

## Program Grants Information Session

February 2008

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## Agenda

1. VNI Background
2. Overview Program Grants
3. Evaluation Process
4. Eligibility & Selection Criteria
5. Application Form
6. Timelines

## Who are we?

Dr Alex Collie  
*VNI Executive Director*

Ms Alexandra Johnston  
*Operations Manager*

Ms Pam Garoufalis  
*Development Manager*

Ms Kelly Tapley  
*Senior Project Officer*

Ms Genevieve Abbot  
*Project Officer*

Ms Tanya Mikhail  
*Administration Assistant*

Ms Rosemary Paxton  
*Project Manager, NSV*

Mr Simon Rabl  
*Project Manager, DIIRD*

## Background & Purpose

- Joint initiative of the **TAC** and the **Victorian Government (DIIRD)** established in 2005
- **\$63 million** over **five years** to **support and fund** research into **neurotrauma**.
- **Neurotrauma focus:** Spinal Cord Injury & Traumatic Brain Injury
- **Reduce impact** of neurotrauma & **improve outcomes** of those affected

## Strategic Goals

2007 - 2010

- Fund **internationally competitive** neurotrauma research.
- Facilitate **enhanced capacity** and **capability** within the Victorian neurotrauma research community.
- Facilitate the **translation of research findings** within the Victorian healthcare system and amongst TAC clients.

## Funding Rounds

Round 1	Nov 2005	22 projects	\$15.6M
Round 2	Dec 2006	12 projects	\$3.2M
Targeted Initiatives	Jul/Oct 2007	2 projects	\$750k
Round 3	Aug 2007	8 fellowships and awards	\$1.47M
<b>Round 4</b>	<b>Advertise in Feb 2008</b>	<b>program grants</b>	<b>Up to \$15M</b>

## Program Grants

- Developed after consultation with **neurotrauma** community
- **'Program'** = series of research projects centred around a **cohesive theme**, combining different **research disciplines** and involving **multiple institutions**.

## Overview

<b>Purpose</b>	To foster <b>large scale, accelerated</b> research programs to <b>improve the outcomes</b> and <b>quality of life</b> for people affected by neurotrauma  To promote <b>multidisciplinary</b> and <b>national</b> and / or <b>internationally</b> linked research
<b>Duration</b>	Up to 5 yrs
<b>Funding</b>	Up to \$5M 10% Indirect Costs included

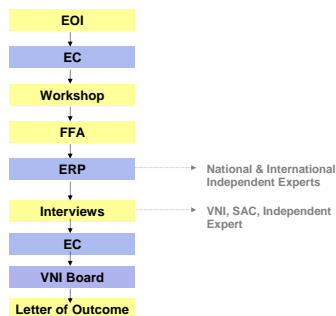
## Research Themes

<b>Theme 1</b>	<b>Acute injury</b> – early interventions for Spinal Cord Injury or Traumatic Brain Injury
<b>Theme 2</b>	<b>Chronic injury</b> – physical and behavioural rehabilitation for Spinal Cord Injury or Traumatic Brain Injury

## Program Model

<b>Phase 1</b>	<b>EOI – Workshop</b> Purpose: Bring together collaborative groups of investigators to further develop a significant large scale, cutting-edge program.  Funding up to a maximum of \$10,000. 'Workshop' can have varied definitions
<b>Phase 2</b>	<b>FFA &amp; Interviews</b> FFA submitted after the workshop. Program leader and chief investigators will be invited to participate in an interview.

## Evaluation Process



## Eligibility Criteria

- Lead Investigator (Chief Investigator A) must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident;
- At least one of the Chief Investigators must be based in Victoria;
- No more than one Chief Investigator per project;
- The Program cannot exceed 5 years duration;

## Eligibility Criteria

- The Program must involve at least 2 individual projects united around a central, cohesive research theme;
- The Program must involve at least 2 organisations, with at least one being based in Victoria;
- The Program must involve at least 2 research disciplines
- A component of the program must be conducted in Victoria;

## Eligibility Criteria

- The administering organisation must be an eligible organisation according to VNI Policy. This includes;
  - Universities (Public and Private)
  - Hospitals and health care services (Public and Private)
  - Research Institutes
  - Associations and Not-For-Profit organisations
  - Non-Governmental organisations
  - Government agencies/departments
  - Victorian public entities

## Selection Criteria

- Central, cohesive theme
- Alignment with VNI research priorities, objectives and strategic goals
- Track record and expertise
- Extent of collaboration

## Application Form

**Part A-** Executive Summary

**Part B-** Personnel & Contacts

**Part C-** Program Details

**Part D-** Lead Investigator (Chief Investigator A)  
Endorsement

**Part E-** Attachments

## Application Form

### Part C- Program Details

- Central Cohesive Theme
- Brief Description of Program Components
- Research Disciplines
- VNI Research Themes, Objectives & Strategic Goals
- Leadership
- Collaboration

## Reporting Requirements

### Successful Applicants

- Submit Brief Report within 2 weeks of workshop

## Timelines



### 2008

<b>Early Feb</b>	Advertisement
<b>6 Mar</b>	EOI Closing Date
<b>Mid Apr</b>	Notification of Short-listed Applicants
<b>May/Jun</b>	Workshops
<b>9 Jul</b>	FFA Closing Date
<b>Aug/Oct</b>	Evaluation by Expert Reviews & Interviews
<b>Late Nov</b>	VNI Board Meeting
<b>Mid Dec</b>	Applicants Notified of Outcome

### 2009

<b>From Jan</b>	Programs Begin
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Victorian Neurotrauma Initiative

## Further Information



<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.vni.com.au">www.vni.com.au</a>
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