

The National Trauma Research Institute (NTRI) offers this submission to the Commission as a research department of The Alfred hospital, which houses Australia's largest Trauma Centre. The Alfred hospital sees over 1100 severely injured patients per year, more than half of which are the result of motor vehicle crashes, and most of which involve significant brain, spine or orthopaedic injuries that result in long term disability.

The NTRI undertakes and coordinates a range of research and other activities focused on major trauma through four important functions:

1. Enabling dialogue between stakeholders by being the hub for government officials, business and professional leaders, clinicians, community members, patient and client groups, scientists and media representatives to come together to address major trauma and injury-related challenges.
2. Leading excellent research, which addresses the most important questions by focusing on high-impact, high-quality research in priority areas, and leading challenging local, national and international collaborative research.
3. Making relevant research information accessible and understandable so that all stakeholders can use it effectively in practice and policy decision-making.
4. Ensuring that knowledge gained from research leads to better quality practice and policy by championing quality improvement activities, service innovation, and standards of care.

We have an international reputation in traumatic brain injury research (including laboratory, clinical, rehabilitation and knowledge translation projects) and the development and monitoring of trauma systems.

Central to all of these activities is the core mission of the NTRI; to improve the care of patients experiencing these potentially devastating injuries, to improve their long-term recovery and independence.

Given these activities, the NTRI is well positioned to contribute to this public inquiry. Our expertise may be of particular benefit to understanding how a scheme should be designed and funded to better meet the long-term needs of people with disability, their families and carers, and how to determine the people most in need of support, the services that should be available to them, and service delivery arrangements.

We look forward to making a contribution in this important area of public policy.

Yours Sincerely,

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