

Western Australian Future Health Research & Innovation Fund

8 December 2025

Spotlight on Rheumatic Heart Disease

Acknowledgement of Country

I would like to acknowledge the Whadjuk people as the Traditional Owners of the land which I work upon.

I pay respect to the Whadjuk Elders both past and present.

It is a privilege to be tuning in from Whadjuk Country.

Extending my acknowledgement to those Traditional Owners whose land that you all may gather from.





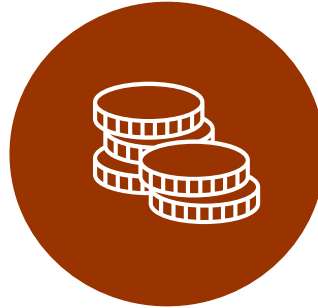
Q&A

- Questions can be added to the chat
- Best efforts will be made to answer questions in the allocated time
- A Frequently Asked Questions document and a copy of the recording will be made available on the FHRI Fund website.

FHRI Fund



\$1.8b sovereign
wealth fund



\$292m allocated over
the next four years



\$282 million awarded
to date



810 recipients



Funding cycles
~ May and October



Three strategic themes

1. Connect and collaborate
2. Accelerate and translate
3. Foundational confidence.

FHRI Fund Strategy 2025-30

- By 2035, triple the impact of health research and innovation with a uniquely Western Australian focus
- Guide long-term investment
- Roadmap to build and support a sustainable health, medical research and innovation sector
- Launched 1 July 2025
- Strategic themes of:
 1. Connect and collaborate
 2. Accelerate and translate
 3. Foundational confidence.



Spotlight Program



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of Health



Western Australian
Future Health Research
& Innovation Fund

Western Australian Future Health
Research and Innovation Fund

Strategy 2025–30

health.wa.gov.au >



Connect and collaborate

Bring WA's health sector together around one bold, uniquely Western Australian challenge each year, through the Spotlight Program, driving lasting solutions with deep, multi-year investment, cross-sector collaboration, and strong community engagement.

Priorities



Empower pathways and collaboration

Long-term change comes from building shared solutions across disciplines, sectors, and services. This priority supports structures and relationships that extend well beyond the initial spotlight area.

Inspire impact through an aligned focus

Concentrating effort on a single, uniquely Western Australian health challenge each year creates clarity and energy across the system. This focused approach is designed to deliver visible outcomes and elevate WA's national and global profile.

Be bold and predictable

By committing to ambitious, system-wide challenges and publishing them in advance, the FHRI Fund gives partners time to align, prepare, and act with confidence. Predictability builds momentum and invites meaningful co-investment.

01

Up to \$25m over
5 years

02

Flagship program
of the FHRI
Strategy 2025-30

03

Major, uniquely
Western
Australian issue
each year

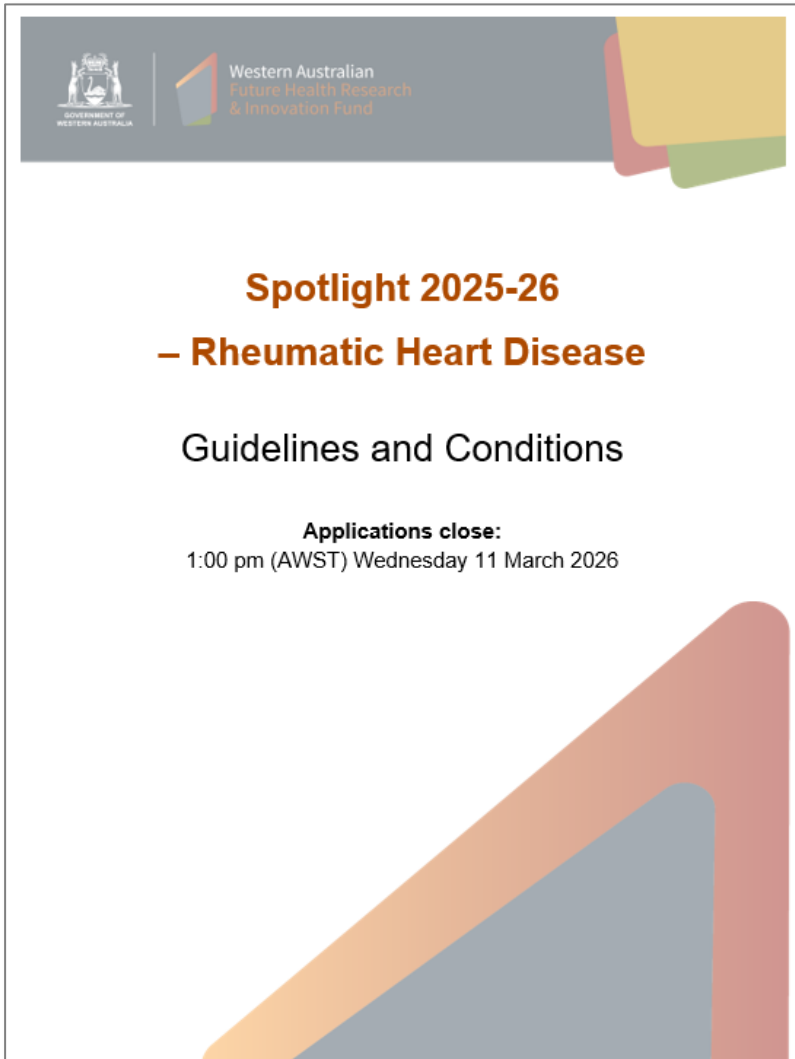
04

Drive
transformational
change

05

Measurable
improvements in
health outcomes

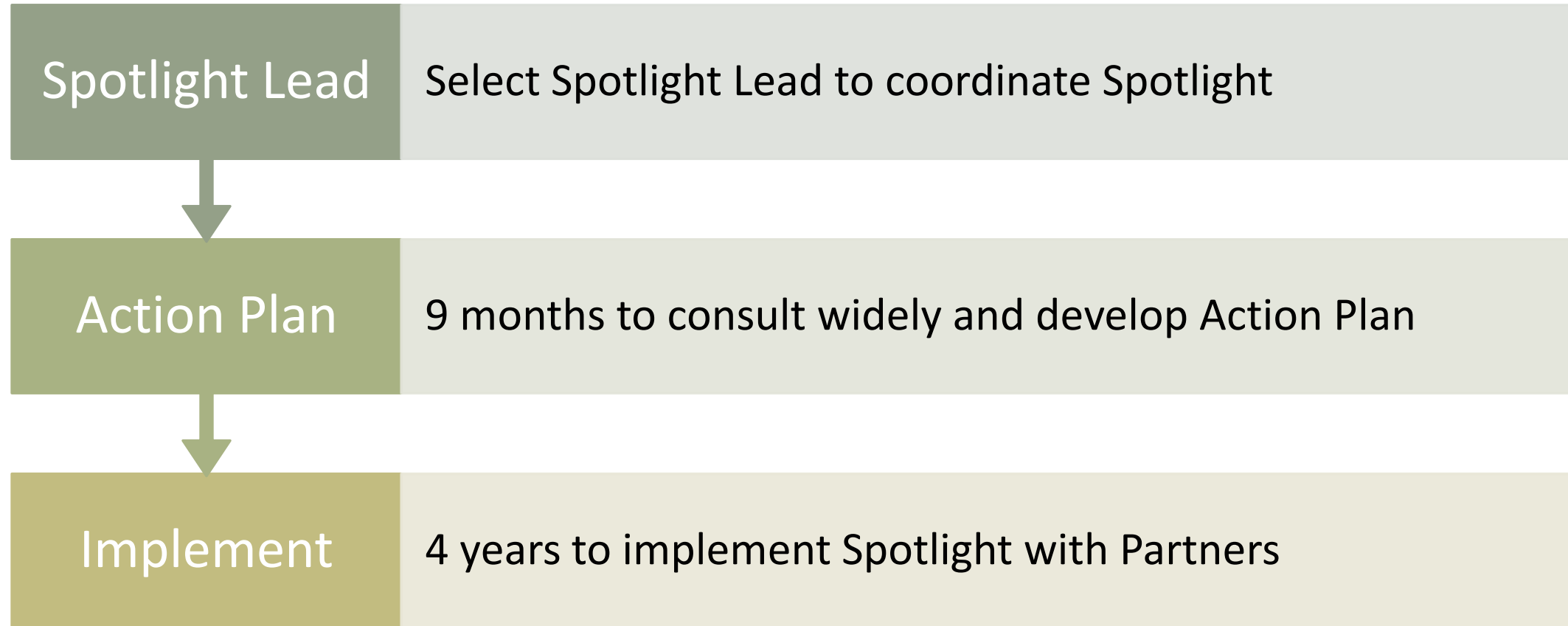
At a glance



Aims

The aims of the Program are to:

1. support research and innovation activities that improve the health and wellbeing of Western Australians and position WA as a leader in the field.
2. bring community, researchers and innovators, and other relevant stakeholders together to collectively address the Spotlight focus area across the health care continuum of prevention, diagnosis, and treatment to drive change.



Spotlight Program

Program Funding

FUNDING – PART A Develop Action Plan

- \$1m over 9 months
- Activity Lead and their Spotlight Coordinating Team develop a comprehensive, sector-driven Action Plan
- Form partnerships
- Consult with community/consumers
- Multiple research and innovation work streams

Assessment

Department of Health assessment and approval of Action Plan required to release Part B funding

FUNDING – PART B Implement Action Plan

- Up to \$24m over a period of up to 48 months
- Coordinate and implement the Action Plan with Spotlight partners
- Responsible Entity forms sub-contracts or other agreements with Spotlight partner organisations
- Funding instalments subject to satisfactory Progress reports

Part A

Consult	Consult widely and give all stakeholders a voice
Review	Review and consider best practice from around the world and in WA
Plan	Consider all aspects of RHD and what we need to do to effect change
Draft	Draft a 4-year plan for research, innovation and translation activities
Partner	Identify all relevant partners to deliver the research, innovation and translation activities
Consult	Seek sector-wide review of the draft plan
Finalise	Present draft plan



Outcome of Part A

Approved 4-year plan to deliver transformative and sustainable solutions to eliminating RHD through a combination of research, innovation and translation activities

Partnerships



EXPECTED TO HAVE SOME
PARTNERSHIPS IN PLACE AT TIME OF
PART A APPLICATION



FOLLOWING CONSULTATION, WE
EXPECT NEW AND CLEARLY DEFINED
PARTNERSHIPS



THESE PARTNERSHIPS SHOULD FORM
PART OF THE ACTION PLAN
PRESENTED TO PROGRESS TO PART B



THESE PARTNERS MAY BE BOTH
SUPPORTING ACTIVITY AND/OR
CONDUCTING ACTIVITY

Part A Application

Application

- The Spotlight Coordinating Teams suitability to lead the activity
- Your plan for consultation and collaboration
- Your plan for developing a comprehensive, sector-driven Action Plan to address all aspects of RHD
- Your plan for forming and managing partners
- Your plan for streams of research and innovation
- Consideration of cash and in-kind contributions
- Due 11 March 2026

If Application successful

- Up to \$1 million available over 9 months
- Form partnerships and develop a comprehensive Action Plan
- The Action Plan must:
 - set out the research and innovation activities to be delivered through Spotlight partners
 - include the plan for distribution of funds to partners



Budget requests – Part A

Can include:

- Partners' budget requirements
- Consumer and community involvement requirements
- Salary for the Spotlight Coordinating Team and Activity Lead (no duplication, up to 1.0 FTE)
- Essential services and supplies
- Travel that is essential to the activity
- Equipment that is unique to the activity
- Specialised computing requirements unique to the activity



FTE commitment should be adequate to coordinate the activities for Part A activities



Team members are those who are involved in implementing Part A activities – does not need to be partners you may need in Part B (as this is yet to be determined)



Can include project managers or operational staff (not expected to all be researchers or innovators)



The number of members should be determined by the mix of skills, relevance, experience, track record of members ensuring suitability to collectively lead and manage large-scale initiatives

Spotlight Coordinating Team

Part B

Part B



Action plan submitted after 9 months



Iterative review of Action plan may be required



New contract awarded to cover the 4 years of implementation



Spotlight Coordinating Team lead implementation with partners as approved

Spotlight Coordinating Team

Establish strong program governance

Oversee and manage program over 4 years and ensure delivery on agreed Action Plan

Distribute funding to partners delivering activities

Attract co-investment from other sources

Apply for other funding sources to further promising areas of work

Coordinate whole of sector activities to share learning

Reporting to FHRI Fund

Timelines

Funding Program Action	Indicative Date
Part A Applications open	5 November 2025
Part A Applications closing date	11 March 2026
Part A panel review & interviews	April/May 2026
Outcome letters issued	May 2026
Grant Funding Agreement executed	May 2026
Grant Commencement Date	Jun/Jul 2026
Part B Action Plan due date	March 2027
Part B panel review	April/May 2027
Part B negotiations and approval	May/Jun 2027
Commence implementing Part B Action Plan	Mid-Jun 2027

World Congress on Rheumatic Heart Disease 2026



Further information



The 2nd World Heart Federation World Congress on RHD

- 12 - 14 November 2026
- Pan Pacific Hotel

Brings together global researchers, health professionals, patients, advocates, and health leaders in the effort to help end rheumatic heart disease

Hosted in Perth by the Heart Foundation with support from sponsors:

- Western Australian Government
- Leducq Foundation
- American Heart Association
- National Heart Foundation of New Zealand
- Business Events Perth and Business Events Australia.