (CGC)

- Attract global talent from across relevant disciplines and drive impact by providing **long term funding** and address ambitious questions as a **mission-focused** research centre.
- Focus on research in **emerging, high potential platforms** that can be rapidly applied to a new emerging pathogen as well as invest in **target identification** of key pathogens through fundamental virology and bacteriology. Twenty per cent of funds will be spent on discovery research.
- Seventy percent of the gift will fund laboratories in the **Doherty Institute**. Thirty percent of funds will be for collaborating laboratories **nationally and internationally** to make this a truly global centre.
- The foundation gift is \$100m over 10 years. **Five fold matched funding during the first ten years** is required to unlock \$150 million for the second ten years.

Platform technologies| Platform technologies can get novel therapeutics into patients much quicker than traditional approaches



Cumming Global Centre Foundation Grants

- Provide funding to rapidly galvanize activities aligned with the Centre mission.
- This will be a **one-off program** and will support **internal and external investigators** through two separate grant rounds with support for 3 years of funding.
- The first round was **internal** (primary appointment in a department within the Doherty Institute, the University of Melbourne or the Royal Melbourne Hospital).
- The second round will have the same research parameters but be open **globally**.

Cumming Global Centre Foundation Grants

The Foundation Grants will fund proposals that address the overall mission of the Centre including:

- Development of platform technologies that will develop therapeutics for pathogens of pandemic potential at speed.
- Fundamental virology, bacteriology or immunology that will identify novel targets for therapeutics for pathogens of pandemic potential
- Development of therapeutics that have activity across viral or relevant bacterial families e.g., therapeutics that have activity against all sarbecoviruses not just SARS-CoV-2
- Innovation in enabling capabilities such as animal models, organoid systems, assay development, bioinformatics, genomics or biomarkers or other capabilities that can support therapeutic development

The Centre is pathogen agnostic. All approaches should target a pathogen of pandemic potential and/or can rapidly adapt to a new pathogen

Cumming Global Centre Foundation Grants

What won't be funded:

- High throughput drug screening or rational drug design that only targets a single pathogen and doesn't have activity across a family of similar pathogens
- Clinical trials of new therapeutics

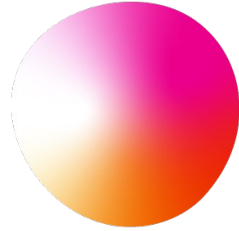
Cumming Global Centre Foundation Grants

Round 2: external grants (\$200K/pa) over 3 years

- We encourage applications from all disciplines. Proposals that are high risk but have a high level of innovation as well as proposals based on substantial preliminary data are both encouraged.
- Grants will be independently reviewed by assessors, and awarded based on external review ranking as well as strategic alignment with the Centre mission.
- The recommendation for the top-ranked proposals will be reviewed by the CGCPT Interim Scientific Advisory Board and a recommendation made to the CGCPT Governance Board.
- Awards will be announced by June 2024.

Questions

- A grants email address has been created: cgcpt-grants@unimelb.edu.au
- Links and other information are on the grants launch site



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